



MILWAUKEE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
& HUMAN SERVICES

**AGING & DISABILITIES
SERVICES**

COMMISSION ON AGING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 10, 2024

The Executive Committee members convened virtually on Friday, May 10, 2024. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting hosted on Microsoft Teams with video and call options.

Members Present

Janice Wilberg, *Chairwoman*
Brian Peters, *Legislative Officer*
Amber Miller, *At Large Member*
Gloria Miller, *Secretary*

Members Absent

Terrence Moore Sr, *Vice-Chair*

Milwaukee County Staff

Tina Andersen, *DHHS*
Daniel Idzikowski, *DHHS, ADS, AAA*
Marietta Luster, *DHHS*
David Muhammed, *DHHS*
Vonda Nyang, *DHHS, ADS, AAA*

Attendees

Gail Patridge, *ACL Interpreter*
Derrick Cainion, *ACL Interpreter*

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL

Chair Janice Wilberg called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Secretary Gloria Miller took roll. A quorum of Committee members was present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 12, 2024, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the April 12, 2024, Executive Committee meeting minutes.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (A. Miller Moved, G. Miller Second).

III. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a) **Informational Item, Update on Candidates to the Commission on Aging, (COA) Chair Janice Wilberg:** There are no updates on candidates currently. Marni King is still undergoing the approval process.

b) Action Item, Commission on Aging Protocols, AAA Director Daniel

Idzikowski: Chair Wilberg explained that the Executive Committee requested COA Protocols to determine what items are supposed to come to the Commission for approval and which items don't require the Commission's approval. The Chair requested Director Idzikowski to explain the guideline documents he sent the Executive Committee.

Idzikowski noted that the Commission has broad powers and authority under federal law and local ordinance. The Commission has authority over Older Americans Act (OAA) funding resources allocated by the State to the Area Agency on Aging. The COA has the authority to make decisions on allocating those resources through the contracting and budgeting processes. Second, the COA has the authority to advocate for the older adult population of Milwaukee County for their welfare. The Director explained the ordinances and the contracting processes to the Executive Committee. The Chair asked the Director if he could consolidate the information provided into a one-page document to include with his report to present to the Commission, explaining its relationship with the County Board and the appropriate levels of Commission oversight with contracts.

c) Action Item, Nomination of a Non-Commission Committee Member,

Katrina Mosley to serve on the Advocacy Committee: The Executive Committee received documents on Katrina Mosley and reviewed them before today's meeting.

MOTION: To nominate Katrina Mosley to the Advocacy Committee subject to confirmation by the Commission.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (A. Miller Moved, Peters Second).

d) Discussion Item, Update on New Facility and the Coggs Center, David

Muhammed, DHHS Deputy Director: Deputy Director David Muhammed presented a PowerPoint on the plans for the new Marica P. Coggs Health and Human Services Center. He explained that the current Coggs building does not function well as a human services building, as it used to be an old department store. Deputy Mohammed explained the layout of the new building and informed the Executive Committee that there will be four dedicated offices in the new building for the AAA. The Administration determined the allocation of office space for staff by their frequency of working in the office. If they work three or more days in the office, they will have a dedicated workspace; if not, they will share a hotel space. Currently, the plan doesn't have enough parking to accommodate staff at the new location. Deputy Muhammad is working with the city's zoning department to determine more parking areas for staff and the public. The Executive Committee asked a few basic questions. The Chair's final comment was that the Area Agency on Aging seems to be shrinking since the merger, and she

requested that the Administration ensure that the Area Aging Agency doesn't disappear with the implemented changes.

- e) Discussion/Action Item, 2025 Aging Services Budget Request: AAA**
Director Idzikowski provided an update on the Aging Services Budget. Next week, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Matt Fortman will meet with the Aging Unit staff to discuss the disbursement of the Aging Services budget allocations. Currently, there is a delay in receiving the funding allocations. Director Idzikowski hopes to present a budget to the Commission at the June Commission on Aging (COA) meeting.

Director Idzikowski is seeking guidance to determine programs currently funded by ARPA should be kept and which ones can be let go because the APRA funding will not be available in 2025. Chair Wilberg suggested that the Director and Service Delivery Chair, Amber Miller, coordinate a Service Delivery Committee meeting within a couple of weeks to address these issues.

- f) Discussion Item, Follow-up on Bus Shelter Transit Access, Daniel Idzikowski, AAA Director:** Director Idzikowski contacted the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) that they use a prioritization process to place new bus shelters. They considered ridership accessibility and the infrastructure needed to meet ADA requirements. However, MCTS has not placed new bus shelters for a decade due to budget and resources, only fixing or replacing damaged shelters. Each new bus shelter costs around \$10,000.

Mr. Idzikowski provided two suggestions to help address this item: Advocate for more resources for MCTS or infrastructure upgrades by municipalities on routes. Another option that older adults can use for ease of access to Senior Centers is to utilize the County's Older Americans Transportation System (OATS). After a brief discussion, the Executive Committee concluded that this would be an advocacy issue to address with the Livable Communities initiatives the Milwaukee County will soon be working on.

- g) Action Item, Setting the May 24, 2024, Commission on Aging (COA) meeting agenda:** Chairwoman Wilberg requested the Advocacy Chair to provide written documentation of their actions at meetings that they want the Commission to act on at the COA meetings.

Commissioner Amber Miller raised a pressing concern; she asked James Mathy from the Milwaukee County Housing Department to discuss the alarming increase in homelessness within the senior populations. She asked for a plan to address homelessness among older adults.

The Executive Committee discussed the items on the draft agenda and set the agenda for the May 24, 2024, COA meeting.

h) Informational Item: Announcements: There were no announcements at today's meeting.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:07a.m.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (G. Miller Moved, A. Miller Second).

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 14, 2024, at 9 a.m. (virtual and audio) on Microsoft Teams.

Respectfully submitted,

Vonda Nyang,
Executive Assistant