



CALVERT COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

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Board of Commissioners

Earl F. Hance
Mike Hart
Thomas E. Hutchins
Kelly D. McConkey
Steven R. Weems

Minutes September 17, 2020

Yolanda Hipski called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Members attended via Zoom. The meeting began with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendees: Beverly Butler, Len Winkler, Yolanda Hipski, Harriet Gossett, Terry Long, Tanea Granlund, Frank Krohnert, Elizabeth Foster, Jeannette Findley, Kathy Baron, Margaret Phipps, Sudha Haley, Charles Harrell, Susan Justice, Liz Youngblood

Non-Attendees: Bessie Hoskins

Agenda/Minutes: The agenda/minutes were distributed. Motion to approve: Sudha; Second: Kathy. Approved

Chair and Vice Chair Remarks/Reports: Yolanda Hipski

- Pam Williams resigned from COA due to work and stepped down as Chairperson.

OOA Report: Susan Justice

- OOA is still closed to the public. Plans to open up in stages. Depends on Health Dept. Senior centers would begin to open with small programs, congregate meals, lastly exercise and pool room.
- Poling centers are being held at the high schools this year for voting.
- Grandparents Day – 140 seniors drove thru (combined total for centers)

Delegate and Committee Reports:

Census 2020: Sudha Haley

- See report emailed to COA members.

Self-Response Rate as of 8/30: National-64.9%; MD-69.3%; Calvert-73.7% Enumerators are going door-to-door to those who did not self-respond.

- Calvert Library's Fairview Branch continues to display a Census 2020 message on its freestanding sign along MD 4, our major highway connecting Calvert County to the Washington metro region.
- Calvert County Communications and Media Relations Department staff posted two Census messages to the county's Facebook and LinkedIn pages: August 26 and 29, 2020. These are new postings since August 18, 2020.
- Sabrina Crutchfield, Recruiting Assistant, contacted Calvert County Commissioner Hutchins that the Census Bureau is still recruiting and provided recruiting flyers in English and Spanish.
- Calvert County Census CCC held its sixth virtual monthly meeting on September 2, 2020.
- Dr. Haley, Sarah Ehman, and Jenny Plummer-Welker were interviewed on September 4, 2020 by Catherine Wilson of Southern Maryland Chronicle.
- Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning staff are working with Department of Communication and Media Relations staff on advertising for the final Census 2020 Outreach push.
- The virtual AARP-Census 2020 Forum, hosted by AARP Maryland President Jim Campbell, for members of the Statewide local Complete Count Committees and statewide elected officials and county leaders, convened on Friday, August 28, 2020, and was a resounding success. AARP MD President Campbell introduced and asked questions to National and State speakers, who included: Majority Leader Steny Hoyer; Senator Ben Cardin; Lt. Governor Rutherford; Secretary Robert McCord, Maryland Department of Planning; Secretary George Owings III, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs; Deputy Regional Director Philip Lutz of the U.S. Census Bureau, introduced by Lee Osberry;

and National Active and Retired Federal Employees' Maryland President Bishop Dr. Gary Roundtree. Senator Van Hollen tried, but was unable to connect to the Forum, from Washington, D.C., where he was attending the March.

Alzheimer's Support Group: Jeannette Findley, Charles Harrell, Tanea Granlund

- Alzheimer's Walk is September 26. Groups will be walking around the P.F. shopping center
- Alzheimer's Walk at Asbury is September 25.
- COA is the team name. Not many participants. Team raised \$210. Thank you to Len and Bessie for donations.
- The Alzheimer's support group is meeting via Zoom. All support groups are welcome to attend the Zoom meeting hosted by Asbury Solomons.

United Seniors of Maryland: Len Winkler/Sudha Haley

- No report. Meetings suspended until further notice.

Community Awareness and Outreach: Tanea Granlund

- A Recovery Fest was held September 12 at the Behavioral Center in Barstow for addicts and bereavement services. There were 10-12 vendors. The Director of Behavioral Health stated the numbers have skyrocketed for services
- Kathy and Bessie will be at the drive-thru Halloween event at NB senior center. Tanea will assist with event at CP.
- Susan will discuss with Program Manager about information packets to be handed out

Housing: Len Winkler/Harriet Gossett

- Housing Authority held a virtual meeting. Their building was flooded from the hurricane and is being repaired.
- Still working on development of Lusby property for Low-Moderate income.
- HUD requires updated needs assessment.
- Estimate for erosion control around SP1 is estimated at \$100,000. Requesting more bids.
- Tenants can now pay rent online.
- CP I apartment roof replacement is up for bids
- Costs to replace elevators is estimated at \$600,000

Transportation: Yolanda Hipski

- Wheels to Wellness still moving forward.
- Senior Rides program on hold. Lifestyles doing transports on Tuesdays. A survey has been developed.
- MTA is making cuts. Yolanda will contact MTA for more information.

Senior Wellness: Tanea Granlund

- See report emailed to COA members
- CSM tuition waiver for seniors and Social Security Disabled/Retired
- Edward T Hall Aquatic Center - Effective Thursday, September 10, 2020 the Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center will be open for lap and therapeutic swim (18 years+) sessions as well as fitness room sessions. PAL Wellness – Clemie is the instructor. Zoom sessions. Free for care partners
- Rock Steady classes – Held by CalvertHealth
- Grief groups held virtually
- Veterans Chat Room at Charlotte Hall to be held Fall or by the end of 2020. Transportation services needed to clinic.
- Free webinars for Alzheimer's/Dementia. Needs for computers. IPADS sponsored for Hospice for borrowers.
- Regional broadband availability issues. Tri-County Council to establish an advisory committee

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- Nomination for Chair/Vice Chair
 - Motion to nominate Yolanda as Chair Beverly; Second: Elizabeth. Approved
 - Motion to nominate Charles Harrell as Vice Chair: Beverly; Second: Yolanda. Approved.
- Members to revisit officer nominations in May 2021

- Add new item to agenda – Nomination Committee Updates/Report – M. Phipps, Chair

Member Concerns: Elizabeth Foster

- Tri-County Council Health Care Group – issues with keeping nursing homes staffed due to COVID, Family members upset with regards to patient’s issues, no virtual availability

Announcements:

- The next COA Zoom meeting will be **Thursday, October 15, 9 a.m.**
- There being no further business, Motion to adjourn: Beverly; Second: Len. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Youngblood, Office Specialist II