

FAIRFAX AREA LONG TERM CARE COORDINATING COUNCIL (LTCCC)

MEETING INFORMATION:

Committee Name:	New Normal Committee
Meeting Location:	Held Virtually, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic
Date & Time:	Thursday, August 20, 2020, 4:00 p. m.
Note Taker:	Chuck Thornton and Patricia Rohrer

ATTENDEES:

Carolyn Cukierman, Committee Chair; Christine Amorosi, Doug Birnie, Jan Buchanan, Jennifer Disano, Orlene Grant, Allegra Joffe Fahringer, Dorothy Keenan, Anita Light, Steve Morrison, Doris Ray, Patricia Rohrer, Chuck Thornton and Diane Watson.

AGENDA ITEMS ADDRESSED:

Agenda Item	Discussion	Outcome/Action Steps
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Carolyn Cukierman, Committee Chair.	
Motions to Proceed with Electronic Meeting	<p>The New Normal Committee of the LTCCC conducted a wholly electronic meeting because the COVID-19 pandemic made it unsafe to physically assemble a quorum in one location or to have the public present. The meeting was held via video and audio using Zoom for computer access and a toll free telephone number for access via telephone.</p> <p>The Committee Chairman passed the virtual gavel to Assistant Committee Chair, Christina Amorosi. The Chairman moved that each member's voice was adequately heard by each other committee member, and specifically that each voice was clear, audible, and at an appropriate volume for all other members. The motion was seconded by Doris Ray.</p> <p>Next the Chairman moved that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for this committee to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting, and that as such, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA's) usual procedures, which require the physical assembly of the New Normal Committee of the LTCCC and the physical presence of the public, cannot be implemented safely or practically. I further move that this committee may conduct this meeting electronically through a dedicated video and audio conferencing line. The motion was seconded by Doris Ray.</p>	<p>The motion carried.</p> <p>The motion carried.</p>

	<p>Next the Chairman made a motion that it is required that the matters addressed on today’s agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the LTCCC’s lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. The motion was seconded by Doris Ray.</p> <p>The Assistant Committee Chair passed the virtual gavel back to the Committee Chairman.</p>	<p>The motion carried.</p>
<p>Discussion Read-Ahead Articles</p>	<p>Carolyn commented on the article from <i>The Atlantic</i> that had been distributed prior to the meeting. She stated that COVID is never going away and that only smallpox has ever been totally eradicated. She said the virus cannot shut down society, but rather we must manage it. Everyone has a case of the “COVID-19 blues,” referring to the second article from the <i>New York Times</i>, that was also distributed prior to the meeting. It is affecting anxiety levels, mental health, interrupts sleep, raises tempers, and can cause one to either under or overeat. The pandemic had a beginning, but there is no end. We must navigate our course. There will not be a “post-COVID,” but like the flu, we will be living with COVID for years to come.</p>	
<p>LTCCC July 29, 2020 Meeting Summary Notes/Polls and Chats</p>	<p>Carolyn provided a re-cap of the polls taken at the July 29, 2020 LTCCC meeting and asked committee members what they saw as the challenges with the mandate for the New Normal Committee. Challenges that committee members shared included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The internet is a voice currently and often with conflicting information, and actions. • Identifying lifestyle changes that are been brought about due to the pandemic and identify how county and community services can adapt to meet the new demands, now and in the long term. • Keeping a “finger on the pulse” of what is current regarding COVID-19. Use talents and ideas to operate aging-in-place villages. • Many who fall under the American with Disabilities Act are challenged by COVID-19 mandates such as social distancing. Keep track of county and public bodies, along with their committees, to learn what they are doing to address needs of those with disabilities, and solutions that are equitable and fair. • Look at new ways to use new tools in organizations and daily lives to meet the needs of the pandemic challenge. 	

