

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COMMISSION ON AGING

September 19, 2024

9:31a.m.-11:42a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Name	Role	9/19/24 Attendance
David Engel	Chair	x
Yvette Monroe	1st Vice Chair	x
Wayne Berman	2nd Vice Chair	x
(Niki) Ezeani	Treasurer	leaving COA
Laurie Pross	Secretary	x
Arunima Ghosh	Asst. Secretary	
Pazit Aviv - Interim	Community Outreach Manager	x
Dr. Patrice McGhee	Chief, Aging and Disability Services	x
Dr. Kimberly Y. Johnson	Director, Area Agency on Aging	x
Shawn Brennan	Age Friendly	x
Virginia Cain		
Betsy Carrier	-	x
Jean Dinwiddie		x
Morris Klein	-	x
Beverly Rollins		x
Barbara Selter		x
Kate Stein		x
Janice Zalen		x

David Engel welcomes everyone back from August break. He further announced that Niki is relinquishing her position as Treasurer due to increased family responsibilities.

July minutes (with the correction of the spelling of Councilmember Jawando's name) were approved.

Pazit clarified that our Zoom account does not support AI.

The balance in the CoA's account is \$2116.74.

David Engel announced that a letter delineating the current situation with respect to Nursing Home inspections in the county went to Councilmembers and Carmel Roques.

Pazit informed the group that there are 16 solid candidates who are ready to be interviewed for the 5 vacancies on the Commission.

There is a Nominating Committee: Yvette, Kate and Wayne. Discussion ensued concerning the scope of this Committee: Could it also serve to suggest buddies for incoming Commissioners? Could it serve to appoint officers? Could it become a standing Committee? Could it serve in the Community for a Lifetime Award process?

Several other administrative elements were discussed: the need to distill the key features of the position of Chair of the CoA, the functions of the Vice-Chair(s), and the fact that soon there will be a new staff person replacing Pazit to support the CoA.

Wayne brought up the Community for a Lifetime Award. This is an opportunity for the CoA to nominate 2-4 Montgomery County residents. The award is to be given in December.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to presentations by Dr. Patrice McGhee and Dr. Kimberly Johnson on the topics of Nursing Home inspections and LTC Ombudsmen. In summary, there is a stalemate since there is no OHCQ involvement, no data available, no permanent state Ombudsman, authority but no funding granted, no MOU with Montgomery County. CMS requires that Nursing Homes be inspected; the entire state is behind. Dr. McGhee suggested that the situation is so dire that it will require a legislative solution. Collaboration with other Commissions such as the Commission on People with Disabilities might prove beneficial. Further complicating matters is the fact that all training for Ombudspersons is now state-based, held in Baltimore, that it lasts for a week, making it a significant commitment of time and travel for a process that depends on volunteers.

Regarding Chuck Kaufmann's letter in support of the use of Transportation Funds, it appears the funds are not earmarked for studies. An interesting idea nonetheless. David Engel noted that racial equity and climate are lenses that are applied to all budget requests.

The Executive Committee will meet on October 17, 2024; the full CoA will meet on October 24, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m