

Senior Advisory Committee
meeting notes
Thursday, August 20, 2020
2:30 pm Virtual, (google meet)

Call to Order: meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm

Members/Liaisons present/excused/absence: Sharonlee Vogel (Chair), Genie Wessel (Vice Chair), Pearl Atkinson-Stewart, Roger Chang, John Eberhard, Elizabeth Johnson, George Laniado, Jean Salkeld, Paul Verchinski, David Zeitzer, Michelle Miller (CA), Rene Dubois (CA Board member)

Absent: Mary McGraw

Introduction of Guest: Sharonlee introduced Rene Dubois, CA Board member representing River Hill and SAC board liaison for the year. Rene will assist in searching for a SAC member from River Hill.

Approval of Agenda: Gennie motioned to approve, seconded by Elizabeth. Motion passed unanimously

Approval of minutes: January 2020; Gennie motioned to approve, seconded by Elizabeth. Motion passed unanimously

New Business:

Older Adult Plan recommendations for update: Prior to the meeting, the SAC members sent their top 3 recommendations to Sharonlee who compiled a list for the meeting. The members voted and the top 4 recommendations to update the Plan were:

1. Transportation: continue the Senior Events Shuttle and work with Howard County on transit usage education at CA facilities
2. Social Contact: provide 65+ off-peak rates for CA gyms and
3. Would reinstitute The Village in Howard grant of \$25,000;
4. Continue the Older Adult subject matter at CA
5. Provide to SAC members when Census is completed a demographic breakout of Columbia overall and by Village

FY 22 CA Budget Testimony- items to request in the FY 22 budget: Reinstitute grant to The Village in Howard and Neighbor Ride; continue the Senior Events Shuttle

Chairs Report:

CA offering childcare in school buildings- had question about the program. Michelle sent information about the program to the SAC after the meeting.

Liaisons Report:

CA: Michelle Miller : Gave an update on CA's financial picture: Annual Charge revenue collection rate is about the same as previous years. Abatements and tax credits will reduce the annual charge revenue throughout the fiscal year. Membership revenue is above budget for the 1st quarter because the budget assumed a Labor Day re-opening. Due to Governor Hogan's easing of COVID-19 restrictions sooner than projected, golf and outdoor tennis re-opened in May. The three fitness clubs, Haven on the Lake, Swim Centr, SportsPark, and indoor tennis opened in June. The Archives is open by appointment only, and the Art Center will be open for classes in late September.

Village in Howard: Sharonlee reported that the Village has 180 memberships, 20 full time members, the other 160 are Associate members

Member Sharing: **Two minutes**, :02 from each SAC member on what they have heard from seniors in their village or Columbia that seniors are saying, wanting, wishing

Jean Salkeld: concerned about kids not going back to school

Pearl Atkinson-Stewart: East Columbia library has been taken out of HC's Budget. She is still working on this and will advocate for funding in the next budget cycle.

Roger Chang: gone to Haven on the Lake and back to teaching yoga at the Center.. He said to do regular yoga for stress reduction.

John Eberhard: been hiking and finding ways to relax

David Zeitzer: wanted more information on tax credits and when those will given. Michelle followed up after the meeting and sent an email the timing.

Elizabeth Johnson: want to support teachers in classrooms rather than from home

Sharonlee- next meeting will be on Zoom, rather than Google Meet.

Adjournment: meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 15 at 2:30 pm, via Zoom