

**Senior Advisory Committee Minutes**  
**Thursdays March 10, 2022**  
**2:30 pm via Zoom**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:30

**Members/Liaisons present/excused/absence :** Sharonlee Vogel (Chair), Genie Wessel (Vice Chair), John Eberhard, Elizabeth Johnson, Mary McGraw, David Zeitzer, Pearl Atkinson-Stewart, Leslie Barnett CA), Ginny Thomas (CA Board), Darleen Vaseleros (HC Office on Aging), Celinda Grier pending member

**Absent:** Roger Chang, Jean Salkheld, George Laniado

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda approved as submitted

**Approval of Minutes:** Elizabeth moved to have the minutes of the Jan 13, 2022, meeting be approved; Genie seconded the approval. The Minutes were approved as submitted.

**Introduction of Guests:** Dennis Matey, Vice President, Community Operations and Dan Burns, Vice President, Community Programs & Services

**Presentation:** CA Facilities ADA Status

Dan and Dennis gave an overview of CA's ADA plan and compliance. CA is always doing ADA improvements. There is a page on CA website dedicated to [ADA Web page](#) that includes:

- [Columbia Association Accessibility Report & Plan](#)
- [Procedures Applicable to Requests for ADA Modifications](#)
- [ADA Golf Cart Policy](#)
- [Policy on Power-Driven Mobility Devices](#)
- [Policy on use of Service Animals](#)
- [ADA Friendly Facilities](#)

If you have questions or concerns you can email [ADAweb@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:ADAweb@columbiaassociation.org) or call 410-423-1889.

Ginny thanked Dennis and Dan for agreeing to look at creating a bathroom upstairs in the Other Barn.

Celinda asked about facilities and response procedures.

Pearl asked about the Woodlawn Slave quarters renovations. Dennis explained the difficulties in making that a public access facility.

**Liaison Reports:**

### **Columbia Association – Leslie Barnett**

The plan is to open all 23 outdoor pools this summer, but there is a shortage of lifeguards.

CA will run three camps this summer; Art Camp, Camp Extra and Nature Camp at Wilde lake

The budget was approved on Feb 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Visionary Women Art Show is currently at the Art center through March 27th. The reception is Saturday March 12th at 1pm.

Columbia Gym is hosting Mothers Day Line Dancing on May 6th that is open to non members.

[Register online](#) or by calling 410-531-0800

### **The Village In Howard – Mary McGraw**

Current membership is 165 members. We're starting to open up and have in-person programs, going out to places such as concerts and music venues. Doing joint programming with the library. Sharonlee asked is the CA Board approved the \$50,000 grant the SAC requested for The Village In Howard. Ginny said no grants were approved this year. The Board is studying criteria for the grants and then will decide how grants will be handled in the future.

There was a discussion about the Inner Arbor Trust which had funding approved on contingency.

### **Office on Aging & Independence – Darlene Vaselaros**

- As many of you are aware, the mask mandate has been lifted for Howard County public buildings, including 50+Centers
- The Office of Aging and Independence will be hosting *Dementia Live*, an interactive experience that allows participants to experience what it is like to live with a cognitive impairment and sensory change. Workshops will be held virtually on March 7th and April 11th, and in-person May 11th at 6pm.
  - For more information contact Emily Leclercq, MAP Specialist at 410-313-5917
- The MAP team is working on getting prepared for the up-coming Tax Credit Season. MAP staff will be starting to accept appointments to help clients complete these tax credit applications at the Patuxent Woods office (9480 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia 21046) and at each of the 50+ Centers. Tax credit applications are due Oct. 1, 2022.
  - For an appointment please call MAP at 410-313-1234.
- MAP workers are now based in all 50+Centers one day per week. Appointments can be scheduled by the calling MAP staff for that center.
- We also started weekly Congregate Meals at North Laurel 50+Center on Wednesdays. You can sign up for the meals by calling the NL 50+Center at 410-313-0380
- If anyone is interested in receiving the 50+Center newsletters to learn about the activities, programs and resources offered at our Centers you can go to the county website and under the 50+Centers you can subscribe to get the monthly newsletter.
  - To receive the newsletters click on [50+Center Newsletters](#)
- We also are offering Living Well workshops are scheduled this spring at a variety of locations.

- Living Well workshops are community-based workshops in a small group setting that helps adults become stronger and better educated in managing ongoing health conditions

### **March Restaurant Initiative**

- It's a St. Patrick's Day theme and will take place on **Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**
  - 11am-Noon
  - East Columbia 50+Center
    - 6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia 21045
  - The menu is Corned Beef and Swiss Cheese on Rye Bread, Potato Salad, Fruit Salad, and a Cookie
    - There will be an opportunity to make a donation for the cost of the meal which is valued at \$14.50/person

### **FY23 Budget Hearing**

- The County Executive's FY23 Resident's Budget Hearing is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - This is an opportunity to testify regarding the resources and services that are of value to older adults, including those provided by our office

### **Office on Consumer Protection**

- Tracy Rezvani is the new Consumer Protection Administrator who joined the DCRS team in February
  - She is happy to make presentations to community groups; therefore, if you are interested in scheduling a presentation, I will provide Sharonlee with her contact information.

### **Chair's Report -**

There was a discussion about the Senior Events Shuttle.

Employment - Oakland Mills, Town Center are hiring Event Staff, Town Center and Long Reach All County Council members are running for re-electrics. Opal Jones is.  
 5G is coming - if phone is older it may not work on 5G if your phone only works on 4G you're better off getting a new phone - HCHD Free smart Phone program.  
 Low income Federal Lifeline program Lifeline support.org  
 Columbia Festival of the Arts is looking for volunteers; free t shirt, picnic and Columbia Festival.Org  
 ArtReach is June 4 in Long Reach with opportunities for volunteers and great fun!  
 SAC Annual Report -  
 Genie - Walk Columbia can do anytime over a period of time or have a larger event. September/October.

**Members Sharing** – *Two minutes*, :02, from each SAC member on what they are hearing/have heard from seniors in their Villages, communities, networks in Columbia

Sharonlee – Long Reach 50+ Luncheon Stonehouse tickets \$5 in advance, ArtReach is coming in June 4th. Information was sent by Sharonlee.

Elizabeth - January/Feb attended two site plans for Lakefront project fully packed with information, asked what are plans for seniors -- they have no plans at this time. To what extent are they making sufficient parking spaces for handicapped - they are putting in the minimum number of spaces. Everything is based on walking.

Pearl - Meeting more and more people who don't drive and living on low income praise Community Care program. They get food from them . Need to work on getting the senior programs going. Need to keep public transportation.

Darlene said Maryland Access Point might be able to help. Sign up to be on the transportation committee for Age-Friendly Howard.

John - Talk to lots of people at Vantage Point that have stopped driving; we only have one driver now many people particularly older women don't feel comfortable using Lyft/Uber. Very bad situation for seniors.

David - There's more and more people who are happy to get out and attend activities. Agree with transportation comments made.

Mary - Wondering about Senior Dance Together and asked about Patty Dugan's position. Sharonlee asked Dan to look into bringing that position back part time.

Genie - Police event in Wilde Lake someone was injured by a bullet HCPD did something for the Village Board. CVS has a police person stationed there due to the number of shoplifting incidents. WL is focusing on speed on Green Mountain Circle, traffic calming possibilities. Going to HC Traffic Division to see what options are available.

**Next Meeting will be May 19, 2022**