

Senior Advisory Committee  
**Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 21, 2017**  
2:30 pm, CA Headquarters Boardroom

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

**Members/Liaisons Present**

Michelle Miller, Sharonlee Vogel, Patty Dugan, Jennifer Lee, Katharyn Sunderman, Arleen Tate, Mary McGraw, Roger Chang, John Eberhard, George Laniado, Rusty Toler, Paul Verchinski, and Dale Virginia Wasmus (CA) taking notes.

**Absent/Excused:** Bernice Kish

**Introduction of Guests:** Genie Wessel, Wilde Lake; Jennifer Lee (for Courtney Barkley), Mr. Yoshi Takeda Hickory Ridge; Sean Harbaugh, CA's Open Space Department today's presenter.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Agenda as submitted; Agenda was adopted.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from July 2017 as submitted; Minutes approved.

**Presentation: Sean Harbaugh from CA's Open Space Department**

- CA Open Space takes care of 93 miles of pathways and 167 playgrounds
- Ten-foot wide pathways are now the industry standard
- Responsible for pond and stream restoration
- Two thirds of the open space land is forested
- Two years ago the path around Lake Kittamuqundi was completed with a bridge and pathways
- All bridges are built in-house
- CA has been offering "Exploring Columbia on Foot" for the past three years. The walks are usually about two miles and are led by Ned Tillman. To attract older adults, the walks are generally during the weekdays.
- Ten walks were scheduled for 2017.
- On 10/12/17 there will be the "Downtown Development Walk" which will start and stop at the People Tree. There is also a walk scheduled for the end of October that will start and stop at the Hawthorne Center in Hickory Ridge.

**Chair's Report**

- Maryland Commission on Aging: 1) In-depth presentations on Maryland's Senior Care Program from panel which included Howard, Frederick, and Talbot counties. Filling gaps in supporting independence.
- 2) Presentation/review of Experience Corps now tied with AARP to help 1-3 graders in reading with help of 50+ adults. A new Deputy Secretary was named – Bonnie Glick. "Senior Call" pass in January 2017; not in effect yet, now in the hiring process.

- Howard County Commission on Aging meets next week. The 50+ Expo is Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> – always a successful event!
- There is consternation about the Downtown developer finding a loophole which enables them to build 15-story buildings rather than the current building restriction of nine stories. There is concern about Wincopin Circle becoming wider and an increased auto traffic bringing hazards to a pedestrian area and the noise level increasing.

**New Business** - None

**Old Business:** - None

**Liaison Reports:**

**Office on Aging and Independence/Jennifer Lee:** Shared information about this year's 50+ Expo taking place on Friday, 10/21/17 at Wilde Lake High School. CA is a Platinum sponsor this year. There will be only one performance by The Capitol Steps.

**Michelle Miller: Columbia Association:** CA's annual Bike About is taking place on Saturday, 9/23/17. For the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Celebrate Columbia – a Fete of Sights and Sounds will be held at Downtown Columbia Lakefront on Sunday, 10/1/17, from 5 - 9pm.  
10/22/17 Columbia Association and Howard County Library System will hold a CultureFest for Oceania (Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands). The hours are 1:30 -4:30 pm. On Sunday, 10/7/17 OPUS 1 will be held at Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods from 4 – 11 pm, it is the finale of the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration.

**Patricia Dugan, Columbia Association:** The Horizon Foundation will roll out the public campaign of Speak Easy Howard in 2018 by offering monthly workshops. Through the Time Bank office there will be a Tool Swap and a Skill Share Fair. Patty distributed the smaller events shuttle flier.

**Mary McGraw – Village in Howard:** To celebrate its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the village movement it inspired, Beacon Hill Village has invited villages around the country to participate in a live-streamed event featuring Dr. Atul Gawande, MD, MPH, author of “Being Mortal’s Village: Value of Community and the Choices as We Grow Older”. This event will take place on Monday, 9/25/17, 4:30 pm at Owen Brown Interfaith Center.

**Member Sharing**

**Sharonlee Vogel:** Sarah Uphouse is retiring as the Village Manager in Long Reach. Sharonlee shared Jean Salkeld's update: Played pickle ball with friends at Wilde Lake. Monday night at Long Reach at 8:30 pm is just too late for seniors to play pickle ball. After the meeting, Michelle received an update from Anish Manrai – Monday at 8:30 is League play; the drop in times are still the same during the afternoon hours several times a week.

**Roger Chang:** Kings Contrivance volunteer dinner will be in October.

John Eberhard: Will be moving in to a one bedroom unit at Vantage House in the future.

Arleen Tate: Attended the Wilde Lake picnic with her granddaughter. It was wonderful. She is starting next month in the Diabetes Program.

George Laniado: Vantage House has a waiting list for the larger two bedroom apartments.

Mary McGraw: Dorsey's Search has many signs posted around the Village that reads "Children Are Not Polygons." [*Chair's note: This slogan is opposition to children being taken out of their home neighborhoods, bused elsewhere where there is capacity – opposition to the school redistricting.*]

Genie Wessel: The Wilde Lake picnic was a lot of fun for everyone. Feet First is returning to Wilde Lake Village Center along with other new stores.

Rusty Toler: There is continuing concern in Columbia with CA's funding of the Inner Arbor Trust.

Adjournment: At approximately 3:55 pm a motion was made and seconded to adjourn this meeting.