



ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON AGING

c/o Agency on Aging, DHS
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**Meeting Summary
March 20, 2017
Arlington Central Library**

PRESENT: Mitch Opalski, Erica Wood, Valerie Crotty, Jim Feaster, Pamela Hawkins, Cragg Hines, Mary Ann Johnson, Lynwood Sinnamon, Martha Villanigro-Santiago, Laurie Young

EXCUSED: Senator Barbara Favola, Carl Brooks, Sophie Shen, Patricia Sullivan, Gordon Hasenei

STAFF: Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Jim Baker, Rachel Sparico

GUESTS: Linc Cummings, Ms. Cummings, Jim Morris

I. Call to Order and Welcome at 12:42 p.m.

II. Approval of the February Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Chair's Report (Mitch Opalski)

a. Annual Report Review

- i. Mr. Opalski presented the Annual report for September 2015 – December 2016. A motion was made to accept and submit the report to the Arlington County Board. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Recommendations from Real Estate Tax Relief Working Group

- i. Mr. Opalski shared the draft recommendations from this Commission to the recommendations submitted by the Real Estate Tax Relief (RETR) Working Group. Ms. Wood recommended striking "for example" and adding support to Recommendation #11 directing funds to affordable housing. There was discussion about tax funding related to the charge of the RETR working group. Ms. Johnson suggested rephrasing or removing recommendations to #11, #13, #15, #16 and #20 are outside the scope of the RETR working group. Motion to strike the sentence "For Example" and to add comment #3 that the COA supports priority recommendation #11, and strike "Similarly". The motion passed.
- ii. Mr. Opalski made a motion for the COA to serve as the Advisory Group to oversee the RETR program and advised the County Board, Ms. Wood seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- iii. Mr. Opalski will revise the letter to include these changes and send it to the real estate tax relief working group immediately.

c. Proposed items of support for FY18 County Budget

- i. Mr. Opalski shared the Budget Committee met on March 10 and featured an overview and presentation from ADSD and DPR staff. Mr. Baker shared DHS requests include: ADSD's request for 2.2 FTE positions for the Developmental Disability Services Program (new positions), an additional school nurse for

Public Health, and a Psychiatrist in Behavioral Health. Mr. Baker reviewed the County Manager's cuts and the impact on DHS: cuts to programs include public health and reducing the one-time (not on-going) funding for housing grants. Mr. Baker reminded Commissioners that the DHS Budget Work Session is scheduled for Friday, March 24th. All information and important dates may be located online, <https://budget.arlingtonva.us/fy-2018-budget-information/>.

- ii. There was a motion to endorse the County Manager's FY18 Proposed budget and include support to the additional ADSD and PH staffing requests. Mr. Hines made a motion and Mr. Feaster seconded. The motion passed.
- iii. Ms. Wood made a motion to highlight the need for additional dental services. Ms. Crotty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- iv. Mr. Opalski shared a funding request from Arlington Community Foundation for \$50,000 in unrestricted operating costs. No motion made to send a letter of support for the funding request.
- v. Ms. Young made a motion to support the request from ANV for \$10,000 in on-going funding. The motion passed.

d. Consideration and Proposed FY2018 Area Plan for Aging Services, including fee scale waiver request (Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield)

- i. Ms. Bah-Duckenfield provided a handout of AAA services that are included in the FY18 Proposed Area Plan and discussed programs that may be expanded in the next fiscal year. Motion to accept the Proposed FY18 Area Plan Budget including the waiver request. Ms. Johnson made a motion, Ms. Young seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Staff Reports

Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield

- a. Ms. Bah-Duckenfield highlighted the Community Engagement Forum on Aging scheduled for Monday, March 20th, 2017 at 9:30am at the Arlington Central Library and thanked Commissioners for all their hardwork and dedication in planning a successful event.
- b. Save the Date: the 2017 Virginia Governor's [Conference on Aging](#), scheduled for May 22-23, 2017 in Roanoke, VA. Registration opens on April 1.

V. Old Business

- a. Merger with Long-term Care Residences has not yet been adopted. The vote will occur on Tuesday, March 21, 2017, at the County Board meeting to merge the Commissions and appoint two (2) members to the COA.
- b. The Home and Garden Expo - April 22nd at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center.

VI. New Business

- a. The Disability Advisory Commission seeks members. For more information and to apply, visit <https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/disability-advisory-commission-dac/>.
- b. Community Engagement Forum feedback – Ms. Crotty shared that signage needs to improve for the event, especially for accessibility and accommodation needs. Ms. Wood praised the overall event and suggested different rooms for each breakout session to adequately hear the dialogue. There was a suggestion to consider future forum sites at George Mason or Marymount University.

VII. Announcements and Public Comment

VIII. Adjournment at 1:38 p.m.