



**COMMISSION ON AGING  
Executive Committee Meeting  
May 1, 2023**

A quorum of Executive Committee members convened virtually on Monday, May 1, 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*

**Milwaukee County Staff Present**

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

**Members Present**

Elliott Moeser, *Legislative Officer*

**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 APRIL 3, 2023, COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES**

MOTION: To approve April 3, 2023, Executive Committee meeting minutes upon amendments.

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

**III. Discussion and Action Items**

**A. Informational Item: Update on Commission on Aging Vacancies, Schinika Fitch, Director of Community Relations:** Director Fitch cannot attend today's meeting as she is "Out of the Office." Aging Unit Director Daniel Idzikowski provided an update on Commission vacancies. Chair Janice Wilberg had submitted George Banda's name for appointment consideration to serve on the Commission on Aging to the County Executive's Office. Mr. Banda is a Vietnam veteran and former County employee who is a current Latino community leader. After hearing information on Mr. Banda, the

Executive Committee thinks he would be a great candidate. Chair Wilberg and Director Idzikowski are waiting for an update on whether the County Executive has approved his appointment. Committee Chair Wilberg voiced concerns about Commissioner Gloria Miller being absent from COA meetings lately. Director Idzikowski informed the Committee that she had to take some time off temporarily for personal reasons. Committee members were pondering why Supervisor Taylor's attendance could have been higher for the COA meetings and discussed ways the Commission could still obtain reports from her in her absence.

The Executive Committee reviewed and discussed the Commissioner, whose terms are expiring this year, the number of existing COA members, and the County ordinance requirements for Commission members. Commissioner Byington's term ended this April, and Commissioner Jon Griffith's second term ends in November, leaving the Commission with thirteen members if there are no replacements before November. Chair Wilberg and a few other Commissioners are searching for a dead person to replace Commissioner Byington's seat, and the Committee is working to be proactive in recruiting new Commissioners by trying to fill the open positions before the County Board has its next recess this year. The Chair informed the Committee of how long the appointment process takes, which is about three months to complete, and discussed the County Boards' schedule for the rest of the year to determine how much time is left to approve appointments this year. The review also revealed that Commissioner Moeser's first term expires in July 2023, and Commissioner Wilberg's first term ends in October 2023. The Committee is looking to fill seats on the board from the Death, Asian, and Indian communities.

#### **B. Discussion/Action Item: Livable Communities Initiative:**

Vice-Chair Amber Miller asked the Executive Committee to provide their feedback on "Livable Communities," aka the "Age-Friendly initiative presentation given at the April COA meeting, and if they want to participate in the initiative. If yes, in what capacity? Commissioners Wilberg and Moore are interested in pursuing the initiative and think it would greatly benefit Commissioner participation but are still determining in what capacity. They would like to pursue this slowly and not on a large scale due to resource concerns.

Director Idzikowski discussed how the Department on Aging had utilized AARP's survey to create Aging's mass survey that was used in developing the Units recent Area Agency Plan. And he discussed the possibility of AARP working again with the Aging Unit in designing the 2025 Area Plan to incorporate the Livable Communities initiative.

Chair Wilberg mentioned this needs to be a collaborative effort with Milwaukee County as the Commission continues pursuing discussions with entities and considers placing an application to conduct a community survey which the AAA will have to complete soon for the 2025 Area Plan.

Vice Chair Miller mentioned that Bill Armbruster, Associate State Director of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), will be in Kenosha on June 1, 2023, touring some of the livable communities there, and suggested the Chair and a few others to meet with him in Milwaukee. The next steps, Chair Wilberg will contact Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff to the County Executive, to see if she would be available to meet **on June 1, 2023**, with Bill Armbruster, her, and a few of the Executive Committee to discuss possibilities with working with the Livable Communities initiative further.

- C. Vice Chair Miller mentioned that Bill Armbruster, Associate State Director of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), will be in Kenosha on June 1, 2023, touring some of the livable communities there, and suggested the Chair and a few others meet with him in Milwaukee. The following steps, Chair Wilberg will contact Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff to the County Executive, to see if she would be available to meet **on June 1, 2023**, with Bill Armbruster, her, and a few of the Executive Committee to discuss possibilities with working with the Livable Communities initiative further.

- D. **Discussion/Action Item: New Committee and Council Members:** Chair Wilberg mentioned that Vonda Nyang, Executive Assistant, could assist her in identifying Commission members who have yet to be assigned to a committee or council. Director Idzikowski discussed a few of the new COA members that he thinks have already been assigned to a committee or council. The Director suggested to the Chair to send an email to each Commissioner she is appointing assignments to have for the record.

Denise Callaway, Chair of Advisory Council; Jon Gaines, Service Delivery; Gene Guskowski, Chair of the Senior Center Committee; and Van Vreede, Advocacy Committee. The Chair wants to get moving with the process and mentioned that Commissioner Guskowski needs to be orientated for running the new committee.

- E. **Action Item:** Setting the May 26, 2023, Commission on Aging meeting agenda: Director Idzikowski informed the Commission that Gina Green-Harris is scheduled to present at the May COA meeting to discuss her position as the Governor's Council and Health Equity Chair. Due to time constraints, the Executive Committee didn't have time to finish the agenda. Chair Wilberg and Director Idzikowski will create a draft agenda, and it will be distributed among the Executive Committee for approval.

- 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, June 1, 2023, at 11 a.m. (virtual and audio) on Microsoft Teams and a teleconference phone.

Respectfully submitted,

Vonda Nyang,  
Executive Assistant

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