- Learn what Fairfax County is doing. Anita Light said she lives in Fairfax City and wants to bring to the Fairfax City Council what is being done at the county level.
- Seeks collaborative responses. Allow new ideas to come forward for adaptation to meet demands brought on by COVID-19.
- Be a part of innovative ways to meet COVID-19 challenges, and the “Doing it!”
- We are moving to a new era, needing a new “test run.” We need to learn how to help for the immediate time and afterward. Some of the changes will be perpetual.
- Consider re-activating the LTCCC/DSB Mobility & Transportation Committee to discuss meeting transportation challenges.
- Make sure that there is a clinical perspective to the discussion.
- Identify the talents and resources available to create a strategic plan.
- Physical and mental health perspectives must be included.
- All are struggling to define the new normal, to let go of the past, know what will our new normal be, and how can we be more resilient to face it.
- We are all problem solvers at heart, with some articulating better than others.
- While we are looking at the physical aspects, we must also be aware of the mental side effects of the pandemic, that these can be more long lasting.
- Learn what there might be for supporting citizens during the pandemic, such as lifelong learning and leisure activities. It is important that people live socially engaged, be enriched in general. An important priority in the new normal is to consider the whole person.

Questions and tasks for the committee’s mandate shared by committee members included:

- Need a framework in which to operate
- What do we want to know, what do we know within ourselves?
- What is the “end game?”
- Want to hear from all of you.
- What does the County want us to do?
- Need to do research.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be problem solvers, need to get all the information first. • We must keep learning. • We must be flexible; things are fluid. • We will not be able to do “it all,” but there are some things we have got to do. <p>Carolyn referred to a handout from the LTCCC July meeting called “Adapting to and Navigating through the New Normal.” Within it, were three intersecting circles: the past, the future, and the near term; that also shows where the three come together in the middle. Carolyn said we are trying to serve educational and spiritual needs while being aware of those who are vulnerable, being aware of injustice, and caring for others, not just for a few, but for everyone.</p>	
<p>Committee’s Charge and Discussion of Activities</p>	<p>Carolyn shared that the committee’s purpose as, “To focus on the LTCCC’s vision/mission to enhance the lives of older adults, adults with disabilities and caregivers during the Covid-19 crisis and in the near term after.” The timeline/scope for the committee’s work will be March 2020 through December 2021. The objectives of the committee will be: 1) Explore how COVID experiences affect Fairfax County’s LTCCC’s member organizations and individuals working in aging, healthcare, senior Living, education and disabilities. 2) Ask ourselves: what worked, what needed improvement, what will best propel us forward. 3) Determine what the post-COVID crisis climate will need? 4) Determine support that could be sought from Fairfax County to enhance our impact.</p> <p>Carolyn suggested that the committee implement the five stage, North Star Next Stage Strategy Model for its work and outlined the stages as follows: 1) Engage thought leaders to set a course: 2) Scan the Environment; 3) Determine Priorities; 4) Take Action; and 5) Define Measurable Results. Within the development of a Plan of Action, she suggested three potential issues categories and asked for committee feedback to them: 1) Business Operations 2) Clinical Aspects and 3) Client Interface. Feedback included having county officials present what respective departments or agencies are doing. Another suggestion was to do an assessment of the talents and perspectives of committee members; and that this may help determine skill sets to match with committee work. It was added that the committee’s work should align with the LTCCC’s vision and mission (Carolyn reviewed these earlier in the meeting and at the July 29 LTCCC meeting.) Doris Ray suggested that</p>	

	we look at the original strategic plan of the LTCCC dating back to 2001 for the defined vision and mission. Carolyn asked Patricia if she could locate this. Patricia said that it only exists in hard copy and that she would search through old notebooks at the Health Department, since this was developed prior to her tenure at the County.	Patricia to locate the 2001 LTCCC's original vision/mission statement.
Administrative Items	<p>There was discussion about when and how frequently to meet. The consensus was that there was an urgency to the work and that meetings be held bi-weekly.</p> <p>There was discussion about a more permanent name and the consensus was to change the temporary name and to table this until the next meeting.</p>	<p>It was decided by poll to meet bi-weekly at 4:00 p.m. on Thursdays. Next meeting to be September 3.</p> <p>Committee members to think of committee name suggestions by the next meeting.</p>
Next Steps	Carolyn asked that the following assignment be completed before the next committee meeting: Identify challenges facing county residents and governments from various perspectives.	Carolyn will draft an email and Patricia will send to committee members with the assignment and due date. Carolyn and Christine will collate what is received for discussion at the next meeting.
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.	

Next Committee Meeting: Thursday, September 3, 2020, 4:00 p.m. to be held electronically, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Next LTCCC Meeting: TBD