

Senior Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 20, 2017
2:30 pm, CA Headquarters Boardroom

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

Members/Liaisons Present:

Michelle Miller, Patty Dugan, Kathryn Sunderman, Mary McGraw, Roger Chang, Arleen Tate, Paul Verchinski, George Laniado, Rusty Toler, Dale Virginia Wasmus (CA) taking notes.

Absent/Excused: Sharonlee Vogel, Bernice Kish, John Eberhard, Jean Salkeld, and Courtney Barkley

Introduction of Guests: Patty Dugan introduced Cyndi Rogers of Winter Growth.

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 March 16, 2017, meeting Minutes with Rusty Toler's edits.

Presentation: Cyndi Rogers of Winter Growth gave an overview of the programs and services available at their Columbia site. Winter Growth provides community-based care for seniors and disabled adults in the areas of Assisted Living, Adult Medical Day programs and both hourly and overnight Respite Care.

Chair's Report:

Michelle read Sharonlee's report:

- George brought up at the SAC March meeting that one of his Town Center Board Members asks the SAC to review and expand handicapped parking for seniors, especially in light of their gown numbers. At that meeting, I replied that this was neither a SAC nor CA issue, but that I would take it up with the County Commission on Aging and get back to him which I did in about ten days.
- I brought the handicapped parking issue up at the Commission on Aging meeting.
- The Office on Aging & Independence has followed up.
- The statutes (**Maryland** Accessibility Code and the ADA) have specific formulae, based on the total number of spaces at each facility and whether the facility is a hospital or rehab facility. These standards establish the bare minimum.
- The requirements are not based on the number of people (older or otherwise) with a physical disability. Since the blueprints rarely ever exceed – and many times barely, if at all, meet – the minimum requirements, it is doubtful that the number of reserved accessible spaces in the county are enough to meet the needs of all older adults with physical disabilities.
- The Access Committee of the Howard County Commission on Disability Issues is looking at the plight of accessible parking in Howard County.
- The thing to do to effect change is lobby the Delegation since it is a Maryland statute (not Howard or Columbia) and/or work together with the Commission on Disability Issues.

New Business:

Bernice Kish had to have emergency surgery last week and a card is being passed around to sign.

Nominations of Officers: Michelle called for nominations from the floor for SAC Chair and Vice Chair. Michelle noted that Sharonlee Vogel agreed to Chair the SAC if no one else is interested. Roger nominated Sharonlee, and George seconded the nomination. Bernice Kish agreed to be Vice Chair of SAC and will formally be reappointed by Wilde Lake Village Board. The SAC agreed that the slate of officers for elections in May 2017 will be Sharonlee Vogel, Chair, and Bernice Kish, Vice-Chair.

Liaison Reports:

Michelle Miller: Columbia Association: The new Long Reach Tennis Facility is scheduled to open in 2018. CA plans to tear down the tennis bubble in Owen Brown and build outside courts. "Exploring Columbia on Foot" will once again be led by award-winning environmental author Ned Tillman, who will guide discussions on the nature, history and future of these wonderful outdoor settings, including the plans for them and challenges they may face in the near future. Each walk will be about two miles long, with four to five stops along the way. The walks will be held on nine Thursdays and one Saturday from March through October. Most walks will begin at 10am; the walk at The Mall in Columbia begins at 8:30am. Registration is not required.

Patricia Dugan: Columbia Association: Spoke about Aging in the Community - An Intercultural Conversation being held between Korean-American seniors and other seniors in the community to share experiences of aging in Howard County. The event is being held on Thursday, May 11th from 10 am - 1 pm at Kahler Hall in Harper's Choice. Small groups will participate in an hour of roundtable discussions. This will be followed by karaoke in English and Korean, Korean and American line dancing, and a Korean lunch. Patty passed out a flier about this event.

Mary McGraw - Village in Howard: The Village in Howard has approximately 140 members. Mary distributed a handout about the Supported Membership Program for The Village in Howard, which is a 50% reduction in the membership fee if the person is income qualified.

Member Sharing:

Paul Verchinski: Currently enrolled in research studies at the National Institute on Aging on resveratrol, which is found in wine.

George Laniado: Vantage House would like to have a presentation from The Village in Howard. George will talk with Mary after the meeting.

Rusty Toler: Has been working with Katharyn writing a newsletter for Owen Brown's Village Corner.

Incorporated Paul's newsletter and added to it. Rusty will share the newsletter electronically. Both Rusty and Paul are involved with the BWI round tables regarding airplane noise. There are approximately 20 people on the committee.

Arleen Tate: Looking forward to an email sharing Paul's newsletter as well as the one Rusty and Katharyn are writing for next month.

Roger Chang: Roger shared Paul's newsletter with Kings Contrivance Village.

Meeting Schedule: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 18, 2017.

Adjournment: At approximately 3:40 pm a motion was made and seconded to adjourn this meeting.