



COMMISSION ON AGING

c/o Agency on Aging, DHS

2100 Washington Blvd., 4th Floor, Arlington, VA 22204

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Commission on Aging Meeting Summary Monday, October 20, 2025

9:00 am - 11:00 am

LOCATION: Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT (In- Person): Vice-Chair Kathleen Cameron; Commissioner Roland Watkins; Commissioner Kate Chutuape; Commissioner Audrey Kremer; Commissioner Charlie Sabatino; Commissioner Peggy Jones; ; Commissioner Karen Gorman; Commissioner Catalina Calachan; Commissioner Kristen Johnson; Commissioner Adele McClure

ABSENT: Commissioner Mollie Gelburd

EXCUSED: Chair William Way, Commissioner Michael Bouchard, Commissioner Kasia Shaw

STAFF: Dustin Manhart, Rachel Coates, Maimoona Bah, Michelle Thomas, Jennifer Collins, Amanda Mayer, Claudia DeLoatch, Yordy Amanuel

GUESTS: Claire Jacobsen, Kathleen Kramer, Victoria Dale, Jim Morris, Joan McDermott, Barbara Fillip, Erica Wood, Michael Schuster, Matthew Margulies, Cheryl Beversdorf, Linc Cummings, Wendy Zenker, Marta Hill-Gray, Danielle Arigoni, Jessica Vasquez, Bonnie O' Leary

THE RECORDING CAN BE ACCESSED VIA: [Arlington County Government: YouTube](#)

I. Call to Order/ Welcome

Vice-Chair Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

II. Public Comment

None

Presentation: Performance Parking Pilot – Key Takeaways: Melissa McMahon, Parking & Curbside Manager, Arlington County Environmental Services (refer to the accompanying PowerPoint presentation for specifics)

- Goal: Improve the availability of metered parking using dynamic pricing and real-time data.
- Timeline: Launched Fall 2022; outreach concluded Fall 2025.
- Community Engagement: 86,000 webpage views; 400 feedback responses; 14 pop-up events; 4 trainings with 55+ program
- Findings:
 - Seasonal parking trends (busier in summer)
 - Low payment compliance (~40%), not driven by price
 - Top user priorities: proximity, ease of finding, and cost

- Proposal: Continue performance-based pricing during peak hours to improve efficiency.
- To learn more: [Performance Parking Pilot – Official Website of Arlington County Virginia Government](#)

III. Updates from Parks and Recreation 55+ programs: Jennifer Collins, Unit Manager
55+ Programs in Arlington County.

- Reach: Serves 6,800+ members across five senior centers
- Offerings: 200+ programs annually across wellness, arts, brain health, tech, and social events
- Popular Activities: Yoga, Zumba, Pilates, pickleball, golf, aquatic programs, travel (721 participants last year)
- Special Programs:
 - Social 60+ Café – provides meals, transportation, and health education
 - Virtual Programs – include art, nutrition, exercise, and performances
- Membership Options:
 - \$30 Annual Pass
 - \$75 Gold Pass (includes weight room access)
- 55+ Guide – quarterly 56-page program catalog
- Recognition: DPR won Gold Medal at 2025 NRPA Conference

IV. Approval of the September 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Vice-Chair Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. Minutes approved unanimously.

V. Staff Reports

a. Community Supports & Coordination Bureau, Rachel Coates, Community
Supports & Coordination Bureau Director

- Acknowledgements: Ms. Coates expressed appreciation to staff, Commissioners and volunteers for their ongoing contributions and dedication.
- Staffing:
 - Two vacancies currently exist in Adult Services and Adult Protective Services.
 - The Caregiver Coordinator for the Adult Day Program has started.
- Plans & Approvals
 - The Area Plan was approved by the County Board and a separate Area Plan focused on Emergency Planning was submitted to DARS. Highlights of the Emergency Plan will be shared at a future meeting.
- Funding & Policy Changes
 - The National Council on Aging Benefit Enrollment Center grant will conclude in November. The funds are already exhausted.
- Community Engagement & Partnerships
 - Ongoing collaboration with Culpepper Garden leadership to support Assisted Living residents throughout the closure of the Assisted Living and transition to independent living.
 - Upcoming Community Engagement Forum scheduled for March 16, 2026. Please let Dustin or Rachel know if you are interested in joining the

planning team. The focus will be on transportation and other key priority areas.

- Planning Initiatives
 - Arlington is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan through 2050.

b. Arlington Agency on Aging (AAA), Dustin Manhart, Director

- Acknowledgements & Updates
 - Mr. Manhart provided updates on the County's Annual Performance Measurement Plan (PMP).
 - Emphasis was placed on expanded outreach to underserved populations.
- Program Performance
 - ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) reported that 77% of clients and families feel confident after engaging with the program.
 - Home Meal Deliveries increased by 4% during FY 2025.
- VICAP Open Enrollment
 - Medicare Open Enrollment for benefits is ongoing through December 7.
 - The first open enrollment event was successfully held at Walter Reed Community Center.

c. Aging & Disability Service Division (ADSD), Maimoona Bah, Aging and Disability Services Division Director

- General Updates
 - Day 20 of the Government Shutdown: The shutdown and benefit impact is being closely monitored.
 - DHS is actively working to develop a strategic plan for the next 10 years.
- Community Engagement
 - A 2024 focus group yielded 833 responses providing feedback on our economic security, housing, health and prevention and well-being services provided. Feedback from this engagement will be incorporated into the strategic plan. Most of the focus group responses came from residents aged between 40 - 59.
- Board Representation
 - The Social Services Advisory Board will feature a presentation from Vice Chair Cameron and Linda Kelleher as representatives from the Commission on Aging (COA).

