

FAIRFAX AREA COMMISSION ON AGING (COA)

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL – VIDEO/AUDIO MEETING

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87171482674>

Password: COA-m1234!

Telephone: 888-270-9936 (US Toll Free) or 602-333-0032 Conference code: 231525

Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Cathy Cole (Chair/At Large), Cathy Muha (Vice Chair/Sully), Martha Cooper (Secretary/City of Falls Church), James Kirkpatrick (Springfield), Joanne Collins (Hunter Mill), Sharron Dreyer (Franconia), Joe Heastie (Providence), Irvin Katz (Mason), Mike Perel (Braddock), Diane Watson (Mount Vernon), Kay Larmer (Dranesville)

Commissioners Absent: Carolyn Sutterfield (City of Fairfax)

County Staff Present: Tara Turner, Jacquie Woodruff, Lauren Elcesser, Ana Valdivia, Emily Swenson, Fairfax Area Agency on Aging; Trina Mayhan-Webb, DFS, Lou Nuzzo, Deputy County Attorney

Call to Order: Chair Cathy Cole called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Roll Call and Motions to Proceed with Electronic Meeting: Chair Cathy Cole called the roll. Cathy Cole read the motions and Joe Heastie conducted the votes.

- Joe Heastie motioned that the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging had a quorum present via remote connection and that each member's voice could be adequately heard by all participating members. Diane seconded. Motion carried.
- Joe 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 and that the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging was conducting the meeting electronically through the dedicated telephone line listed above. Sharron seconded. Motion carried.
- Joe 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. Sharron seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none

Agenda Approval Cathy C moved that we accept the agenda with one addition. She asked Joanne Collins to report on the Consolidated Community Funding Pool survey. Cathy C. asked that the agenda approved. Martha so motioned and Kay seconded it. Motion carried.

Acceptance of November 16th Minutes Cathy C. moved that the COA accept the minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting. Diane seconded. Motion carried.

Welcome: Supervisor Kathy Smith from the Sully District

Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith, was unable to join the meeting. She sent her apologies and best wishes for the holidays.

Welcome Jim Kirkpatrick the new Commissioner for Springfield District

Jim has lived in Fairfax County on and off since the 1970's. He serves on the Citizen Corp Council to prepare for local emergencies. He is keenly interested in the lives of older residents and wants to respond to the exodus of County residents after retirement. He discussed the COA work with Tom Bash, the former commissioner from Springfield.

AAA Director's Report: – Tara Turner, Director, Fairfax Area Agency on Aging

Tara Turner welcomed the new commissioners, Irvin Katz and Jim Kirkpatrick.

The VA Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) granted the AAA additional hours for respite care. Fifty volunteers delivered 548 shelf stable meals for Thanksgiving. A pilot program is being planned for Meals on Wheels that will include a select group of recipients opting for a choice of receiving meals once a week or delivered three times per week by a volunteer.

As mandated by DARS, the AAA is transitioning to the PeerPlace application to document its services. Two AAA units have completed the transition.

Staff changes include Emily Swenson as Volunteer Solutions Supervisor, Beth Ann Margetta as Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program Supervisor, and Nikky Santistevan as one of the Nutrition Program Supervisors.

Cathy Cole asked that Tara provide an overview of the Older Americans Month, Area Agency on Aging, and organization chart at the January COA meeting.

Presentation: Virginia Freedom of Information Act and Legislative Changes Relevant to Boards, Authorities, and Commissions - Louis Nuzzo, Assistant County Attorney

Assistant County Attorney, Louis Nuzzo, presented about the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and legislative changes relevant to Boards, Authorities and Commissions (BACs). A public meeting is any assemblage of three or more members, engaged in the discussion or transaction of public business. For groups of three or more, any communication regarding Commission business, including email, is limited to official meetings. Members can gather or communicate for social reasons provided no business is discussed.

