

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

VIRTUAL – VIDEO/AUDIO MEETING

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84907426481>

Password: COA-m1234!

Or

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

Conference code: 231525

Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Carolyn Sutterfield, (Chair), Mike Perel (Vice Chair), Cathy Muha (Secretary), Tom Bash, Cathy Cole, Joe Heastie, Kathy Hoyt, Diane Watson, Kay Larmer

Commissioners Absent:

Phyllis Miller Palombi (excused), Martha Cooper (excused), Sharron Dreyer (excused)

Staff Present:

Trina Mayhan-Webb, Jacquie Woodruff, Hilda Naranjo

Call to Order

COA Chair Carolyn Sutterfield called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Roll Call and 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 they were participating. Commissioners present were:

- Carolyn Sutterfield from her home in the City of Fairfax
- Tom Bash from his home in the Springfield District
- Mike Perel from his home in Braddock District
- Diane Watson from her home in Lorton, representing Mount Vernon District
- Cathy Muha from her home in Oakton, representing Sully District
- Cathy Cole from her home in Springfield, serving as the At-Large Representative
- Kay Larmer from her home in Stafford County, representing Dranesville District
- Kathy Hoyt from her home in Lincolnia, representing Mason District
- Joe Heastie from his son's home in Pennsylvania, representing Providence District

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. Cathy Cole

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. Kay Larmer seconded. The COA voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Additions to Agenda; Approval of the Agenda; Approval of the Minutes

Carolyn asked that the Older Adults Committee be added to Old Business. Mike Perel motioned that the amended agenda be accepted. Diane Watson seconded. The COA voted unanimously to accept the amended agenda.

Cathy Cole motioned that the draft minutes of the May 19th meeting be approved. Kay Larmer seconded. The COA voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Presentation: Strategic Planning for Affordable Housing in Fairfax County – Judith Cabelli, Affordable Housing Development Division Director, Department of Housing and Community Development

Judith Cabelli presented the Strategic Plan for Vibrant, Sustainable and Inclusive Fairfax County. The County is working to ensure a common future vision for housing and its effect on economic growth while complying with the tenants of One Fairfax Racial and Social Equity Policy. The county will provide an actionable strategy and plan for housing based on quantifiable need while delineating policy and funding sources. The Strategic Plan emphasizes the importance of housing to economic growth and the need for a range of countywide affordable and age-appropriate housing. Preservation of existing affordable dwelling units is mandatory while ensuring future growth to meet community demand.

Old Business

Commissioners shared the following updates:

- Carolyn Sutterfield reported that she and six commissioners attended an in-person Older Adults Committee Meeting on June 15, 2021. The BOS approved a new community survey post pandemic and Plan timeline that begins with the survey. Final approval of the SHAPE Plan is slated for May of 2023.
- Carolyn Sutterfield reported on the Virginia Governor's Conference for Aging. All presentations are now available on the website for all registrants and can be shared.

Highlights of the presentations dealt with ageism, family/individual empowerment, isolation and mental health, as well as access to health care and equity.

- Diane Watson reported that the Governor's Conference had a vast amount of information. She attended a program on Brain Health Disparity investigating brain function and the impact of disease and aging on cognitive functioning. Diane was impressed with vendor networking despite the virtual conference format.
- Cathy Muha reported that the financial exploitation presentation at the Governor's Conference was informative. The presentation gave unique insight into methods utilized to avoid exploitation.
- Mike Perel reported that he and Phyllis Palombi met virtually with Jacquie Woodruff and Evan Braff of Neighborhood and Community Services to brainstorm the Film Club idea. The potential program is evolving, with prototypes and locations for viewing under consideration. Movies with aging theme recommendations are welcome.

Director's Report

Trina Mayhan-Webb reported that Director Tara Turner gave a tremendous presentation at the Older Adults Committee meeting on June 15. Tara highlighted for the BOS the Covid-19 Older Adults Response Plan and the future of SHAPE the Future of Aging Plan. The Board approved the timeline and will be following up on specific action items that the Board has addressed. The Area Agency on Aging will work together with the Commission on Aging on specific action items. Tara indicated that Covid 19 emphasized the Meals on Wheels Programming. More clients were served than ever before (200 new clients) by way of the vendor and partnership model. This model will continue as it represents effective and efficient government service. Data indicated there were over 1,000 missed meals since 2017. From the start of the pandemic in 2020, zero meals have been missed using the new delivery model. Volunteer opportunities will be available to share a conversation with clients during mealtime rather than delivering meals. Additional state funding directed to the nutrition program helped to build the vendor model and provides for delivered meals on Saturday. The contract between the state and the Area Agency on Aging has changed to mandate nutrition provision as an essential service. Trina thanked Tara and Carolyn Sutterfield for their presentations to the Advisory Social Services Board. The Fairfax County Caregivers Alert Notification Program won a 2021 Aging Innovation Award with the potential for a monetary award to be decided in July.

New Business

- Jacquie Woodruff reported that there is an amended Remote Participation Policy drafted by county attorneys in response to the new legislation passed by the General Assembly. The General Assembly has expanded remote participation policy outside of the pandemic. Vote will be delayed until the July meeting.
- Human Services Issues Paper is part of the legislative package developed each year by the Board of Supervisors. The Board has provided staff and boards an opportunity for input but discourages expansion of the paper. Boards have the opportunity within this paper to endorse a new position. The Health Care Advisory Board (HCAB) would like to introduce an initiative around nursing home staffing levels. They would like to have the Commission on Aging and Long Term Care Coordinating Council join them in this endeavor. Carolyn Sutterfield motioned to support the HCAB's request for improvements in nursing

home staffing levels. Kay Larmer seconded. Mike Perel dissented while the rest of the Commission voted to approve.

- The Officer Election Slate for the July 2021 meeting includes Cathy Cole for Chair, Cathy Muha for Vice Chair and Carolyn Sutterfield for Secretary. Anyone is welcome to recommend a Commissioner or indicate personal interest in inclusion for the election of identified positions.

Announcements

Carolyn reported that Patty Klein of Rebuilding Together Arlington Fairfax Falls Church will be announcing a fall home repair day to be held on Saturday Oct 2, 2021. More information can be found at <https://rebuildingtogether-aff.org/>.

Adjournment

Diane Watson motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Kay Larmer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00PM.

Minutes prepared by Cathy Muha, COA Secretary.
Approved: July 21, 2021

DocuSigned by:


 Cathy Muha, COA Secretary

07/23/2021 | 9:25 PM PDT

Date

DocuSigned by:


 Carolyn Sutterfield, COA Chair

07/23/2021 | 8:37 AM EDT

Date