



MILWAUKEE COUNTY  
Department on Aging

Milwaukee County Commission on Aging  
Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2019

**Commissioners Present**

Chair Barbara Wyatt Sibley  
Vice Chair Fred Knueppel  
Sharon Abston-Coleman, PhD  
Ronald Byington  
John K. Griffith  
Richmond Izard  
Debra Jupka  
Bettie A. Rodgers, J.D.  
César Pabón

**Commissioners Excused**

Secretary Maria Castrejon-Pérez  
Jason Haas, *Milwaukee County Supervisor*  
Sharon Sharp  
Charles Vang  
Pastor Johnny C. White, Jr.

**Milwaukee County Staff Present**

Holly Davis, *Executive Director*

**Milwaukee County Staff Present... Continued**

Jon Janowski, *Director of Administration*  
Samta Bhatnagar  
Dan Idzikowski  
Jill Knight  
Vonda Nyang

**Guests Present**

Tasha Jenkins, *US Census*  
Vi Hawkins  
Christine Carter, *LGBT Milwaukee*  
James Kimble  
Katie Hayden, *SOA*  
Pam Matthew  
Tom Gossett, *Goodwill*  
Neal Minogue, *State of WI, DHS*  
Cathy Wood, *SOA*  
Hector Hernandez, *UCC*  
Martha Collins, *HTF*

- I. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:** Chair Barbara Wyatt Sibley welcomed the meeting attendees. The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. at the Marcia Coggs Human Services Building, Conference Room 104, 1220 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee, WI 53205.
- II. **APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2019, COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES**  
**MOTION:** To approve the September 27, 2019, Commission on Aging meeting minutes  
**ACTION:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Jupka **Moved**, Abston-Coleman **Second**.)
- III. **CONSENT AGENDA COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL REPORTS**
  - A. The Advocacy Committee meeting minutes for September 3, 2019, the Executive Committee meeting minutes for September 9, 2019, and the Wellness Committee meeting minutes for August 15, 2019, were mailed and distributed for a comprehensive explanation of topic discussions.  
**MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda for the September 3, 2019, Advocacy Committee meeting minutes, the September 9, 2019, Executive Committee meeting minutes, and the August 15, 2019, Wellness Committee meeting minutes.  
**ACTION:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Jupka **Moved**, Griffith **Second**.)
- IV. **REFLECTION: COMMISSIONER BETTIE RODGERS:** Commissioner Rodgers provided a reflection entitled "Death, Change, and the Intersection of Honoring Oneself." Sometimes we give so much of ourselves to others that we forget about ourselves. It's important to take care of you

first so that you can help take care of others. Commissioner Rodgers reviewed ten key ways to honor yourself. She challenged everyone to honor themselves and ended her reflection by saying, "it is healthy to let go."

**V. PRESENTATION: "2020 CENSUS INFORMATION" – TASHA JENKNS, PARTNERSHIP SPECIALIST, US CENSUS BUREAU, MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN:** Tasha Jenkins presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 2020 Census and its history, an overview of the 2020 decennial updates, and the Community Partnership Engagement program. One of the uses of census data is for allocating federal funding. The Census Bureau would like the Commission to form a Complete Count Committee and appoint a census liaison. When the count committee has identified a meeting date, a Census representative will attend the meeting to work with the group. For more information, see the attached 2020 Census PowerPoint presentation.

**VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: HOLLY DAVIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Holly Davis provided a brief report on the following:

- Included the November COA will be a draft of the Envisioning Senior Centers report, and meeting attendees will receive a copy of the draft at the November COA meeting. There will be an agenda item devoted to this topic.
- The County Executive's Office is interviewing two Commission candidates, and if they are appointed, they will go before the County Board in the next cycle for final approval.
- County Executive Chris Abele announced that he would not run for County Executive next year.
- Ms. Davis announced that she has resigned from MCDA, and her last day is Wednesday, November 27, 2019. MCDA is creating a transition plan to implement until next year's County Executive election.

**VII. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: CHAIR BARBARA WYATT SIBLEY**

At the November COA meeting, the Commission will discuss whether to hold off the COA officer elections until February 2020. Commissioner's Wyatt Sibley and Knueppel shared what they discussed at the Greater Milwaukee's "On the Table" meeting that they attended. The meeting discussions were about low-income seniors, and financial planning and assistance, funds, programs, and services for seniors. Ms. Wyatt Sibley provided statistics on the future senior population, and she discussed the need for legislation for honoring seniors. Commissioner Jupka provided information on the importance of attending an "On the Table" meeting.

There was a motion on the floor to send a letter of support for state legislation that has been proposed to implement the Fair Deal for Milwaukee County and mail the letter to the appropriate legislators.

**MOTION:** To send a letter of support for state legislation that has been proposed to implement the Fair Deal for Milwaukee County

**ACTION:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Griffith **Moved**, Jupka **Second**.)

The Medical College of Wisconsin and Froedtert Hospital is conducting a research study titled, "All of Us." The College/hospital needs one million people to participate in the study. The study will be on health issues and identifying proper medical treatment for all different types of people. Contact the Medical College of Wisconsin if you are interested in participating.

A motion was made for the Commission to write a resolution/citation for Holly Davis's term of service.