Mr. Nuzzo reviewed the details of the All-Virtual Meetings Policy and Remote Participation of Members Policy, both adopted by the COA on July 20, 2022. Boards, Authorities, and Commissions, and their committees, may hold all-virtual public meetings two times or 25% of

meetings per calendar year, whichever is greater, and the meetings may not be held consecutively. No more than two members of the BAC may be together in one location unless that location is open to the public.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Updates

- Diane Walton reported that the Dementia Friendly task force now meets every two months. The task force is preparing a Dementia Friendly tool kit for businesses and other groups to better serve people with dementia. The Neighbor-to-Neighbor initiative and the number of Villages in the Fairfax area has decreased. Fewer people are volunteering. People who had volunteered earlier find themselves in need of help. The Long Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC) Social Connections subcommittee is trying to return to pre-pandemic levels of activity.
- Sharron Dreyer stated that the DFS publication *Aging Well* is a phenomenal resource. Because it is about 25 pages long, she asked how it might be provided to the 1,500 residents in Greenspring. Tara responded that some copies might be available in common areas at Greenspring. Access to the booklet online, including on neighborhood websites, is also under discussion.
- Irv Katz will present about Generations United to the LTCCC. Generations United wrote a 60+ page report for the American Planning Association regarding local and city planning that integrates the young and old.
- Cathy Cole reported that submissions for the Shark Tank competition are due Feb. 21st. The competition will be held in March or April.
- Cathy Muha serves on the Equity and Aging Diversity Committee of LTCCC. The committee encountered challenges with the completion of surveys they distributed.
- Joanne Collins reported on the Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee (CCFAC). The CCFAC advises the Board of Supervisors on the development and implementation of the federally required consolidation plan. The CCFAC also recommends Fairfax County's Consolidated Community Funding Pool (CCFP) priorities based on community and staff assessments of the human services and community development needs within the county. CCFP is an allocation of funds earmarked by the Board of Supervisors to be administered to local nonprofits and community-based organizations as an investment in programs and services that strengthen the county's ability to fill the human services needs of its residents. To determine how these funds should be allocated, Fairfax County, with significant community input, establishes categories that are reflective of the needs residents feel are most important in their communities. CCFAC is currently seeking input on the current categories.

Joanne stated that a number of categories are relevant to the COA as commissioners and beneficiaries. Joanne represents the COA on the CCFAC and advocates for older adult considerations in recommendations.

Joanne shared information about a January 10th public hearing on the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. This public hearing is being convened to receive public comment

as the County is developing its HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)-American Rescue Plan (ARP) allocation plan that will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

BAC liaison assignments

The discussion regarding liaising with other BACs will continue. Commissioners will confirm their current involvement. Important BACs with no COA liaisons will be highlighted. Some committees are no longer operating. Other BACs are of special interest to individual commissioners.

SHAPE the Future of Aging Phase 2: Community Input Update-

Tara reported that Health Management Associates (HMA), the contracted project vendor, held the following community input sessions:

Town Halls:

- Reston
- Hybla Valley
- Fairfax
- Annandale

Magisterial Community Gatherings:

- City of Fairfax
- City of Falls Church
- Braddock District
- Dranesville District
- Hunter Mill District
- Lee/Franconia District
- Mason District
- Mount Vernon District
- Providence District
- Springfield District
- Sully District

Focus Groups (5-10 Participants)

- Adults with Disabilities
- 50+ Community Ambassadors
- Family Caregivers
- Faith Community Leadership
- Housing
- Arabic Speakers
- Farsi Speakers
- Korean Speakers
- Mandarin Speakers

- Spanish Speakers
- Vietnamese Speakers

Key Informant Interviews (1-3 Participants, with the exception of the COA and the LTCCC):

- Fairfax Area Commission on Aging (COA)
- LTCCC (Long Term Care Coordinating Council)
- LGBTQIA+
- Older Adult Safety
- Adult and Aging Equity Workgroup
- Long Term Care Facility Residents
- Gum Springs and South County Senior Centers
- United Community
- Homelessness
- Access to Health Care: Mental Health
- ARTS Fairfax
- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (George Mason University) and Lifelong Learning Institute (Northern Virginia Community College)
- Food

Commissioners received a draft outline of HMA's report and offered their comments. Tara thanked the COA for its valuable feedback.

NEW BUSINESS

Shape the Future of Aging Next Steps

Tara and Jacquie will update the COA on HMA's initial draft plan in February.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dementia Friendly Fairfax will now meet every two months on the 2nd Wednesday from 12-1:15 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Sharron Dreyer motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Diane Watson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 pm.

Minutes prepared by Martha Cooper, COA Secretary.

Approved: January 18, 2023

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Martha Cooper
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Martha Cooper, COA Secretary

Date

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Cathy Cole, COA Chair

Date