VI. Chair's Report & Executive Committee: Vice-Chair Cameron

- Congratulations to all Age-Friendly committees for their continued progress toward the 2025 goals discussed at the last meeting. Appreciation was expressed for everyone's hard work and encouragement to support one another in achieving year-end objectives.
- Members were reminded to seek assistance early and often if needed and thanked for their contributions to wellness initiatives for older adults in Arlington County.
- The Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN) 2026 legislative and budget priorities were shared, including: A one-page summary of priorities; A talking points document to support advocacy efforts, of potential federal budget changes.
 - NVAN is actively engaged with legislators to advance its policy and budgetary goals.
- One individual is currently under consideration for appointment with the Commission on Aging. Additional vacancies remain, and members are encouraged to refer to qualified candidates.
- Interested individuals can complete an application or questionnaire to begin the process of joining the Commission on Aging.

VII. Committee & Work Group Updates

a.) Aging Equity & Engagement: Commissioner Watkins

- Upcoming Meeting: A scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday to continue discussions and planning.
- Community Presentation: A presentation on fraud prevention will be delivered at PathForward, aimed at raising awareness and providing resources to vulnerable populations.
- LGBTQ+ Community Engagement
 - Discussions were held with the Arlington Community Foundation regarding the development of an LGBTQ+ community group.
 - A presentation was shared highlighting the history of the LGBTQ+ community in Arlington, supporting the foundation for future initiatives.

b.) Health & Wellness: Commissioner Shaw & Commissioner Chutuape

- Upcoming Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for November 7, with continued efforts to connect with communities in need of support.
- Health Coordination: Commissioner Shaw will meet with the Director of Case Management at the hospital to discuss the development of a discharge plan aimed at improving continuity of care.
- Community Resources: Linda is actively working to address affordable dental care by providing resources to the community and identifying potential support options.

c.) Housing & Supportive Services: Commissioner Kremer

- Affordable Housing Coordination: Communication is underway with Kensington to allocate two affordable assisted living units, supporting increased access for older adults in need.
- Community Safety Presentation: Commissioners Kremer and Erica are scheduled to meet with the Civic Association tonight to present on “Staying Safe at Home,” a program focused on promoting safety and well-being for older residents.

d.) LTC Residences: Commissioner Sabatino

- Meeting Schedule: The last meeting was held on October 9.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for November 13, and will feature Joni Latimer, State Ombudsman, who will provide insights into the State Ombudsman Program.
- Facility Engagement: Outreach efforts are underway with Paragon Assisted Living, located on Yorktown Boulevard, to establish a connection and explore opportunities for collaboration.

e.) Transportation: Commissioner Calachan

- Upcoming Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, during which revised drafts related to the Mobile Priority initiative will be shared and discussed.
- Community Outreach
 - Ongoing visits to independent living facilities continue as part of outreach efforts.
 - The next scheduled visit is on Thursday, focusing on engagement and support for residents.

VIII. Liaison Updates

- **Age-Friendly Arlington** (Commissioner Cameron):
 - Currently developing the survey and will be reaching out to individuals for input and feedback.
- **Alexandria Commission on Aging** (Michael Schuster):

- The Office of Housing has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) outlining the Master Housing Plans initiative to develop a mixed-income supportive living facility in Alexandria over the next five years.
 - A recent voter survey was conducted to analysis major issues affecting Older Adults in Virginia. Survey data indicates that older adults in Virginia view current prescription drug cost policies as unfavorable. Respondents advocate for expanded Medicaid access for in-home and community-based care, reduced prescription drug costs, guaranteed paid family and medical leave (FMLA), and stronger accountability for nursing homes to prioritize resident care over administrative expenses. Additionally, there is strong opposition to proposed Medicaid cuts. There is a continued focus on affordability, access, accountability, and quality care.
- **Arlington Neighborhood Village (Wendy Zenker):**
 - An all-hands meeting was held, providing an opportunity for members and volunteers to come together, share feedback on current initiatives, and offer suggestions for future improvements. Approximately 50 participants attended the two-hour session, which featured productive table discussions. The insights gathered will help inform the development of the FY 2026 budget.
 - Ms. Zenker reported that the organization currently serves 500 members, with approximately 45% identified as lower income.
 - Outreach efforts were conducted at the Cherrydale Library to engage with the community. Ms. Zenker shared that Adult Services librarians work at all locations.
- **Northern Virginia Aging Network (Erica Wood):**
 - The Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN), including the Arlington Commission on Aging, is actively working to schedule meetings with legislators to discuss budget challenges.
 - Meetings have been confirmed with Senator Barbara Favola and Delegate Patrick Hope for October 31.
 - Efforts are ongoing to coordinate meetings with Delegate Adele McClure and Delegate Alfonso Lopez.
 - Outreach is also being extended to neighboring jurisdictions, including Fairfax County, Loudoun, Alexandria, and Prince William, with Michael assisting in coordination.
 - Additionally, plans are underway to engage with key legislative committees aligned with NVAN's priorities, as well as budgetary staff to further advocacy efforts.
 - Mrs. Woods expressed appreciation to Karen for her partnership and leadership as Co-Legislative Coordinator in supporting these initiatives.

IX. Old Business, New Business, Announcements

- Ms. Jacobsen encouraged the COA members to vote during the upcoming November 4 election.

A motion to adjourn was made by Co-Chair Cameron. The upcoming COA meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2025, at 9 am at PathForward (2020a 14th St N, Arlington, VA, 22201). The meeting adjourned at 10:56 am.

Prepared By: Claudia DeLoatch; October 20, 2025; DHS, ADSD, QA Administrative Assistant