

FAIRFAX AREA COMMISSION ON AGING
FINAL MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Lee District, Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310

Commissioners Present: Tena Bluhm (Chair), Maureen Renault (Vice Chair), Tom Bash, Nazir Bhagat, Julie Bloom Ellis, Joe Heastie, Kenneth Malmberg, Mary Jo Rasmussen, Suzanne Rudiselle

Commissioners Absent: Eileen Duggan, Faviola Donato-Galindo

Staff Present: Sharon Lynn, Jacquie Woodruff, Maria Loh

Others Present: John Jerome, *Met Life*; Jim Reid, *Crime Prevention Officer*

Call to Order, Adoption of the day's Agenda and Minutes

The Commission on Aging (COA) meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson Tena Bluhm. Mary Jo Rasmussen motioned that the agenda be accepted; Julie Ellis seconded. Ken Malmberg motioned that the minutes of the September meeting be approved as submitted; Tom Bash seconded.

Public Comments

Crime Prevention Officer Jim Reid stated that he leads the local SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Officers Together) chapter. He would like the SALT group to attract more participation and to help identify older adults who may be at risk for financial crime.

Presentation: Diverse Meals Project

Sharon Lynn presented an overview of the diverse meals project and described several pilots for both congregate meals and home delivered meals. Maria Loh, Coordinator of the Congregate Meals Program and Registered Dietician, also provided input.

Mary Jo motioned that the COA supports the diverse meal project and plan; Suzanne Rudiselle seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Continuation/finalization of Plans and Goals for 2011-2012

The COA continued discussion of plans and goals for 2011-2012. Tena will resend her list of possible goals. Tom reported that he has spoken with the fire chief and doesn't believe further action is needed on the high-rise issue.

Bylaws

Ken discussed a working draft of bylaws updates crafted by Ken, Joe, and Faviola.

COA Member Report Form

The form developed by Joe will be used as a guideline for possible written report submissions.

New Business

No new business.

Director's Report

Sharon Lynn reported that v4a endorsed the NVAN legislative platform at their quarterly meeting. Because census numbers determine funding allocations, v4a is making a legislative appeal for funding to bridge gaps. Funding formula details won't be available for another year.

A possible consolidation is being considered for the Virginia Department for the Aging, the Department of Rehabilitative Services, and the Department of Social Services.

The Older Dominion Partnership (ODP) needs assessment survey results should be released in the next month. The Community Foundation of Northern Virginia has supported and worked with the ODP.

Department of Family Services Director Nannette Bowler spent a day with Area Agency on Aging staff to increase understanding of work in progress.

COA Member Activity and Reports

Tom regularly talks to constituents in the Springfield district. He hears much praise about the Golden Gazette, but also hears questions not addressed in the publication. Tom suggested that the publication target its audience through continued public education and in alignment with COA objectives.

Suzanne followed up on questions posed by Lake Anne Fellowship residents at the October COA meeting. The Fellowship House Foundation and Lake Anne staff will meet with residents.

Ken and Tena appeared as guests on Supervisor Cook's Channel 16 show. Ken reported that the Kings Park Civic Association is sponsoring "Volunteer in Your Community" to assist older adults in the community.

Tena and several other commissioners attended the NVAN Legislative Breakfast. Tena represented the COA at the CCFAC (Fairfax County Consolidated Community Advisory Committee) meeting.

Tena was interviewed by a Ph.D. candidate regarding planning for older adult needs.

Mary Jo is working with the City of Fairfax to develop a program on financial scams to present at the senior center.

Meeting Adjournment

Ken motioned the meeting be adjourned; Suzanne seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.