



CALVERT COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

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Board of Commissioners
Mark C. Cox Sr.
Catherine M. Grasso
Earl F. Hance
Mike Hart
Todd Ireland

Minutes March 16, 2023

Charles Harrell called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The meeting began with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was held at the Calvert Pines Senior Center.

Attendees: Charles Harrell, Harriet Yaffe, Anne Weems, Noelle Flaherty, Margaret Phipps, Sudha Haley, Elizabeth Foster, Terry Long, Ed Sullivan, Liz Youngblood

Non-Attendees: Kris Strauss, Yolanda Hipski, Beverly Butler

Guest: Deb Mikell

Agenda/Minutes: The agenda/minutes were distributed. The agenda was approved. Motion to approve February minutes: Margaret; Second: Anne. Minutes were approved.

Chair and Vice Chair Remarks/Reports: Charles Harrell/Harriet Yaffe

- Charles discussed December holiday parties. Need to reach out to CP managers to confirm date/time.
- Discussed recruitment for COA. Met with African-American clergy member. Under-represented in District 1. Two applications received by BOCC. Will vote on one today; one next month.
- Harriet is sending out the letter to Secretary Roques addressing CFL.
- Harriet discussed tour of Asbury. Beautiful area and housing.

OOA Report:

- Report distributed and discussed.

Delegate and Committee Reports:

Community Awareness and Outreach: Vacant

- New Chair needed

Housing: Terry

- Shawn Kingston, Housing Director, has 15 more housing vouchers.

Transportation: Noelle

- Wheels to Wellness received grant funding.
- Bill is moving forward for Senior Rides and Committee to oversee.

Wellness: Noelle

- Distributed flyers
- Grant from DSS for respite (\$500). No application required. Runs out in August.
- Discussed COVID emergency funding expires May 11. Report distributed.

Alzheimer's Support Group: Charles

- Charles stated that the Southern Library will be unable to host Alzheimer's Group during the summer. Looking at SPSC for alternate location.

AARP/NARFE/United Seniors of Maryland: Sudha

- Report was distributed and discussed. AARP is following over 100 bills and supporting 40+.
- Discussed Executive Council Meeting and the nursing certification issues.
- AAPI Festival is Saturday, April 15 at Calvert County Fairgrounds.

Age Friendly Community (AFC): Ed

- Received feedback from COA members about the AFC survey. It is not posted yet but will be soon.
- Dates available for Focus Groups: CPSC – May 15, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. or June 1, 5 – 7 p.m. NBSC – May 4, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. or May 17, 5 – 7 p.m. SPSC – May 23, 5 – 7 p.m. (tentative date) or June 1, 5 or 6, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. (tentative dates).
- Pilot Focus Group at the next COA meeting.
- Will send Charles County a copy of our survey.

Nominating Committee: Margaret

- Committee submitted their nominations for Chair – Charles, Vice Chair – Harriet, Corresponding Secretary – Anne. Nominations approved by all members.
- Beverly Butler still has a year left as a member. She has indicated she would not be staying. Will discuss with her about remaining for the year with the board.
- Bylaws to be emailed to members. To be included in a Welcome Packet to new members.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- The vote for the new applicant, Crystal Jones, will be tabled until the next meeting. Motion: Elizabeth; Second: Terry. Applicant District should be 2, not 1 as they live in P.F. Approved.
- Members to look over bylaws for more understanding about member appointments. Liz to send letter to Ashley Staples-Reid about decision to table voting.
- Bylaws state that the COA should have a balanced representation from each district. As of this date, the members consist of 2 from District 1, 7 from District 2, and 2 from District 3.

Members' Concerns:

- Discussed virtual meetings for members who are unable to drive. Bandwidth is a big issue. CPSC internet/wifi upgraded. SPSC is next to be upgraded.
- Possible to reach out to Concerned Black Men/Women and NAACP for recruitment.

Announcements:

- Jeremy Bradford, CEO at CalvertHealth to speak at July COA meeting.
- NBSC will be closed for one week in late April.
- Tri-County COA Meeting June 2. Speaker – Secretary of Aging.
- Anne will send out a card to Beverly if she does not return to COA.
- The next COA meeting will be held Thursday, April 20, 9 a.m. at Calvert Pines Senior Center.
- Motion to adjourn: Terry; Second: Harriet. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Youngblood, Office Specialist II

