



## ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON AGING

c/o Agency on Aging, DHS  
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### Meeting Summary February 26, 2018

**PRESENT:** Laurie Young, Gwendolyn Beck, Cheryl Beversdorf, Carl Brooks, Valerie Crotty, Linc Cummings, Jim Feaster, Cragg Hines, Herschel Kanter, Sophie Shen, Martha Villanigro-Santiago, Duke Taylor, Martha Wilson

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Senator Barbara Favola, Cynthia Schneider

**STAFF:** Jeanne Booth, Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Jim Baker

**GUESTS:** Erica Wood, Joan McDermott, Elizabeth Dakin, Jennifer Collins (OSAP), Angela Chadbourne, Wendy Zenker (ANV), Mitch Opalski, Clara Churchill (Marymount), Angela Wenger (CCC+ liaison for Northern Virginia), Janet Nuzum, Hannah Withers (Arlington AAA intern)

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**I. 15 Minute networking**

**II. Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.**

**III. Discussion and Updates about Arlington County's Age-Friendly Initiative**

Erica Wood, former Commissioner presented from the AARP Age-Friendly Communities slides – see attached. She shared, this Commission will pursue the [AARP Age-Friendly Initiative](#) with full ADSD, DHS and County Board support. An Age-Friendly community is a place where persons of all ages and abilities can live, work or volunteer safely and comfortably. As of February 2018 there are 212 communities are recognized as AARP Age-Friendly communities. The Age-Friendly initiatives focuses on domains and offers eight as reference:

- 1) Outdoor spaces and buildings (e.g., parks, streets, way we use spaces)
- 2) Transportation (e.g., Public and private transits, pedestrian issues)
- 3) Housing (e.g., accessible and affordable housing, housing options and choices for individuals of all ages)
- 4) Social Participation (e.g. availability of accessible, affordable and fun social activities)
- 5) Respect and Social Inclusion (e.g., intergenerational activities, recognition of diversity)
- 6) Civic Participation and Employment (e.g., availability of volunteer and employment options)
- 7) Communication & Information (e.g., multiple modes for getting out information)
- 8) Community and Health Services (e.g., ensuring these services exist and are accessible and affordable)

The Arlington Age-Friendly domains will include:

- 1) Community Support, Housing and Health Services
- 2) Social Inclusion, Employment, Civic Participation and Respect
- 3) Communication and Information
- 4) Transportation, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

What does it mean to join the Age-Friendly Communities network? AARP helps the community meet established goals during the 5-year cycle:

- a. Obtain approval from AARP
- b. Years 1-2: Planning process; prioritize increasing participation from members (older adults) of the community
- c. Years 3-5: Continued work on implementing

Commissioner Crotty inquired about the costs. Chair Young shared outside of administrative costs for copying and printing materials, there are no real costs. There was a question about privacy and as this practice is more about the community rather than individuals, privacy should not be an issue. This initiative considers all types of communities and is not limited to just cities; each community is able to customize their efforts around the needs and preferences of their city, town or County.

Chair Young shared the Commission is in the process of gathering information for the application and approval process. She plans to schedule a meeting with the Strategic Planning Committee to discuss the Age Friendly process, structure, and the need to define and implement the domains. She encouraged each Commissioner to review the Age-Friendly Arlington handout and attend the March 19<sup>th</sup> Community Engagement Forum when we share this initiative with the community and hear their feedback. She emphasized the need for commitment from Commissioners which will help shape the long-term planning. The initiative will involve other County departments and key stakeholders to ensure the Age-Friendly standards are met.

More information and resources about Age-Friendly and Livable Communities may be found on the [AARP website](#) and [N4A](#). You can find information about the [Livability Index](#) and the 8 domains [here](#).

#### IV. **Approval of January Meeting Minutes**

Minutes were approved unanimously.

#### V. **Chair's Report**

Laurie Young

#### VI. **ADSD Staff Reports**

Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield

- a. Ms. Bah-Duckenfield highlighted the 2018 Community Engagement Forum on March 19 at 9:30 AM the Department of Human Services (DHS), 2100 Washington Blvd. Arlington, VA 22204. The event will feature a panel presentation to include Christian Dorsey (County Board), Lisa Fikes (Volunteer Arlington), DHS Public Health (Social Determinants of Health), and Erica Wood (Commonwealth Council on Aging).

