



Department of
Health &
Human Services

Together, Creating Healthy Communities

AD | Aging Division

Jon Janowski, Director, Aging Unit
Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director

Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes December 17, 2021

Commissioners

Chair Bettie Rodgers, *J.D. M.S.W.*
Amber Miller, *Vice Chair*
Jason Haas, *Milwaukee County Supervisor*
Lily Alvarado
John Griffith, *Secretary*
Elliot Moeser, *Ph.D., Legislative Officer*
Ronald Byington
Cherie Swenson
Janice Wilberg, *Ph.D.*

Commissioners excused

Richmond Izard
Gloria Miller
Gloria Pitchford-Nicholas, *Ph.D.*

Milwaukee County Staff

Shakita LaGrant-McClain, *DHHS*
Schinika Fitch, *County Executive's Office*

Milwaukee County Staff Continued...

Jon Janowski, *DHHS*
Johnnie Austin, *DAS-IMSD*
Debra Horton, *DHHS*
Jill Knight, *DHHS*
Dan Idzikowski, *DHHS*
Pam Matthews, *DAS-Budget Office*
Vonda Nyang, *DHHS*
Rebecca Schmitt, *DHHS*
Carrie Koss Vallejo, *DHHS*
Nina Yang, *DHHS*

Guests

Debra Jupka
Eva Eiseman, *Interpreter*
Cathy Wood, *SOA*

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

A quorum of Commission on Aging (COA) members convened virtually on Friday, December 17, 2021. Vice-Chair A. Miller called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Executive Assistant Vonda Nyang took roll call.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AMENDED 2022-2024 AREA PLAN

Chair of the Advisory Council Janice Wilberg reported on the action taken at today's special Advisory Council meeting. A Commissioner brought to the Advisory Council's attention that having the words "functionally eligible" in the Health Equity goal would make a person presume that an individual would have to be financially eligible. Also, it would enable the Commission to serve more people and eliminate racial disparities. The request was to remove the word "functionally" from the Health Equity goal and indicate that "not eligible" is for a service for people who are not eligible for publicly funded long-term care. The Advisory Council approved this change to the goal and requests approval from the Commission to accept this amendment.

MOTION: That the 2022-2024 Area Plan as amended would be approved.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Wilberg Moved, Haas Second.)

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE SENIOR CENTER SELECT COMMITTEE'S LETTER TO MILWAUKEE COUNTY'S ARPA TASK FORCE

Dan Idzikowski, DHHS Program and Policy Coordinator, provided an overview of the ARPA funding allocation recommendations letter that the Senior Center Select Committee submitted to Milwaukee County's ARPA Task Force. The letter addresses the County's five county owned senior center's needs for infrastructure, remodeling, and or replacement of structures as well as programming. The Advisory Council is asking the Commission to adopt the letter.

MOTION: To adopt the Senior Center Select Committee's letter.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Griffith Moved, Wilberg Second)

A Commissioner raised four concerns: One being the capital project requested amount, the second was spending a significant amount of money on centers that are closed at this time due to COVID; third, should there be a priority on the number of centers in operation, and lastly, to drop the word "Hub" in the Vision Statement. Mr. Idzikowski informed the Commission of the time constraints for submitting requests to the ARPA Taskforce to be considered and receive allocations. A few Commissioners suggested writing a letter to Milwaukee County's ARPA Taskforce in which they took at vote.

There was a Roll Call to Vote: 8-yes to-1-No vote (see below). The letter to the ARPA Task Force was adopted.

Chair Bettie Rodgers, *J.D. M.S.W., Yes*
Vice Chair Amber Miller, *Yes*
County Supervisor Jason Haas, *Not present*
Lily Alvarado, *Not present*

Secretary John Griffith, *Yes*
Legislative Officer Elliot Moeser, *Ph.D., No*
Ronald Byington, *Yes*
Cherie Swenson, *Yes*
Janice Wilberg, *Ph.D., Yes.*

IV. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

The next Commission on Aging meeting is at 9 a.m. on Friday, January 28, 2022, as a virtual meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vonda Nyang
Executive Assistant