



## Executive Committee Meeting April 3, 2023

A quorum of Executive Committee members convened virtually on Monday, April 3, 2023. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting hosted on Microsoft Teams with video conference and conference call options.

Secretary Terrence Moore took roll call and confirmed attendance by calling each Committee member's name.

### **Members Present**

Janice Wilberg, *Chairwoman*  
Amber Miller, *Vice-Chair*  
Terrence Moore Sr., *Secretary*  
Elliott Moeser, *Legislative Officer*

### **Milwaukee County Staff Present**

Marietta Luster, *DHHS ADS*  
Daniel Idzikowski, *DHHS, ADS, AAA*  
Vonda Nyang, *DHHS, ADS, AAA*

## MINUTES

### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL**

Chair Janice Wilberg called the meeting to order at 11:03 am, and roll was taken.

### **II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 6, 2023, COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES**

There were two amendments to the minutes, to correct the spelling of the two new commissioners (Denise Callaway and Sandy Pasch) under Section III, A. Action Items, a), first sentence.

MOTION: To approve March 6, 2023, Executive Committee meeting minutes upon amendments.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Moore Moved, Moeser Second).

### **III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. ACTION ITEMS**

- a) **Informational Item: Update on Commission on Aging Vacancies, Schinika Fitch, Director of Community Relations:** The Chair informed the Commission that she had recommended a highly decorated Vietnam veteran, George Banda as a Commission candidate to the Aging Unit Director, Daniel Idzikowski, and to the Director of Community Relations

in the County Executive's Office, Schinika Fitch Wilberg, whose resume and contact information were forwarded to. Director Fitch was unavailable to attend today's meeting and had yet to receive an update on Commission vacancies. Chair Wilberg reiterated that Denise Callaway and Sandy Pasch are confirmed Commissioners and are waiting to take their oaths.

- b) Discussion/Action Item: Livable Communities Initiative:** Vice-Chair Amber Miller discussed what is “Livable Communities.” Aka the “Age-Friendly Network” was launched ten years ago by the American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) in partnership with the World Health Organization; the plan is to address the housing crisis and make city streets accessible, walkable, and beautiful for people of all ages. It can be a city, village, or county, committing to being the most livable community for all ages. Currently, thirteen communities are participating in the initiative. She thinks this initiative aligns with Milwaukee County’s initiatives and that it would be an excellent opportunity for AARP to work closely with Milwaukee County in this initiative.

The Executive Committee discussed the possibilities of Milwaukee County participating in this initiative. The Committee discussed possible challenges and concerns with fiscal commitments, staff commitment to the initiative (What staff would be assigned to the initiative, what is the time commitment, staffing shortages, and workloads, etc. Vice-Chair Miller informed the Executive Committee that there isn’t any cost involved with the initiative; it would be a matter of staff assignment and commitment to the project where the cost would be involved.

Aging Unit Director Daniel Idzikowski voiced concerns with the implementation of the initiative. There wouldn’t be a problem with promoting and raising awareness of the initiative, but there would be a problem with resources, diversity, and creating a steering committee. After a lengthy discussion, the Executive Committee decided to discuss this initiative at the next Commission meeting this month in April and to continue the discussion on the technical aspects before making recommendations to the full Commission. Vice-Chair Miller informed the Executive Committee that there isn’t a cost involved except for the staff working on the initiative, and there would be a three-year commitment for the initiative.

- c) Discussion/Action Item: New Committee and Council Members:** Chair Wilberg announced she had asked Denise Callaway to be the new Chair of the Advisory Council. Ms. Callaway has accepted the appointment. Chair Wilberg expects Ms. Callaway to start Chairing at the May meeting. Director Daniel Idzikowski informed the Committee that Ericka Sinclair, MPH from Health Connections, Inc., and MKE

Black Grassroots Network for Health Equity, discussed her interest in joining the Advocacy Committee with him; however, she hasn't confirmed that she still wants to become a member. Director Idzikowski and Secretary Terrence Moore will follow up with her.

- d) Action Item:** Setting the March 24, 2023, Commission on Aging meeting agenda. The Executive Committee discussed the possibility of in-person and hybrid meetings. Aging Unit Director Daniel Idzikowski discussed issues and challenges with trying to hold a meeting at the Coggs building due to parking limitations and construction starting at that site. And the issues with trying to hold meetings at the senior centers due to the need for technology upgrades, availability, and space. The Aging Unit is having a new Audio Visual "AV" system installed at the Wilson Senior Center as the Aging Unit is holding the Aging Summit there in May. Currently, Wilson would be the best place to hold Commission meetings. Also, the director mentioned that Clinton Rose would be next to receive a new AV System this year. Chair Wilberg requested the Aging Director to provide an update at the next Executive Committee meeting in May regarding holding an in-person meeting at the Wilson Park Senior Center. She would like to have a few in-person meetings a year.

Director Idzikowski pointed out that the issue with creating a Standing Committee for Senior Centers isn't the request but the scope of the work and who will oversee running the scope. The Chair wants the Select Committee on Senior Centers to put together a solid, detailed proposal for a standing committee and present it to the Commission. Director Idzikowski mentioned that the Committee is no more extended meetings but suggested having Commissioner Guskowski, Chair of the Select Committee on Senior Centers, put together a proposal. Legislative Officer Elliott Moeser suggested that the Aging Director discuss the commitments and proposal with Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Administrator Marietta Luster before the proposal is presented to the Executive Committee and Commission. The Executive Committee set the April agenda.

Director Idzikowski explained why Matt Fortman is on the agenda for presenting at the April COA meeting. Legislative Officer Moeser asked if the Advocacy Committee could be added to Matt Fortman's agenda item as they will be discussing the Advocacy Committee's recommendations, and Mr. Fortman will discuss the additions to the Aging budget. The Executive Committee would like CFO Fortman to discuss the distribution of funding and other vital points missed at his previous presentation due to time restraints from last month's meeting. The Executive Committee decided there were no RFP updates and took off that agenda item. The Chair decided to change

the last agenda item for announcements to “Commission on Aging Public Comments” to allow the public to provide feedback. Executive Assistant Vonda Nyang informed the Executive Committee that she created a Commission on Aging Team site in MS Teams for the Commission to access all COA documents, including announcements provided for COA meetings. The Commission just needs to be acclimated on how to access the site. Director Idzikowski informed the Executive Committee that other aging organizations have events they like to announce at the meetings.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Amber Miller and seconded by Terrence Moore to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 1, 2023, at 11 a.m. (virtual and audio) on Microsoft Teams and a teleconference phone.

Respectfully submitted,

Vonda Nyang  
Executive Assistant