



Milwaukee County Department on Aging Advocacy Committee September 10, 2018

The Milwaukee County Commission on Aging Advocacy Committee held its monthly meeting on September 10, 2018 at the Marcia Coggs Building, 1220 West Vliet Street, Room 104, Milwaukee, WI 53205 in Room 104.

Commissioners Present

Fred Knueppel, Chair

Commissioners not present

Bettie Rodgers

Committee Members Present

Gary Mikolajczyk
John Griffith
Casper Green
Tim Harrington
Judith Troestler
Barbara Bechtel
Dr. Elliott Moeser

Committee Members not present:

Tom Frazier
Bob Haase
David Hoffman
Dain Maddox

Milwaukee County Staff Present

Holly Davis
Jon Janowski
Jill Klecha
Andy Bethke

Guests Present

Julietta Henry, Milwaukee County Elections Committee
Mike Helbick, Senator Tammy Baldwin's Office
James Callahan
Gary Sprong

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fred Knueppel called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

II. PRESENTATION: "MCDA 2019 Requested Budget" Holly Davis, Executive Director, Department on Aging

Holly Davis provided a few highlights on MCDA's 2018 Budget and 2019 Budget Submission, and departmental changes:

- MCDA's 2019 budget request was for a little over 20 million dollars. Ms. Davis discussed the department's reduction in staff due to retirements, resignations, and one

position being eliminated due to the loss of a federal grant, which was a Dementia Care Specialist position held by Andrea Garr. Ms. Davis also reported MCDA's venture for new revenue sources for 2019 and the upcoming ADRC Budget listening Sessions. (Flyers will be sent out to attendees).

- Ms. Davis was asked a few questions on the department's next steps for staff replacement, what was the number of meals served to seniors, and what amounts did the department incur for cross charges. Mr. Jon Janowski will provide budget documents to the attendees to answer their questions about the budget. All other matters that attendees had queries on will be forwarded to the Advocacy Chair, and he will address them with the Executive Director.

III. PRESENTATION: "Voter Information for the 2018 Elections" Julietta Henry, Elections Director, Milwaukee County Election Commission (30 Minutes)

Julietta Henry provided information on early voting, absentee voting, how to access the Election Commission's new webpage, and where and how citizens can register to vote. A discussion ensued about concerns with seniors not being tech-savvy enough to access information on the internet and their need to have information provided in-person. **More information can be obtained by visiting URL: <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/County-Clerk/Election-Commission>** Listed below are highlights of the presentation.

- **Early Voting:** Early voting starts in Milwaukee from September 24, 2018 - November 4, 2018, Ms. Henry will be forwarding a schedule to the Advocacy Committee. Also, beginning Monday, October 15 thru November 4, 2018, there will be other locations throughout the city opening, they are: Zeidler Municipal Building, the Midtown Center, Mitchel Street Library, Zablocki Library, Center Street Library, Mill Road Library, UWM Tech School of Arts, and MATC Library.
- **Absentee Voting:** If you are already registered to vote, you may fill out an application for absentee voting and mail it to the County Clerk's Office, and the clerk's office will submit their vote. Ms. Henry provided Absentee Voter Applications for meeting attendees to give out to voters; these documents are for registered citizens who are unable to make it to the voting polls.
- **Receiving Voter Information by Text message:** By sending a text to 468311/MKE Vote citizens can receive reminders to vote as well as other relevant information.
- **How to check your Voter information:** By going to the website "My Vote.org," voters can track their voting history, look at sample ballots find out how long they have been voting, determine a voting location, look up elected officials, and much more.
- **Where to go to register to Vote:** You can register to vote online, and/or update your address and/or name if you have moved or married/divorced; however, you need to have a valid Wisconsin Driver's license or State ID card. If you don't have either, you can submit a proof of residence document. Ms. Henry answered meeting attendee's questions after her presentation.

MOTION: To send letter including background information on the registrars' duties to State Representatives after the November elections requesting to reestablish voter registrars in Milwaukee County.

ACTION: Motion carried unanimously (Hoffman **moved**, Griffith **seconded**)

IV. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM: Federal Updates on Aging Issues (2:1)

- U.S Senator Tammy Baldwin Introduces New Legislation to Overturn the Expansion of Junk Insurance Plans. Mike Helbick from Senator Baldwin's office informed the Advocacy Committee of a media release from their office regarding a Trump Administration rule expanding junk insurance plans which are not going to provide health care coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. Copies of the media release were distributed at the meeting. Also, Mr. Helbick informed meeting members on how they can get copies of the resolution.

VII. DISCUSSION: ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING UPCOMING EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS

- **National Voter Registration Day** – National Voter Registration Day is September 26, 2018, and the Elections Commission and other partners will be working in getting the word out to all voters on the importance of registering to vote.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:46 PM.

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting

ACTION: Motion carried unanimously (Knueppel moved, Griffith seconded)

Next meeting will be held on Monday, October 1 at 1:30pm at 1220 W. Vliet Street, Room 104.

Respectfully submitted,

**Vonda Nyang
Executive Assistant**