

Senior Advisory Committee
Agenda
Thursday, January 28, 2021
2:30 pm Virtual, via Zoom

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, Elizabeth Johnson, John Eberhard, Jean Salkeld, David Zeitzer, Michelle Miller (CA)

Excused: Mary McGraw

Absent: George Laniado, Paul Verchinski

Introduction of Guests: Liz Henzey, Columbia Art Center Manager

Approval of Agenda: Agenda was approved without opposition.

Presentation: What is Happening at the Columbia Art Center? Liz Henzey, Manager of the Columbia Art Center, led a virtual tour of the Art Center. She discussed plans, events and activities that are ongoing and coming up. Several artists were present in the Gallery and talked about how they envision the Art Center and the healing power of the arts. Liz explained all the steps to keep the staff and participants safe such as the enhanced cleaning measures, new facility enhancements for COVID safety such as UV lights and air circulation fans, and reducing class sizes.

Approval of minutes: October 2020 Minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business: CA's FY 2022 update- The 2021 Virtual Town Hall video presentation on the proposed FY 22 Budget was shown to the group. Susan Krabbe, CA's VP and Chief Financial Officer presented CA's COVID experience and highlights of the FY 22 budget. Highlights included: no increase to the annual charge rate or cap, open 15 outdoor pools, proposed closure of Haven on the Lake, support for the Village community associations, no community grants including Senior Events Shuttle, investments in cyber security and digital media. The Committee discussed the recommendations. CA Board will be discussing draft budget over the next several weeks. Vote of the budget anticipated for February 25, 2021.

Chair's Report: Sharonlee reported that she received her 1st dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at the County's Health Department.

Liaisons Report:

CA: Michelle Miller:

Lela- Sewell Williams from the Columbia Maryland Archives has resigned to accept a position as Curator of Manuscripts at Moorland Spingarn Research Center, Howard University. Her last day at CA will be January 29, 2021. Lela moved the Archives forward in her three years as the Archives Manager as she created new programs, events and collaborations to educate the community about the history of Columbia and most recently implemented an online searchable database of the Archives' collection. We wish Lela all the best with her new opportunity!

Office on Aging: Darlene Vaselaros is the new Office on Aging representative. She asked the committee to get the word out that people can call Maryland Access Point [MAP] at 410-313-1234 to get help with the process for obtaining a COVID-19 vaccination. Also, some high schools will be used as locations to administer the vaccine.

Virtual programs are running at the 50 +Centers; have to sign up on-line.

Darlene spoke about the Age Friendly initiative timeline - Final plan due to the County in April.

Sharonlee requested that the SAC have access to the final action plan.

AARP tax program- will be held at the East Columbia and Bain Centers

The Village In Howard: Sharonlee reported that the membership has increased to 190 members. TVIH is looking for fundraising and grant opportunities.

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 from CA.

Jean Salkeld: She received the Moderna vaccine.

Roger Chang- looking forward to getting vaccine; most classes he attends are virtual.

David Zeitzer- Ongoing saga with the Hickory Ridge Village Center redevelopment- process is slow.

Elizabeth Johnson- The Village In Howard discussed a grant opportunity.

Pearl Atkinson-Stewart- East Columbia 50+ Center- group is still meeting and will make a budget request to Howard County. Owen Brown has seen a spike in cars being vandalized.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 18 at 2:30 pm via ZOOM