

Attachment C Notice of February 2021 COA Meeting

**FAIRFAX AREA COMMISSION ON AGING (COA)
DRAFT MINUTES**

VIRTUAL – VIDEO/AUDIO MEETING

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83019654527>

Password: COA-m1234!

Or

Telephone: 888-270-9936 (US Toll Free) or 602-333-0032

Conference code: 231525

AT&T Bridge call Toll Free 1-866-434-5269

Participant access code: 3743216

Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 1:00-3:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Carolyn Sutterfield, (Chair), Mike Perel (Vice Chair), Cathy Muha (Secretary), Tom Bash, Cathy Cole, Martha Cooper, Sharron Dreyer, Joe Heastie, Kathy Hoyt, Phyliss Miller Palombi, Diane Watson, Kay Larmer

Staff Present:

Tara Turner, Trina Mayhan -Webb, Jacquie Woodruff, Hilda Naranjo, Kim Karlinchak

Others Present:

Linda Bufano, Office of Supervisor James Walkinshaw (Braddock District); Jenny Phipps, Office of Supervisor Foust (Dranesville District); Jeffrey Katz, Fairfax County CERT Program Manager; Elvia Foil, Fairfax County CERT Program Volunteer; Anita Van Der Merwe, Fairfax County CERT Program; Dana Powers, Fairfax County CERT Program Administrator; Ross Bronstetter, Fairfax County CERT Program Volunteer; Kathy Jones, Fairfax County CERT Program; Kristin Roman, Service Source; Allegra Joffe-Fahringer, Let's Connect; Patricia Rohrer, Fairfax County Health Department; Greta, Captioner; Eileen McCartin, Executive Director NVRC; Kate Chutuape, Virginia Hospital Center; Barbara Holleb, A.M. P.M. Wellness; Scott Schroth, Shepherd's Center serving Oakton-Vienna-Reston-Herndon

Call to Order; Introductions; Additions to Agenda; Approval of the Agenda; Approval of the Minutes

COA Chair Carolyn Sutterfield called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Motions to Proceed with Electronic Meeting

Carolyn explained that, in order to conduct the meeting electronically in compliance with the emergency procedures authorized by FOIA, the State of Emergency, and the Emergency Ordinance, certain findings and determinations are required for the record. Carolyn called the roll, and all the commissioners participating stated their name and the location from which there

were participating. Carolyn motioned that the COA had a quorum present via remote connection and that each member's voice could be adequately heard by all participating members of the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging. Vice Chair Mike Perel called for a second and a vote. Martha Cooper seconded. The COA voted unanimously to approve the motion. Carolyn motioned that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic made it unsafe for the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging and the public to physically assemble. She further moved that the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging conduct the meeting electronically through a dedicated audio-conferencing line that the public could access. Mike Perel called for a second and a vote. Diane Watson seconded. The COA voted unanimously to approve the motion. Finally, Carolyn motioned that all agenda matters would address the Emergency itself, were necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or were statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. Mike Perel called for a second and a vote. Martha Cooper seconded. The COA voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Diane Watson motioned that the agenda be accepted. Phyllis Miller Palombi seconded. Sharron Dreyer motioned that the minutes be accepted. Diane Watson seconded.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Presentation:

Fairfax County Emergency Response Program volunteers Elvia Foil and Ross Bronstetter presented an overview of the CERT program. CERT training is administered through the county fire and rescue department. The program was initiated in 2003 following 9/11, training and preparing nearly 3,500 people to respond to disasters or major events within their community. Neighborhood teams are trained and certified in specific response areas developed by FEMA. Teams assess and map community resources while encouraging preparedness. Skills are maintained through community engagement (traffic management, food distribution during COVID-19 and road race marshalling) and continuing education. Recruitment is important to the program, as well as, emergency drills and community outreach. The presentation was followed by a short question and answer period.

Old Business

Commissioners shared the following updates:

- Carolyn Sutterfield reported that the Human Services Council (HSC) submitted a report to the Board of Supervisors on November 16, detailing the results of three public engagement sessions conducted by the HSC and the Office of Strategy Management (OSM) in early 2020 in connection with the proposed Fairfax County Strategic Plan. Four sessions were planned, but one had to be canceled due to inclement weather. Two hundred thirty-four county residents participated in the three sessions held at Ox Hill, Heritage, and South County. Participants discussed the nine proposed priority areas of the Strategic Plan and answered the question, "What keeps you up at night?" A total of 496 comments were recorded. Approximately 16 percent listed Housing and Neighborhood Livability as their top concern, followed by Effective and Efficient Government at 15

percent. Broken out by location, a top concern for Annandale attendees was mentoring programs to promote emotional wellness among youth; Ox Hill participants were concerned about lack of access to affordable health care providers; and South County wanted to see more affordable housing and community engagement. Although further development of the Strategic Plan is paused due to COVID-10, the qualitative data captured in these meetings has been captured by OSM for future reference. The report is not posted on the Fairfax County website. No additional engagement by the COA is suggested.