**MOTION:** For the Commission to write a resolution in honor of the work that Holly Davis has done as Executive Director for MCDA and the Commission on Aging.

**ACTION:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent IZARD **Moved**, Griffith **Second**.)

**VIII. COUNTY SUPERVISOR REPORT: JASON HAAS, COUNTY SUPERVISOR: No Report**

**IX. COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE REPORT: SCHINIKA FITCH, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS: No Report.**

**X. STATE UPDATES AND REPORT: NEAL MINOGUE, OLDER AMERICANS ACT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR, STATE OFFICE: No Report**

**XI. COMMISSION ON AGING ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING UPCOMING EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS**

**Department and public comment regarding upcoming events, activities, and opportunities for older adults:**

- Chair Wyatt Sibley announced that Reuben Harpole's wife, Mildred Harpole, who was a pillar in the Milwaukee community, passed away.
- Chair Wyatt Sibley thanked Holly Davis for the service she has given to the Commission on Aging and MCDA. Mrs. Wyatt Sibley wished her well in her new assignment.
- Neil Minogue mentioned that there is a great sadness that Holly Davis is leaving MCDA. Mr. Minogue has seen MCDA grow since Ms. Davis has been the Executive Director for the Department on Aging. With Ms. Davis's leadership, grit, and will to make change happen, she has navigated through friction, change, and challenge. MCDA has survived and is now thriving because of the work Ms. Davis has done. On behalf of the State Office on Aging and the Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources, we would like to say, "Job well done."
- Also, the Chair reviewed the meeting packet contents regarding announcements with the meeting attendees.
- Jill Knight announced that the Milwaukee County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame Nomination forms are now available for next year's election. The nomination forms were added to the meeting packets. If anyone knows of someone they would like to nominate, please fill out the form and return it to Ms. Knight.

**XII. ACTION ITEM: COMMISSION ON AGING BYLAWS OF THE COMMISSION ON AGING - DISCUSSION AND REVIEW – ARTICLE V**

**Bylaws Article V, Section 4 Terms of Office for Standing Committee Members, Subsection A**  
"Does the COA wish to keep Article V, Section 4, Subsection A as is? Yes or no. The Bylaw Workgroup recommended Yes. Terms of office for non-standing committee members shall be one calendar year.

**Motion:** The Commission voted Yes, to keep Article V, Section 4, Subsection A as is.

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Abston-Coleman **Moved**, Byington **Second**.)

**Bylaws Article V, Section 4, Terms of Office for Standing Committee Members, Subsection B**  
“Does the COA wish to keep Article V, Section 4, Subsection B as is? Yes or No?”

**Motion:** Commission voted Yes, to keep Article V, Section 4, Subsection B as is

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Abston-Coleman **Moved**, Jupka **Second**.)

**Bylaws Article VI, Section 1, Regular Meetings of the Commission, Subsection A:** No action was taken

**Bylaws Article VI, Section 1, Regular Meetings of the Commission, Subsection B**

Corporation Counsel suggested the Commission should include the Wisconsin's Open meetings law Statute §§ 19.81-89 that refers to when the COA is supposed to meet and include that notices of meetings will be emailed.

**Motion:** The Commission voted to accept Corporation Counsel's recommendation on this article with the exception to exclude the word “in” which is shown before the word pursuant

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Griffith **Moved**, Abston-Coleman **Second**.)

**Bylaws Article VI, Section 2, Special Meetings of the Commission**

Does the COA wish to add “email” as a form of communicating COA meetings? **YES** or **NO**? The Commission decided to change the word email to electronic communication and accept this change.

**Motion:** The Commission voted to keep the article as is with the exception to add electronic communication to a form of the meeting notice

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Abston-Coleman **Moved**, Griffith **Second**.)

**Bylaws Article VI, Section 3. Commission Committee Meetings, Subsection B**

Does the COA wish to add “email” as a form of communicating COA meetings? **YES** or **NO**? The Commission decided to change the word email to electronic communication and accept this change

**Motion:** The Commission voted to keep the article as is with the exception to add electronic communication to a form of the meeting notice

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Griffith **Moved**, Byington **Second**.)

**Bylaws Article VI, Section 4, Convening of Meetings, Subsection A**

Corporation Counsel suggested the Commission to include the following: A “quorum” of the Commission shall consist of more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting membership.

**Motion:** The Commission voted to accept Corporation Counsels suggestion as is.

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Jupka **Moved**, Abston-Coleman **Second**.)

**Bylaws Article VI, Section 5, Order of Business – No Action Taken**

**Bylaws Article VI, Section 6: Rules of Order**

Corporation Counsel suggested the Commission to include the following: The Parliamentary Rules to be followed shall be Roberts Rules of Order, Revised.

**Motion:** The Commission voted to accept Corporation Counsels suggestion as is.

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Jupka **Moved**, Abston-Coleman **Second**.)

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**Bylaws Article VII, Section 1: Authority**

**Motion:** To hold over this article until the November 8, 2019, COA meeting.

**Action:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Jupka **Moved**, Abston-Coleman **Second**.)

**XIII. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

The next Commission on Aging meeting is at 9 a.m. on Friday, November 8, 2019, at Marcia Coggs Human Services Center, Conference Room 104, 1220 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee, WI 53205.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vonda Nyang", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Vonda Nyang  
Executive Assistant