

Senior Advisory Committee  
**Meeting Minutes Thursday, January 19, 2017**  
2:30 pm, CA Headquarters Boardroom

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

**Members/Liaisons Present:**

Michelle Miller, Sharonlee Vogel (Chair), Patty Dugan, Mary McGraw, Roger Chang, John Eberhard, Jean Salkeld, Bernice Kish, Arleen Tate, Paul Verchinski, George Laniado, Courtney Barkley (Office on Aging and Independence), Dale Virginia Wasmus (CA) taking notes.

**Excused:** Katharyn Sunderman, Rusty Toler

**Introduction of Guests:** Bruce Fulton, Executive Director of Neighbor Ride.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the November 2016 meeting minutes with the following corrections: Arleen Tate was listed as Excused for the November 2016 meeting; however, she was present at the meeting but left early.

**New Business:** Bruce Fulton, Executive Director of Neighbor Ride, gave a presentation to the Senior Advisory Committee.

- Research for the concept of Neighbor Ride started in 2000
- Neighbor Ride officially started in 2004
- To date there have been approximately 126,000 trips
- Completely volunteer oriented
- Approximately 340 volunteer drivers with an average age of the drivers being 61 years
- On average between 450 to 500 clients served per year and the majority of clients are between the ages of 70 to 90 years
- Neighbor Ride offers the Good Neighbor Fund for low-income residents
- Use of the Good Neighbor Fund increased by 11% in 2016
- Neighbor Ride fills 97% of the requested rides

**Chair's Report:**

- CA's membership revenue is up
- A Kick-off celebration for Columbia's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday will be held at the Columbia Mall on Sunday, March 19th
- The new sewer line project started today – about two miles in Downtown Columbia impacting the two-way traffic on LPP which until mid-April will only be one-way going north.
- Budget Recommendation – The Older Adult survey has already been completed and will not be in the budget since it is done.
- In the proposed budget the Inner Arbor Trust [IAT] asked CA for an additional \$75,000.

**Old Business:** None.

**Liaison Reports:**

**Michelle Miller – Columbia Association:** Due to the increased popularity in Pickleball an evening league time has been added on Monday evenings at 9 pm for ten weeks at the Owen Brown Tennis bubble. The drop-in Pickleball day program averages 15 to 18 people.

There will be a Haiti Fest on Sunday, 1/22/17 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm at Wilde Lake's Slayton House. This event is hosted by Columbia Association's International Exchange and Multicultural Programs and Cap-Haitien Sister City Committee.

CA is once again hosting its Buy-A-Brick program in honor of Columbia's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration that takes place in 2017. A section of the walkway at the Downtown Columbia Lakefront will be reserved for bricks placed around a large paver that says Columbia Maryland 50.

- The cost for bricks that will be placed in the **Columbia Maryland 50** section are \$100 per brick.
- The cutoff for purchasing bricks that will be placed in the walkway the summer of 2017 is February 24, 2017. No purchases will be accepted after that date.
- The cost for bricks placed in other areas of the walkway are \$75 per brick.

**Courtney Barkley – Office on Aging and Independence:** The evidenced based *Fall Prevention Program* has begun. Currently there are 15 participants in this first session. Sessions are seven weeks long with two-hour classes each week. The Office on Aging and Independence is hoping to reach 75 total participants by the end of July 2017. If anyone knows of places to hold this program let Courtney know.

**Mary McGraw – Village in Howard:** The Village is alive and doing well with approximately 135 members.

**Patricia Dugan – CA’s Older Adult Coordinator:** Patty attended the update meeting for the Speak (easy) Howard campaign. Partners discussed their latest efforts promoting advance care planning as part of the collaborative. More than a dozen community groups, including faith communities and medical providers, across Howard County are participating in the yearlong collaborative as partners. Also, Patty updated the helpful resources for mature adults listing on CA's website.

**Sharonlee Vogel – HC and MD Commission on Aging:** No meetings in December nor January.

**Member Sharing:**

**Jean Salkeld:** Thanked Sharonlee, Paul and Roger for their concern about seniors. Jean has been traveling a lot since December.

**Mary McGraw:** Mary attended the Speak Easy Howard presentation back in June and thought it was great.

**Sharonlee Vogel:** Howard County Commission on Aging recommends that the tax credit be portable.

**Roger Chang:** Roger is volunteering at the Inauguration for the 45<sup>th</sup> President of the United States – Donald Trump. Approximately 8,000 volunteers have been security cleared.

**Paul Verchinski:** Oakland Mills Village had a session on 1/7/17 – Renew, Rehab and Replace. Paul is planning on attending a legislative session in Annapolis on 1/25/17 with United Seniors of Maryland.

**Arleen Tate:** Attended the Hickory Ridge Senior Lunch. Arleen gave out surveys but only received two responses.

**John Eberhard:** We had a great overnight trip to Brandywine, PA, for Christmas holiday season. John’s trip report was emailed to the SAC, and they can use it to do the trip on their own. John also set up a subcommittee to develop a years’ worth of similar trips for TVIH members and guests. John has recently taken over the Monthly Travel Talk on the third Thursday of the month.

**Meeting Schedule:** The next SAC meeting will be held on Thursday, 2/16/17 at CA Headquarters.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:50 pm.