Carolyn reported that on December 1, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved to adopt the Covid-19 Response Plan for Older Adults.

The Alzheimer's Association is adapting Healthy Mind and Body Program related to isolation and offered a session on December 14.

VICAP has completed another Medicare Enrollment Advisory period. Three hundred and seventy-two cases saved over \$100,000.00 for these clients.

- Diane Watson attended a dementia panel including representatives from Dementia Connections, Aging Rainbows and Insight Memory Care. The panel was held on November 19. A Dementia Friendly informational meeting was held on December 10. The LTCC COVID-19 Impact and Response Team meetings were held on November 10, 24 and December 8. The team discussed the survey and presented to LTCCC for feedback.
- Kay Larmer participated in the GrandInvolve Volunteer Celebration on December 8. Fifty participants attended the Alice In Wonderland themed event, and volunteers with seven, six and five years of experience were honored. Grand Involve will hold a Strategic Planning Meeting in February 2021.
- Joe Heastie and Carolyn Sutterfield participated in the 50+Community Ambassador Meeting. The topic of discussion was construction scams, woodchuck scams and newer scams related to the pandemic and vaccine.
- Mike Perel followed up on a request he made last year to the Aging, Disability, & Caregiver Resource phone line. He requested that callers be asked how they obtained the phone number for the Resource phone line. Preliminary trends from 218 responses indicated that callers, predominantly, received the number from a professional such as a doctor or social worker. Responses also indicated that Google searches and the Fairfax County Government website were other sources where the resource number was located.

Director's Report

Tara Turner reported that Maria Loh completed a Winter Meal Segment for Channel 16. The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging highlighted the segment in their newsletter.

A public service announcement (PSA) related to isolation will be filmed for Channel 16 in January. The PSA will tie in outreach by providing persons without technology the necessary information to reach the Area Agency on Aging.

The Health Department is developing high, medium and low risk graphic for older adults.

The Virginia Department of Health will hold a COVID-19 Vaccine Town Hall on December 16 at 7:00PM. The Town Hall will be broadcast on ABC.

New Business

Mike Perel presented Creative Aging, a digital reflection on aging and words of gratitude to the Area Agency on Aging for their tireless efforts throughout this unprecedented year.

Kay Larmer and Carolyn Sutterfield participated in a virtual seminar, Healthy Aging Strategies for Addressing Social Isolation During a Pandemic, sponsored by AARP and ProMedica. The conference highlighted the use of technology for older adults, novel acute care in-home programs and the importance of strong community ties with hospitals and businesses. A summary of the virtual conference and link to audio recording will be provided to the Commission as soon as it becomes available.

Linda Bufano, Senior Legislative Assistant, is retiring from Supervisor James Walkinshaw's Office in the Braddock District.

Announcements

Allegra Joffe Fahringer, Let's Connect, announced that the Millennial 50+ Ambassadors of Northern VA will meet December 16 at 6 PM on Zoom. A Fire and Safety panel with Fairfax County, Loudoun County, and City of Alexandria will provide a live question and answer session with home safety tips for older adults-Zoom hosted by Service Source. For information, contact MillennialAmbassadors@gmail.com or 703-828-4997.

Diane Watson thanked Linda Bufano, Supervisor Walkinshaw's office, for placing Dementia Friendly information session details in the Braddock District newsletter. Supervisor Storck's Mount Vernon District newsletter will publicize and promote the January 7, 2021 Dementia Friendly information session. Diane thanked Linda Hernandez-Giblin and Service Source for serving as technical advisors for these sessions.

The January meeting of the Commission on Aging is cancelled due to the Inauguration. The Commission on Aging February 17, 2021 meeting will be held from 2:00-4:00PM to accommodate speaker, Steve T. Descano, Commonwealth's Attorney. The presentation will focus on senior scams.

Adjournment

Kay Larmer motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Sharron Dreyer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.