

Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, 5/16/19 2:30 pm
CA Boardroom

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

Members/Liaisons Present: Sharonlee Vogel [Chair], Michelle Miller (CA), Patty Dugan (CA), Roger Chang, Steve Cook, Elizabeth Johnson, George Laniado, Jean Salkeld, Paul Verchinski Genie Wessel, David Zeitzer and Dale Virginia Wasmus (CA) taking notes.

Excused: John Eberhard, Bernice Kish, Mary McGraw, Pearl Atkinson-Stewart, Arleen Tate.

Introduction of Guests: Sharonlee introduced Dan Burns, CA's Director of Sport & Fitness.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Agenda as amended to include Paul Verchinski's request to discuss Bill CB-75-2016 under "New Business."

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to amend the January 2019 minutes to include George Laniado's correction to add the following: Maryland Continuing Care Retirement Association & National.

Presentation: Dan Burns made a presentation to the group about Clarabridge, a tool for member feedback.

1. Surveys are sent out once per quarter to anyone that has attended a CA's facility.
2. There is a 10% response from the survey.
3. Dan is asking for help from the 65+ age group to respond to the surveys. The more information the better.
4. The Supreme Sports Club will close in two weeks for renovations.

New Business: A motion was made and seconded to discuss the DRAFT Senior Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report, May 2018-April 2019 and the FY20 Charge discussion.

Paul Verchinski suggested including the number of trips and riders under the section about the Senior Events Shuttle. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2019 Draft Annual Report as amended.

Paul Verchinski wanted to discuss Bill# CB-75-2016, Homeowners Tax Credit.

Chair's Report: The Commission on Aging worked to change the tax credit from 40 years to make it less years and portable within the County for the past five years. The legislation passed both houses and enables all Maryland counties to take action.

Sharonlee suggested that the SAC meetings be held every other month starting in September 2019. We will meet on June 20th, probably at the Athletic Club. A new schedule will be sent out.

There is a new CA Board/Council rep to the SAC – Nancy McCord. Election of Chair and Vice Chair of Columbia Association's Board of Directors results: The Board voted for the new Chair - Andy Stack (uncontested) and Vice Chair - Ginny Thomas (in a contested race). The General Counsel is no longer the secretary of the corporation. The position has been added to Vice President's role.

CA confirmed Representatives to the Inner Arbor Trust Board of Directors Lin Eagan/Town Center and Janet Evans/Long Reach were appointed for another year to serve on the IAT Board.

Liaison Reports:

Michelle Miller/CA: CA's Senior Team and Board of Directors have been developing the FY 20-24 Strategic Plan since January 2019. The Draft Plan is currently on CA's website.

The CA Board will vote on the strategic plan in early summer 2019. Over 300 people attended the showing of Maryland Public Television "Columbia's Promise" and you may still be able to view on the MPT website.

Patty Dugan/CA: Attended Greenfest in April at Howard Community College and held a Skill Share Fair and ran several discussions. On Saturday, July 20th from noon until 3 pm at the Howard County Center for the Arts, there will be a Time Bank Skill Share Fair and Swap and a Repair Café hosted by Transition Howard County. Please let Patty know when your village has a senior luncheon as she would like to attend. Patty showed everyone a grocery bag made out of an old t-shirt. You can donate old t-shirts to Less Plastics Please.

Member Sharing:

Genie Wessel: Narcan Training was held on April 24th and May 14th for Wilde Lake Village merchants and residents. It was conducted by the Howard County Health Department Education Staff and 18 people were trained. In cooperation with Feet First 40th Anniversary, a 5K walk/run was held and Wilde Lake staff participated. Invitations to all seniors through The Village in Howard and SAC. The turnout was excellent. Newsletter to restart now that SAC will be meeting regularly. Attended a presentation on the Downtown renovations and will share web site as soon as received.

Roger Chang: One of his writings has been published.

Steve Cook: Celebrating 15 years on the Harper's Choice Village Board. Recent crime has been on everyone's minds and police presence has been ramped up.

Sharonlee Vogel: Residents are complaining about the cost of CA, that the lien plus membership is too high and don't see the value. The County has similar class for much less. People comment negatively about CA having too many closed meetings. There is community upset about the proposed change CA wants to make – going from an HOA to a Community Benefit Association [CBA] rather than remaining an HOA. Also, people want the CA lien decreased for those 60+.

Elizabeth Johnson: Recently visited Bermuda and learned that there are no programs for the aging. Churches provide services.

David Zeitzer: Hickory Ridge recently hosted a 50+ luncheon and there were approximately 75 people in attendance. On 6/7/19 Hickory Ridge is hosting an Ice Cream Social from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

On July 24, 2019 at 6:30 pm the County will hold a hearing on the Revitalization of Hickory Ridge.

George Laniado: Seniors are talking about the Howard County will no longer accept plastic bags.

Paul Verchinski: Bruce Garner is the new Director of RTA. Seniors 65+ and/or disabled people can ride free on the regular routes.

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approximately 4:30 pm.