



ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON AGING

c/o Agency on Aging, DHS
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**Meeting Summary
November 18, 2019**

PRESENT: Jim Feaster, Carl Brooks, Cheryl Beversdorf, Linc Cummings, Cragg Hines, Herschel Kanter, Jim Richardson, Jim Ruff, Cynthia Schneider, Sophie Shen, Carlos Velazquez, Martha Villanigro-Santiago, Andrea Walker

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Senator Barbara Favola, Linda Kelleher, Duke Taylor

STAFF: Rachel Coates, Jim Baker, Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Helen King

GUESTS: Tom Daly, Wendy Zenker, Erica Wood, Cathy Turner, Cynthia Davis, Joan McDermott, Jim Morris, Elizabeth Dakin, Kate Chutuape

I. Networking

II. Call to Order at 9:04 a.m. Chair Feaster opened the meeting. All attendees introduced themselves.

III. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the October meeting were unanimously approved as written.

IV. Digital Equity Workgroup: Ms. Caitlin Hutchinson, Assistant Director of the Arlington County Department of Human Services and Mr. Jim Baker, ADSD Administrative Officer, presented the Digital Equity in Arlington initiative. The mission of this effort is to ensure all Arlingtonians have the information technology capacity they need to full participate in the community. Ms. Hutchinson and Mr. Baker reporting that this is the start of a 9 to 12-month planning process that will culminate with a Digital Equity Action Plan and asked Commission on Aging members to consider being involved. A kick-off of the Digital Inclusion Network is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:30pm at Arlington Mill and Ms. Hutchinson encouraged CoA members to attend, noting that the desire is to have 1-2 CoA members participate.

V. Chair's Report

Jim Feaster

Chair Feaster reported that a letter has been drafted to send to the County Board regarding the Zoning Study. He noted that goal of the Housing Committee is to obtain a provision requiring 5% of the beds be set aside as Auxiliary Grant beds. Ms. Coates shared upcoming opportunities for Commissioners to share feedback through the [Housing Arlington](#) Initiative and to explore site plan conditions that would require a set aside of a percentage of beds for a variety of income ranges. Chair Feaster noted that the commission needs to take advantage of opportunities to get the point in front of the County Board. The commission unanimously approved sending the letter to the County Board.

Commissioner Schneider also noted that the letter should also be sent to the Planning Commission. She also noted that the Housing Committee met with Katie Cristol for a robust discussion of the issue.

VI. Staff Reports

AAA Reports

Rachel Coates

Ms. Coates reported that the narrative that was developed along with the Area Plan was included in the Commissioner's packets. Ms. Coates also announced that the Transportation Brochure has

been revised. Ms. Coates reminded Commissioners about the Elder Safe presentation on Wednesday, November 20th at noon in the DHS Auditorium. She also provided information on Census 2020 and stressed the importance of getting the word out that everyone should be counted.

ADSD Reports

Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield

Ms. Bah-Duckenfield reported that DHS leadership has the goal to post the Division Chief position before the end of the year and staff are working to identify priorities for the position, and to commence the recruitment effort in the New Year. She reported that the Department of Human Services is working on a race equity effort across all lines of business. Ms. Bah-Duckenfield reported that November is Caregiver's month and caregivers are a priority for the Division.

VII. Age Friendly Arlington Review of Committees' Goals and Objectives

Committee Chairs each presented the goals and objectives of their respective age friendly plans and answered questions from the commission. These plans will be incorporated into the Age Friendly Arlington plan. It was noted that Domain 8, Health and Wellness, was not covered by any of the plans. The group will look to have a liaison to the Destination 2027 effort to cover this domain. It was noted that Age-Friendly is a community effort, not just a Commission on Aging activity.

The Age-Friendly task force will review the committees' goals and objectives and incorporate them into the draft Age-Friendly Arlington plan. The draft plan is targeted to be complete in January for review by the Commission on Aging and the Agency on Aging.

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

X. Announcements and Public Comment

Commissioner Shen reported that there are currently 2 opening on the Commission and encouraged people to apply.

Cathy Turner from Virginia Hospital Center announced that the final 2019 Healthy Aging Series will be held on November 22 at 11am. She reported the title is "Dementia: Now what?" and the speaker will be Dr. Emer MacSweeney. Ms. Turner noted this will be the final lecture at the Carlin Springs location. In 2020 the Senior Health Department will partner with the Arlington Central Library. Ms. Turner also noted that the Senior Fitness Classes will be held in various churches and that they are still looking for a home for the Dementia Support Group and the Parkinson's "Side-by-Side" support group.

Commissioner Kanter noted that he would like to update the Commission on the progress of the Water Rate Study at a future meeting.

XI. Adjournment at 11:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: December 16, 2019

9am – 11am

Arlington Department of Human Services (DHS)

Lower Level Auditorium