

**FAIRFAX AREA COMMISSION ON AGING**  
**FINAL MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**Wednesday, July 20, 2016**

Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive, Centreville, VA 20121

**Commissioners Present:** Richard Chobot (*Chair*), Kay Larmer (*Vice Chair*), Tom Bash, Sharron Dreyer, Joe Heastie, Cathy Muha, Carolyn Sutterfield

**Commissioners Absent:** Grace Paris Starbird, Bob Kuhns

**Staff Present:** Sharon Lynn, Jacquie Woodruff

**Others Present:** Roberto Quinones, *Commonwealth Council on Aging*; Marie Fleischauer, *Fairfax County resident*, Shannon Dodd, *Fairfax Area Agency on Aging*; Linda Hernandez-Giblin, *Fairfax Area Agency on Aging*; Kolleen Martin, *Fairfax County resident*; Alison Tompkins, *Sunrise*; Bob Eiffert, *Alexandria Commission on Aging*

**Call to Order, Additions to Agenda, Approval of the Agenda, and Approval of the Minutes**

Chair Rich Chobot called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Carolyn motioned that the agenda be approved. Sharron seconded. Kay motioned that the minutes be approved. Joe seconded.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Discussion: Networking Among COAs in Virginia and the Commonwealth Council on Aging – Roberto Quinones, Commonwealth Council on Aging**

Roberto provided an overview of the Commonwealth Council on Aging (CCOA). The CCOA has 19 appointed members and five ex-officio members. The Governor appoints 11 members, one from each of Virginia's congressional districts. Of the remaining eight at-large members, four are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and four by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections. The CCOA prepares an annual report for the Governor and General Assembly and hosts annual best practices awards. Attendance at CCOA meetings is possible in person or by phone. CCOA commissioners have worked informally and effectively on legislative matters with NVAN and state advocacy groups.

Roberto invited the COA to be included in discussions with other interested COAs in Northern Virginia and to provide input to the CCOA. The Loudoun COA has formally requested this, and Roberto is working with their chair. Another Governor's Conference on Aging is being planned for May, and the COA might be able to provide input during the planning process. Joe stated that he had been a part of a similar group for boards of colleges. Kay volunteered to represent the COA in CCOA discussions. Roberto will coordinate with the other COAs and will communicate with Kay.

**Area Plan Update – Shannon Dodd and Linda Hernandez-Giblin, Fairfax Area Agency on Aging**

Sharon stated that, because Linda Hernandez-Giblin is a recent hire, Shannon Dodd volunteered to coordinate the Area Plan submission this year. Linda will oversee the process next year. Shannon distributed a chart of 2017 projections and important changes. Rich requested the definition of units and a listing of AAA units providing each service listed. Shannon will update the chart and send to the COA.

**Old Business**

Kay stated that the Planning Commission will vote on the proposed homeless shelter at Lincolnia tonight. The Mason District Land Use Committee voted to recommend against the proposal. Rich and Kay met with Supervisor Gross before the 50+ Committee meeting. They discussed possible approaches to supporting older adults at both the Lincolnia cluster and the shelter. Rich sent a thank-you note to Supervisor Gross.

Kay requested that Dean Klein, director of the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, be invited to present at the September meeting.

At the Board of Supervisor's (BOS) 50+ Committee meeting on June 28, the COA joined the BOS at the table and Rich presented an overview of the Annual Report of the 50+ Community Action Plan. Dr. Catherine Tompkins and Dr. Emily Ihara from GMU provided an update on the 50+ Trends Analysis, and Detective Michael Deane and Detective Richard Downham presented about financial exploitation.

Joe stated that nearly all of the BOS was present. He expressed appreciation that microphones were used during the meeting.

Supervisor Storck asked if GrandInvolve could be present in all Title I schools in his district. After the meeting, GrandInvolve Champion Dorothy Keenan spoke with Supervisor Storck about approaches for that implementation.

In a recent teleconference, regional AAA leaders from Hennepin County, MN referred to the 50+ Community Action Plan as a leading model in the country.

Sharon provided the two new BOS Supervisors with an overview of the 50+ Community Action Plan and invited them to tour the AAA.

### **New Business**

Joe motioned that the COA vote on the election slate was approved at the June meeting. Sharron seconded. The COA voted unanimously to elect Kay Larmer as Chair and Carolyn Sutterfield as Vice Chair.

### **Director's Report**

Sharon attended the V4A meeting. Based on federal policies, the location of Ombudsman Programs and potential conflicts of interest are being evaluated by the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). The five AAAs in Northern Virginia are the only AAAs in Virginia that are housed in local government. DARS would like to propose that the nonprofit AAAs become state employees. The structure of the AAAs in Northern Virginia won't change because the governmental structures can establish policies and procedures that ensure firewalls.

The V4A legislative platform is similar to the NVAN platform and will include items regarding Ombudsman Program funding and Medicaid expansion.

Peer Place was demonstrated at the NVAN meeting yesterday.

### **Commissioner Updates**

Kay reminded the commissioners that the NVAN Legislative Breakfast is on September 26.

Sharron and Linda Hernandez-Giblin met with Supervisor McKay's staff regarding the 50+ Community Ambassador Program. Supervisor McKay's aide expressed excitement about helping with the program.

Cathy will meet with Supervisor Smith in September.

Carolyn attended the Fairfax Villages and Shepherd's Center meeting. She would like the COA to explore end-of-life planning issues as a matter of education. The City of Fairfax is focusing on walkability and livability in planning efforts and is conducting a citywide survey regarding a new comprehensive plan. Three sites are being considered for a relocation of the Green Acres Senior Center.

Joe expressed congratulations to Kay and Carolyn and deep thanks to Rich for his service.

Tom attended a meeting convened by Supervisor Herrity with representatives from Uber, Sharon, Susan Shaw, Jill Clark, and the DOT Director. Tom continues to explore and advocate for transportation options for older adults.

Rich has drafted a caregiver survey and will work with the Caregiver Support Team to hone and distribute this fall.

**Farewell for Chair Rich Chobot**

Kay presented a certificate to Rich to recognize his service on the COA. Commissioners expressed admiration for Rich's commitment and accomplishments. Rich stated that he has felt honored to serve with the commissioners to advocate for older adults in Fairfax County.

**Adjournment**

Cathy motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Joe seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.