

Senior Advisory Committee
Agenda
Thursday, October 15, 2020
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, George Laniado, Jean Salkeld, Paul Verchinski, David Zeitzer, Michelle Miller (CA), Rene Dubois (CA Board member)

Absent: John Eberhard

Introduction of Guests: Dan Burns, Sports and Fitness Director, CA

Approval of Agenda: Motion was made and seconded to modify agenda- move Chair report after liaison report

Presentation: Dan Burns, briefed the SAC on the safety measures undertaken during COVID-19 at the fitness facilities. He is part of a coalition to meet with Governor Hogan about protocols and had many exchanges with the State Health Department. Many resources have been pulled together from best practices of fitness, golf, aquatics, etc.

Dan shared the presentation “New Way to Play”, a re-opening playbook.

<https://www.columbiaassociation.org/reopening-playbook/>

CA has moved many classes on-line for free that people can take advantage of. Dan explained the various safety guidelines to sanitize and disinfect the facilities during the day. Air purifying fans have been installed in high traffic areas of the clubs. Electrostatic sanitizing units are used at the clubs several times a day. Online reservations are needed for fitness classes, swimming, and tennis courts. From 1-1:30 pm, the Fitness Facilities are closed to clean and sanitize. From 1:30-3:30, are hours at the Athletic Club for people 60+ years of age.

Usage is about 30% of last year and seeing usage numbers slowly increase.

Approval of minutes: August 2020 minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business: None

Liaisons Report:

CA: Michelle Miller:

During the month of October, in honor of Archives History Month, **Columbia Archives**, will launch its highly anticipated online [database](#) provided web searching of the Columbia Archives collections database. Along with the launching of the online database will be the announcement of the updated name change for the archives to **Columbia Maryland Archives**. Adding Maryland to the name will enable our world community of researchers to have a more accurate understanding of the collection

mission on focus of the archive as the primary repository of the rich legacy of the city of Columbia, Maryland.

CA Board has engaged a search firm to conduct the national search for the new President. They hope to make a selection by mid-March.

The CA Board is starting the FY 22 Budget process this month that will be finalized in February.

Next steps for Recommendations to the Older Adult Plan will be to include the recommendations as part of the Annual Report to the Board in June. The Recommendations to the Older Adult Plan was one of the SAC's Charges for the FY 21 fiscal year.

Office on Aging: Barb Scherr has conflict with the SAC meeting schedule; Sharonlee has asked for a replacement from the Office on Aging.

Village in Howard: Mary McGraw said that The Village in Howard has 180 members and that they are conducting many virtual workshops. They will not be opening an in-person office this year.

Chair's Report: Sharonlee Vogel - Office on Aging: Master Aging virtual event on October 23, 2020. Symphony Woods now has an ADA pathway by the Chrysalis. Signage is still needed, but is a budget issue at this time.

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: The Village in Howard wants to hold as many meetings as possible virtually.

Roger Chang- teaches in Baltimore County Parks and Recreation.

David Zeitzer- Patuxent Commons- 70 apartment units across from the Village Center is sponsored by the Autism Society; of those 70, 25% will be for people with disabilities.

Heard complaints from seniors about the pools being closed last summer.

Genie Wessel- Wilde Lake Pumpkin Patch, October 18; Roselyn Rise redevelopment moving forward; Slayton House is closed to the public but open for rentals.

Paul Verchinski: Housing Master Plan: Howard County is seeking community input for input on housing issues and recommendations will be incorporated into the General Plan.

Howard County Advisory Committee to Update General Plan- Paul has been appointed to the committee. To view schedule, go to hocobydesign.com.

CA is looking into New Town district updates to the General Plan and looking forward to what its advocacy role will be.

Pearl Atkinson-Stewart- Owen Brown still renting space; Lake Elkhorn has been heavily used by walkers during COVID-19; Royal Farms will put in a huge gas station by Broken Land Parkway. Went to the Columbia Mall and not many people there, but stores are open. East Columbia 50+ Center-group is still meeting and will make a budget request to Howard County.

Rene Dubois, CA Board: Board about to begin FY 2022 Budget process. Meetings are live streamed. Sign up for Resident Speakout in advance of the meetings.

Mary McGraw- The Village in Howard started Good Morning Howard on Monday and Friday mornings at 9:00 am, where interesting topics are discussed.

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 28 at 2:30 pm