



MILWAUKEE COUNTY  
Department on Aging

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CENTERS  
Planning Meeting**

**Thursday, July 9, 2020 | 1:00 – 2:00 P.M**

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Call to order by Interim Select Committee on Senior Centers chair Sharon Abston-Coleman at 1:05 p.m. and roll call:

Sharon Abston-Coleman, PhD, Interim Committee Chair  
Richmond Izard, Chair, Commission on Aging  
George Pumphrey, PhD, Commissioner  
Amber Miller, Commissioner (excused)  
Bettie Rodgers, JD, Commissioner and Chair, Aging  
Advisory Council

Pat Dunn, Aging Advisory Council (excused)  
Gene Guskowski, Aging Advisory Council  
John Griffith, Commissioner  
Dan Idzikowski, MCDA staff

**II. Review Minutes of the June 25, 2020 Minutes of the Select Committee on senior centers Planning Meeting**

Abston-Coleman referred members to the draft minutes of the June 25, 2020 Committee on Senior Centers Planning Group meeting for reading and consideration.

MOTION: Approve Minutes of the June 25, 2020 Committee on Senior Centers Planning Group meeting.

ACTION: Unanimous (Izard, Rodgers).

**III. Review status of applications for the Committee on Senior Centers and Committee issues.**

Abston-Coleman reminds members that the Committee had set a date of June 30<sup>th</sup> to finalize the Senior Center Committee Application and accompanying letter and to send them out. Asks for update.

Idzikowski notes that the materials were completed by June 30<sup>th</sup> and were sent by e-mail July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> to approximately 450 individual addresses, including all of the participants in last year's Envisioning Senior Centers sessions for whom MCDA had e-mail addresses, vendors, senior center managers, and Commission related members. Notes that the application will be posted on the webpage and a FaceBook post will be generated when Bekki Schmitt returns from vacation. Asks for ideas of whom else we might solicit for input. Could hand out at senior meal sites.

Abston-Coleman encourages all the members to reach out to their friends and constituents with this solicitation. Reminds the group that the deadline set for applications is August 15<sup>th</sup>. Izard agrees with the deadline, but encourages the group to continue to send the applications throughout this period.

Izard suggest adding this opportunity through the Wellness calls.

Miller states that she can send it out to AARP volunteer list in Milwaukee County and livable communities in Greendale and Shorewood and tag the MCDA Facebook post.

Rodgers mentions the League of Progressive Seniors.

Abston-Coleman clarifies that actual selection of Senior Center Committee members will be done by Chair Richmond Izard and Vice Chair Sharon Abston-Coleman. Suggests follow-up meeting date of August 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>. Notes that this planning group may want to set some goals and parameters for the Committee in addition to selecting the members.

Guszkowski concurs. Notes that members will be volunteers and the committee needs some structure. Perhaps think about the nature of the end product so that it is presentable and supportable.

Izards wants the process to be fair and notes that he has encouraged all individuals to actually fill out the form, so the same process applies to all.

Griffith states we should keep in mind a timetable and expectations for the Committee. Abston-Coleman concurs. Abston-Coleman suggests that this planning group lay out the timetable and expectations and framework for the committee's work. Discussion follows.

Idzikowski notes that he has created a MS Team for the Senior Center Committee and added all the members of this group to the Future of Senior Centers SharePoint site. Is putting all the applications in a file on the SharePoint site.

Griffith doesn't want to dampen enthusiasm for individuals who want to participate but are not appointed. Guszkowski states that now is the time for the members to start listing expectations and putting them together.

#### **IV. Next steps and Meeting**

Members of this committee to come up with ideas for next steps and approach for the Senior Center Committee by Friday August 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 and either upload them to the Future of Senior Centers SharePoint site directly or send by e-mail to [daniel.idzikowski@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:daniel.idzikowski@milwaukeecountywi.gov).

**MOTION:** Submit ideas for framework of Senior Center Committee.

**ACTION:** Unanimous (Griffith, Pumphrey)

Next meeting for wrap-up: **Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm.**

#### **V. Adjournment**

Abston-Coleman thanks everyone for their participation.

**MOTION:** Adjourn.

**ACTION:** Approved unanimously at 2:02 p.m. (Griffith, Rodgers).

Respectfully submitted by:

Daniel Idzikowski  
Program and Policy Coordinator