

Commission on Aging
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2024

9:30-11:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Attendance was recorded via screen shot: David Engel, Wayne Berman, Kate Stein, Jean Dinwiddie, Virginia Cain, Barbara Selter, Beverly Rollins, Morris Klein, Nikki Ezeani, Yvette Monroe, Betsy Carrier, Laurie Pross, Peter Flandrau (staff).

CoA OLD BUSINESS:

-Minutes of December 14th 2023 EC meeting were approved. Quarterly Report will come to the EC before going out for more general distribution.

-Treasurer's report reviewed the year's finances; the ending balance in the CoA's account is \$3024.38; the CoA will continue to spend down the balance by contributing to worthy causes and by honoring noteworthy individuals.

-Topic of Housing remains high on the agenda for the Forum with various aspects still in play.

NEW CoA BUSINESS:

-Welcome to new members of this Committee.

-Topic of Nursing Home Inspections came up. Peter offered to contact OHCQ; Linda is doing some research with CMS/ Nursing Home Compare and taking the lead on a new letter to the MD Dept of Health; David has sent an email to Council President Friedson with a timeline and copies of previous correspondence requesting information regarding the status of inspections.

-CoA has sent congratulations to Dr. Kimberly Johnson on her new position as AAA Director and congratulatory letters to Council President Friedson and Council Vice President Stewart.

-Task Force for the Public Forum has settled on the following working title "Re-Imagining Housing For Seniors"; is looking at the 2018 report to see what has been done so far; is investigating the possibility of recording the event despite the possible need for disclaimers; this Committee supported a hybrid approach to the Forum in April 2024.

-Age Friendly Work Groups (10 domains) will be collaborating on how to move the Aging Summit salient items forward; Friedson wants the CoA to give him our BIG TOPICS (Public Forum, Fraud, World Elder Abuse Day, Nursing Home Oversight, Re-Engaging the Public Post Pandemic, and Active Aging Week).

-Discussion about the new slogan "Longevity Ready Maryland" ensued. Can it/should it replace "Community for a Lifetime"? The older slogan is thought to be perhaps too close to "Communities for Life", the name for fee-based organizations designed to serve older adults only one of which currently exists in Montgomery County where the grassroots Village movement has taken hold much more strongly.

-Commissioners will be called upon to visit Council members to encourage support for our priorities.

-A follow-up report based on last year's Forum is out and an AI-developed survey has been created with the possible goal of shaping a demonstration project with the resulting data in the future. The survey is going to GROWS members.

-The issue of ARPA funding running out came up again. ARPA funding expires 9/30/24.

-Morris is tracking 30 bills (a LTC insurance bill is coming up; there are caregiver bills; tax credit bills that likely won't go anywhere; Death with Dignity bill has not yet been introduced). A copy of the bills will be sent to the Full CoA with the meeting package.

-The next EC meeting will be on Thursday, February 15, 2024.