#### VII. **Committee Reports**

- a. **Budget** (Carl Brooks): The budget committee will meet on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> to hear Jim Baker, Administrative Officer with Aging and Disability Services present on the FY19 Proposed budget.
- b. **Legislative** (Martha Villanigro-Santiago): Commissioner Villanigro-Santiago provided an update on the NVAN platform; Medical marijuana bill passed; Zoning ordinance that allows homeowners to reconfigure homes.
- c. **Long Term Care Residences** (Cyndy Schneider): The committee is recruiting new members. The next meeting is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at Brookdale.
- d. **Membership** (Sophie Shen): The committee is soliciting applications for two vacancies; Reports she spoke to another individual this past week who is interested in applying.
- e. **Public Information & Outreach** (Gwendolyn Beck): The committee is creating a list of NORC's to promote upcoming events and increase outreach. The committee's next

meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.; Reported there were a large number of different stakeholders at this month's meeting; Presented an idea on themed months.

- f. **New Media/Technology** (Sophie Shen): Commissioner Shen reports that she will be updating the Facebook page once she is given rights to edit the page.
- g. **Senior Centers** (Linc Cummings): Commissioner Cummings reports the committee will start meeting next month and will begin by discussing areas in need of improvement within the Senior Centers in Arlington.
- h. **Strategic Planning** (Laurie Young): Reports that she will be sending out an e-mail regarding planning the next meeting.
- i. **Supportive Services and Housing** (interim Laurie Young): Next meeting is February 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:45pm in Sequoia 1-AUD; Reports that in January, the committee had two guests who could potentially apply for/become Commission Members
- j. **Transportation** (Cragg Hines): Next meeting will be March 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm; Reports that speakers will be coming to discuss issues/concerns related to the Metro

## VIII. Liaison Reports

- a. **Accessory Dwelling Workgroup** (Martha Villanigro-Santiago): Commissioner Villanigro-Santiago shared
- b. **Alexandria Commission on Aging** (Mitch Opalski/Linc Cummings): No report.
- c. **Alliance for Senior Programs/Senior Adult Council** (Cindy Miller): No report.
- d. **Arlington Neighborhood Village** (Wendy Zenker): No report.
- e. **Coalition to Improve Advanced Care (CIAC)** (Joan McDermott): Seven volunteers completed the Respecting Choices training and are now certified as Advanced Directive Facilitators. The [website](#) has a list of the certified AD Facilitators. The group is offering free training for healthcare professionals and is also offering one-on-one assistance with creating the Advanced Directives.
- f. **Commonwealth Council on Aging** (Erica Wood): The next meeting will be a joint meeting in April.
- g. **Community Development Citizens Advisory Council** (Linc Cummings): No report.
- h. **Disability Advisory Commission** (Vacant): No report.
- i. **Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission** (Valerie Crotty): Commissioner Crotty reports that she would like to see the COA have a specific letter drafted/written for how to address issues related to the metro, particularly regarding accessibility to emergency evacuation and communication for individuals who are hard of hearing.
- j. **Interchurch Community Health Initiative** (Vacant): No report.
- k. **Pedestrian Advisory Committee** (Jim Feaster): The committee had a speaker come to discuss the program, Vision Zero, which is an effort to reduce pedestrian/traffic deaths
  - i. Chair Laurie Young recommends looking into how they can help in Arlington.
- l. **Steering Committee/Older Persons** (Gwendolyn Beck): The March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will feature a Legislative Update presented by Patrick Hope.
- m. **Transit Advisory Committee** (Vacant): More information about the committee may be located [here](#).

## IX. Old Business

## X. New Business

- a. Jim Morris with AARP announced AARP hand outs available.
- b. Commissioner Crotty will create a CoA draft letter to the County Board building from the EPAC committee's County Board letter.

- c. Mr. Christian Dorsey, County Board Liaison will join the Commission on May 10th at 4pm; for a meet and greet.

**XI. Announcements and Public Comment**

- a. Commissioner Beversdorf shared that an upcoming Aging Matters program will feature Chair Laurie Young and Erica Wood discussing the upcoming Community Engagement Forum and the Commission's pursuits of the AARP Age Friendly Initiative

**XII. Adjournment at 11:10 a.m.**

**Next Meeting: Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM**