



CALVERT COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

450 West Dares Beach Road
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678
410-535-4606
www.calvertcountymd.gov

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

Minutes April 20, 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, Yolanda Hipski, Beverly Butler, Anne Weems, Noelle Flaherty, Margaret Phipps, Sudha Haley, Ed Sullivan, Liz Youngblood

Non-Attendees: Kris Strauss, Elizabeth Foster, Terry Long

Guest: JJ Perryman (St. Mary's), Deb Mikell

Agenda/Minutes: The agenda/minutes were distributed. *Correction to Agenda – Move Unfinished Business – New Applicant Vote, to follow OOA Report. Motion to approve Minutes: Margaret; Second: Anne. Minutes approved.

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

- Charles discussed December holiday parties. Talked to Calvert Pines manager. No date yet.
- Harriet still has heard nothing from MDoA regarding CFL.

OOA Report:

- Report distributed and discussed.
- Currently the OOA is going through the County budget process and Area Plan. No staffing cuts. School Board submitted request for substantial funding. If approved, state law indicates funding will be long-term due to maintenance of Effort Law.

*Unfinished Business:

- After discussion concerning the districts that members represent vs number of members needed, a motion was made to recommend Christy Jones, District 2, to the COA. Motion to approve: Harriet; Second: Ann. Approved.

Delegate and Committee Reports:

Community Awareness and Outreach: Vacant

- Charles commended Tunya Taylor for attending the AAPI Festival held Sat., April 15 on behalf of the OOA.

Housing: Terry

- No report.

Transportation: Yolanda

- HB 596 and 511 were approved.
- \$300K funding for rural pilot transportation project.
- Budget for senior rides increased to \$237K.
- MDOT is aware of bike/pedestrian crosswalk needed over the Nice Bridge.
- Wheels to Wellness – Funding only for dialysis patients rides. Discussed possible nomination for Wheels to Wellness for Innovation award.

Wellness: Noelle

- Noelle recommends checking out the CalvertHealth website and give feedback on what could be added for more information.
- Discussed COVID boosters. Unless mandated for another booster, wait until Fall for the shot.

Alzheimer's Support Group: Charles

- No report.

AARP/NARFE/United Seniors of Maryland: Sudha

- Report was distributed

Age Friendly Community (AFC): Ed

- Received feedback from COA members about the AFC survey. Harriet mentioned that some questions were difficult to answer.
- Pilot Focus Group:
 - Program/markers/post its/color dots distributed to attendees with instructions
 - Introduction of COA members
 - Keep time to 1 ½ hr.
 - Focus all questions/answers on Housing, Transportation, Health Care
 - 2-3 assistants to jot down suggestions and assist attendees
 - Add to Group Agreement – “Be respectful of others’ feelings and opinions”
 - The term “community” consists of neighborhood and county
 - Give attendees time to jot down notes/questions
 - Mention surveys and evaluations available
 - Vote on priority issues
 - Add to invitation: “Reasonable accommodations will be provided.....” and “Requests are encouraged to be submitted.....”
 - Question about having an interpreter

Nominating Committee: Margaret

- No report.

New Business:

Members' Concerns:

Announcements:

- Beverly mentioned the North Beach Farmers' Market to begin Friday, May 6 at the senior center.
- The next COA meeting will be held Thursday, May 18, 9 a.m. at Calvert Pines Senior Center.
- Motion to adjourn: Beverly; Second: Anne. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Youngblood, Office Specialist II