

Commission on Aging (CoA) Public Policy Committee (PPC) Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2024
9:35 – 10:40am

Via Zoom

Attendees:

Commissioners: Morris Klein (PPC co-chair and scribe), David Engel (CoA chair), Linda Bergofsky, Barbara Selter, and Janice Zalen

Staff: Peter Flandrau

1. The Minutes for the February 8, 2024 meeting were approved unanimously.
2. The Committee discussed legislation pending in the Maryland General Assembly. In particular, certain bills we supported through letters of support will not pass:
 - The sponsors of HB349 and SB631, proposing a study of the feasibility of public long-term care insurance, withdrew their bills.
 - The Death with Dignity bill (SB443) is expected to die in the Senate committee without a voteThe committee discussed at length the nursing home inspections bill (SB 825/ HB1475) as amended as well as the upcoming meeting with the Department of Health. Representatives from the CoA will meet with MDH, OHCQ, and Montgomery County HHS on April 1st spurred on as a result of the CoA letter 2-2-24 to Sec. Herrera Scott.
Action: CoA will send a letter to Sen. Kramer/ Del. Cullison following the General Assembly session and meeting with MDH.
3. The Committee discussed legislation pending in the County Council, in particular:
 - Bill 45-23 to amend the senior property tax credit,
 - Bill 38-23E to modify the Right of First Refusal for the County Executive to designate a 3rd party in the transaction to preserve affordable housing, and
 - ZTA 24-01- a land use bill to allow religious institutions to develop affordable housing in their land. This will also be discussed at the upcoming public forum.***Action: David will discuss with DHCA the PHP Committee sessions and if the CoA support would be needed at this stage of the process.***
4. The Committee discussed efforts to coordinate legislative actions with other county Boards, Committees, and Commissions (BCC) and other County's Commissions on Aging.
5. The Committee briefly discussed the upcoming transition to a new staff liaison and also the possible development of policy priorities to enhance our review of bills in the future.

No votes were taken, other than to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at approximately 10:40 am.

Submitted by Morris Klein.