

**FAIRFAX AREA COMMISSION ON AGING (COA)
SPECIAL MEETING**

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL – VIDEO/AUDIO MEETING

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84633670789>

Password: Meet-1234!

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

Wednesday, October 12, 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), Carolyn Sutterfield (City of Fairfax), Joanne Collins (Hunter Mill), Sharron Dreyer (Lee), Joe Heastie (Providence), Kay Larmer (Dranesville), Mike Perel (Braddock), Diane Watson (Mount Vernon)

Commissioners Absent: Kathy Hoyt (Mason)

County Staff Present: Jacquie Woodruff, Ana Valdivia, Fairfax Area Agency on Aging (FAAA), Kathleen Thomas

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 C. called the roll. Chair Cathy C. read the motions and Cathy C. conducted the votes.

Martha Cooper 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.

- Martha 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. Kay Larmer seconded. Motion carried.
- Martha 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. Carolyn seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none

Old Business

The sole purpose of this extra meeting was to review Health Management Associates (HMA) plans for Phase II of the SHAPE the Future of Aging community input meetings in the Fairfax Area.

HMA had prepared guides for the town halls and focus groups for COA review.

Commissioners asked a variety of questions and offered comments. Mike Perel asked what the County expects to do with the information collected in these group meetings? Kay Larmer and Joe Heastie suggested that community input could offer possible solutions and might be used for funding and staffing decisions. These gatherings allow citizens to impact the Area Agency on Aging directly.

The HMA guides caused some confusion. HMA grouped the categories using the CASOA survey categories and not the SHAPE categories. The Commission agreed to ask HMA to align their questions with the SHAPE identified framework.

The guides frequently referred to Fairfax County when 'Fairfax' or 'Fairfax Area' is more accurate. The COA agreed to ask HMA to include "Fairfax Area" when relevant.

The plans for running the four town halls were discussed. Pre-registration is required for attendance with a limit of 60 in-person participants at each town hall. Registration opened on the 12th. The town halls will be held in each of the four human services districts in the following locations: Reston Center, Hybla Center, Annandale Heritage Center, and the Fairfax County Government Center. Kay Larmer asked how these events are being advertised. She and others were concerned that the events might miss important groups. Jacquie Woodruff noted that the focus groups would include languages other than English, the Long-Term Care Coordinating Council, the COA, people with disabilities, and other groups. Carolyn Sutterfield added that Fairfax City Village board's next meeting would also serve as a community gathering in the City of Fairfax.

Commissioners discussed specific questions that could be included in the HMA guides. Questions suggested included: Have you heard of home sharing? Have you heard of Volunteer Solutions? How walkable is your community? How easy is it to cross the street? How accessible are parking spots? Rents have increased. Is this a problem since COVID? What impact is inflation having on you? What do you do without because money is tight? Have you done advanced financial planning? How did you find out about this meeting?

Commissioners noted that there was no reference to legal planning in the HMA guides.

Commissioners recommended determining people's awareness of Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program (VICAP). Commissioners noted that there is a difference between access to health care and availability of health insurance, Medicare. Accessing Social Security, Medicare and other medical insurance are complicated.

HMA offered two sets of guide questions: one for focus group and a second for town hall meetings. Commissioners recommend that the town halls questions be used with the focus groups. The COA will serve as a focus group at its regular meeting on October 19th.

No New Business was conducted.

Announcements

The next scheduled COA meeting is October 19, 2022. The COA had been scheduled to meet in person at the Pennino Building. Commissioners agreed to hold the next COA meeting virtually.

- **Adjournment:** Carolyn motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Diane seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Martha Cooper, COA Secretary.

Approved: November 16, 2022

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Martha Cooper
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Martha Cooper, COA Secretary

Date

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Cathy Cole, COA Chair

Date