



**COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 28, 2021**

**PRESIDING:** Reginald Avery, Chair

**Members Attending**

Angie Boyter  
Peter Brunner  
Wei Guo  
Susan Hailman  
Victoria Hathaway  
Elizabeth Edsall Kromm  
Julia Mattis  
Sue Song  
Mark Stinson  
Michael Willis

**Excused/Absent**

Jennifer Asher  
Eletta Morse  
Geetha Jayaram

**Office on Aging & Independence**

Jenna Crawley  
Terri Hansen  
Donna Tugwell

**Guests**

Dr. Anirudh Sridharan, MD, HCGH Medical Director of Informatics and Director of Geriatrics

**Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Approve Agenda**

Peter Brunner motioned to approve the agenda. Wei Guo seconded the motion. Motion was approved.  
*All in favor. Agenda accepted.*

**Approve Minutes**

Mark Stinson motioned to approve the minutes, Sue Song seconded the motion. Motion was approved.  
*All in favor. Minutes accepted.*

## **Presentation on HCGH's Age Friendly Initiative – Special Guest – Dr. Anirudh Sridharan, MD, HCGH Medical Director of Informatics and Director of Geriatrics**

- Susan Hailman introduced Dr. Anirudh Sridharan who gave a power point presentation on Age-Friendly Care at Howard County General Hospital. Dr. Sridharan said that the County is aging at a rapid rate and that taking care of an older patient is more complex.
- Caring for the aging population involves outpatient, hospital and skilled nursing care. HCGH is piloting the 4Ms framework: 1) What Matters, 2) Mentation, 3) Medications, 4) Mobility. 4Ms framework is Age-Friendly. HCGH looked at what was being done that was already Age-Friendly.
- The hospital is going to implement the AMP program (Activity and Mobility Program) later this summer. It will be led by Danielle Mcquigg and Larry Raymond.
- Prior to the pandemic, the nurses developed a program DAD (Defense Against Delirium) to help maintain the patient's mental status.
- HCGH has been recognized by the IHI as an Age-Friendly Health Participant. The next step is to expand the 4M's to all patients 65 and older and become recognized as Committed to Care Excellence.
- Commissioners were given the opportunity to ask questions. The questions included discharge plans, how the hospital experience effects a patient mentally, continued services, recognition of HCGH for treatment of family members, and what we can do in the community to support these efforts.
- Jenna Crawley summarized how the COA can work with HGCH within the Age-Friendly initiative and prevention in a coordinated approach.
- Dr. Anirudh Sridharan was asked about MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) and discussed it.

## **Office on Aging and Independence Report**

- Jenna Crawley gave an update on the Area Plan which was submitted June 7th. She thanked the Commissioners for reviewing the Area Plan and for providing their input.
- Jenna Crawley said DCRS staff will resume in-person work at the office on July 6th. In-person services will start resuming at County buildings on July 6th by appointment. On August 1st, County buildings will be open to the public. She noted that on July 1, 50+Centers will be open with no appointment necessary. Suggestions from the COA are welcome in how to navigate the transition.
- This year, OAI will staff an Age-Friendly booth at Senior Day at the Fair on August 10. The COA is welcome to come out and participate at the booth.
- In-person meetings will begin at Patuxent Woods this September. In July, the COA can discuss their meetings and how to hold them, in-person versus virtual.
- County Administration has asked who on the Commission is over 55 and who is under 55. Commissioners were asked to email Jenna if they are over or under 55 years old.

## **Tax Committee Report**

- A report was given on the meeting that was held with Carl DeLorenzo to discuss taxes. At the meeting were Carl DeLorenzo, Reg Avery, Jenna Crawley, Angie Boyter and Pete Brunner. A Power Point presentation was sent to COA members. Discussed at the meeting were critical issues, current policy and barriers and their impact. Among the tax credits discussed were Livable Homes Tax Credit, Aging in Place Tax Credit, Senior Tax Credit, Homestead Tax Credit and were there appropriate areas for other tax credits. The Maryland State Tax Credit, Independent Living Tax Credit was also discussed. Migration of seniors to other states was discussed. Also, the impact on the General Fund when a senior-owned house is sold to a family with school age children.

## **Chair's Report**

- Michael McPherson has resigned.
- Virtual 50+EXPO hosted by The Beacon– Looking for sponsors and exhibitors for the event. A media kit will be sent to Commissioners to look at. The Commission is asked to get involved and assist.

### **New Business**

- No new business

### **Sharing from Commissioners**

- Susan Hailman –The Association of Community Services, which is an alliance of the non-profits in the County, put out a report last month, which has to do with the needs of the County, many of which relate to the elderly. The report will be sent to Jenna Crawley and the Commissioners.
- Wei Guo – Is there a service available to drive older adults to the hospital and doctors? Neighbor Ride was mentioned. The Asian community would like to book rooms when the 50+ Centers open.
- Pete Brunner – The Village in Howard is a part of a larger group called The Village to Village Network. The state of California has a grouping of 48 villages. They have developed a relationship with various county and state agencies. A conference call is scheduled with them Friday to discuss this.
- Sue Song – Thursday, July 8, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., the Korean American Senior Association will hold a BBQ.

### **Adjournment**

Angie Boyter motioned to adjourn. Michael Willis seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

Recording Secretary: Donna Tugwell

Future Meetings: July 26, usually no August meeting, September 27, October 25, November 22, no December meeting