



COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES November 22, 2021

PRESIDING: Reginald Avery, Chair
Jenna Crawley, Administrator, Office on Aging and Independence

Members Attending

Jennifer Asher
Angie Boyter
Peter Brunner
Susan Hailman
Victoria Hathaway
Elizabeth Edsall Kromm
Eletta Morse
Sue Song
Mark Stinson

Excused

Geetha Jayaram
Julia Mattis
Michael Willis

Absent

Wei Guo

Office on Aging & Independence

Donna Tugwell

Guest Speaker

Jenna Crawley, Administrator, Office on Aging and Independence

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Approve Agenda

Angie Boyter motioned to approve the agenda. Jennifer Asher seconded the motion. Motion was approved. *All in favor. Agenda approved.*

Approve Minutes

Angie Boyter motioned to approve the minutes. Sue Song seconded the motion. Motion was approved. *All in favor. Minutes approved.*

Office on Aging and Independence Report

- The date for the East Columbia 50+ Center celebration and groundbreaking will be December 16th at 11am. Commissioners are invited to attend.
- COA meeting dates for 2022 were given. The September 26th meeting will have to be rescheduled due to Rosh Hashanah. The October 24th meeting may also need to be rescheduled as it falls on Diwali/Deepavali. There will be no August or December meeting. In January whether to continue to meet virtually or in-person will be revisited.

Presentation – Overview of American Rescue Plan and Howard County OAI Allocations

- March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into law by President Biden
- \$1,434 billion were appropriated to carry out the Older Americans Act (OAA) of 1965
- Within the funding appropriated, the law allows for funding for the following areas:
 - 1) Part C of Title III (Congregate and Home Delivered Meals)
 - 2) Part B of Title III (Supportive Services)
 - 3) Part D of Title III (Evidence-based Programs)
 - 4) Part E of Title III (Caregiver Programs)
 - 5) Title VII (Long Term Care Ombudsman Program)
- Howard County received notice of the grant award on November 9, 2021 and has been allocated \$851,949. The grant awards are \$277,147 for Supportive Services, \$183,808 for Congregate Meals, \$275,711 for Home Delivered Meals, \$28,426 for Preventive Health and \$86,857 for Family Caregivers. The budget and narrative are due to MDoA January 10, 2022. The budget period is April 1, 2021 – September 30, 2024.
- Title IIIB funds can be used for helping with vaccine distribution and addressing social isolation. Title IIIC funds can be used for congregate meals and home delivered meals such as Grab & Go, restaurant initiative and traditional home delivered meals. Title IIID funds can be used for disease prevention and health promotion programs. Title IIIE funds can be used for caregiver support programs. Title VII can be used for the long-term ombudsman program.
- Jenna Crawley and the Commissioners discussed how these funds can be allocated. Areas of discussion were 1) What kind of trends and needs are in the community? 2) What opportunities exist to help seed existing programs or start new ones? 3) What community partners could be worked with?

Chair's Report

- There is no decision on the new Commissioner yet. County Executive, Calvin Ball has not communicated his decision as of yet.
- No December meeting will be held.
- Reginald Avery is finishing the letter to the County Executive. Then will send it to Jenna Crawley for review. Once finished he put it in letter format and send it to the County Executive.
- Reginald Avery recently received an email from Howard County that stated they were looking for someone to join the Long Reach Sustainable Community Work Force. They are looking for someone who can talk about the interests of the senior community and projects that could be implemented. They are not looking for someone strictly from Long Reach. If you are interested let him know.

New Business

- Hank Greenberg, AARP State Director, was suggested as a future guest speaker when Age-Friendly goes live. He could give insights as to what is happening in other jurisdictions and states, and how Howard County could coordinate with Montgomery County.
- It was suggested that Dr. Kromm from HCGH give a presentation in the future.

- The Commission expressed interest in learning more about the several assessment programs that help County residents know about what they need to do to stay in their homes. If there is time, it was also suggested that a panel group be created to assess what programs are available or need to be created, and what programs are covered by insurance versus are private pay.

Adjournment

Angie Boyter motioned to adjourn. Sue Song seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Recording Secretary: Donna Tugwell

Future Meetings: January 24th, February 28th, March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd, June 27th, July 25th, August – no meeting, September – TBD, October – TBD, November 28th, December – no meeting