



MILWAUKEE COUNTY
Department on Aging

**Milwaukee County Commission on Aging
Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2019**

Commissioners Present

Chair Barbara Wyatt Sibley
Vice Chair Fred Knueppel
Sharon Abston-Coleman, PhD
John K. Griffith
Jason Haas, *Milwaukee County Supervisor*
Richmond Izard
Debra Jupka
Bettie A. Rodgers, J.D.

Commissioners Excused

Ronald Byington
Secretary Maria Castrejon-Pérez
César Pabón
Charles Vang
Pastor Johnny C. White, Jr.

Milwaukee County Staff Present

Holly Davis, *Executive Director*
Jon Janowski, *Director of Administration*
Andy Bethke
Dan Idzikowski
Vonda Nyang
Lorie O'Connor
Bekki Schmitt

Guests Present

Casper Green, *Advocacy Committee*
Christine Carter, *LGBT Center*
Judith Troestler,
Hervie Lewis
Willie Lovelace
Mama Rose

- I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:** Chair Barbara Wyatt Sibley welcomed the meeting attendees. The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m. at Clinton Rose Senior Center, 3045 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Milwaukee, WI 53212. A moment of silence was given to acknowledge Commissioner Patsy Delgado who passed away last month. Richmond Izard, one of COA's new commissioners, was introduced to the Commission.
- II. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 28, 2019, COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES:** There are two corrections for the meeting minutes: page 2, item number 5, the word "Life" in the header is missing the letter "i." The second correction is on page 5, item 12, fourth motion, the second sentence is missing the word "number." The sentence should read "due to the total number of Commissioners."

MOTION: To approve the June 28, 2019, Commission on Aging meeting minutes as amended.
ACTION: Motion carried unanimously (Griffith **Moved**, Jupka **Second**.)

III. CONSENT AGENDA COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL REPORTS:

- A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (June 13, 2019) *See Executive Committee meeting minutes for June 13, 2019, (mailed and distributed) for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions.*
- B. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES** (June 3, 2019): *See Advocacy Committee meeting minutes for June 3, 2019, (mailed and distributed) for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions*

C. SERVICE DELIVERY COMMITTEE (June 18, 2019) *See Service Delivery Committee meeting minutes for June 18, 2019, (mailed and distributed) for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions.*

MOTION: To approve the Consent Agenda for the June 13, 2019, Executive Committee meeting minutes, the June 3, 2019, Advocacy Committee meeting minutes, and the June 13, 2019, Service Delivery Committee meeting minutes.

ACTION: Motion carried unanimously (Jupka **Moved**, Knueppel **Second**.)

IV. REFLECTION: COMMISSIONER DEBRA JUPKA: Commissioner Jupka's reflection focused on the late Commissioner Patsy Delgado. Commissioner Delgado was like E.F. Hutton. When E.F. Hutton spoke, people listened. Ms. Delgado strongly believed in legacy and saw it as the gift that you pay forward. She felt that we all should say thank you, good job, and "attaboy" more often to each other.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: HOLLY DAVIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

- **Milwaukee County's Department on Aging 2020 Budget:** Milwaukee County Department on Aging's (MCDA) 2020 budget request was for \$21 million with a tax-levy decrease of \$180,000. The department must make budget cuts to meet the tax-levy decrease. One of the areas impacted by the budget cuts is senior center programming, which was cut by \$20,000. A vacant clerical position in the administrative office was expunged to use those funds. Ms. Davis reported that the department was able to increase contract funds by \$300,000. The dementia care, transportation, and Legal Action contracts will receive a portion of the \$300,000. Ms. Davis will present details on the \$180,000 in budget cuts at the next COA meeting.
- **Unison Contracts Reassignments:** MCDA has reassigned all Unison contracts to new organizations. Ms. Davis provided an update from her meeting with ERAS, United Way, and the Bader Foundation regarding the Neighborhood Outreach Program's future. Ms. Davis reported that Neighborhood Outreach in July alone provided over 4,200 rides and serviced 598 people. There are four open offices and two closed offices due to low non-profit contributions and not enough staff. Both closed offices, Sherman Park Northwest and Garfield Peace, are in the central community.
- **MCDA's 2020 Contracts & Services:** The Executive Director approved an extension of most 2020 contract submissions to avoid senior services from being disrupted. Ms. Davis reassured the Commission that MCDA will monitor their contracts to ensure their programs run smoothly for seniors throughout the year.
- **Department Staffing Update:** The department filled two key management positions: The new ARC manager is Rachel Kaehny-Frank, who worked in the department as the information and assistance program coordinator; and the new senior dining program coordinator is Gaylyn Reske.
- **Ad Campaign for the Evidence-Based Program – "Stepping On":** MCDA is launching an ad campaign for its evidence-based program "Stepping On" entitled "Stay on Your Feet, Stay in Your Home." The purpose of the ad campaign is to increase participation in these programs within the African American population. The "Stay on Your Feet, Stay in Your Home" ad campaign will be advertised in the following local publications: the Milwaukee Courier, the

Milwaukee Community Journal, the Milwaukee Times, the Black Woman 50 Plus, the Journal Sentinel, and the TV Weekly ("Red Book").

VI. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: CHAIR BARBARA WYATT SIBLEY

- **Succession Planning Update:** A Commission candidate has completed their interview process and will go before the County Board in September for approval. The Chair and Commission are in the process of identifying six candidates to serve on the Commission sometime in January or February 2020 due to six commissioner's terms that are expiring in January 2020.
- **Fair Deal:** The Chair encouraged Commissioners to review the "Fair Deal" material and to consider offering their support for the "Fair Deal" policy initiative.
- **Senior Center Envisioning Sessions:** September 3, 2019, is the last envisioning session for the public to provide their future visions of Milwaukee County's senior centers. The Chairperson urged all Commissioners who have not attended a session to participate.
- **Senior Center Advisory Councils:** The Chair strongly encouraged Commissioners to attend a Senior Center Advisory Council meeting to learn more about what's happening in their community. In the future, it would be ideal to have a representative from the Senior Center Advisory Councils serving on the Commission on Aging.
- **Commissioner Name Tags:** The County implemented new marketing guidelines that MCDA is now employing at the department level. Therefore, the department is redesigning the Commission name tags and expects to issue them at the next COA meeting.
- **2020 Census:** The Chair wants MCDA to assist seniors with completing their 2020 Census information to ensure that the Census Bureau will receive them. A community member expressed her desire to volunteer for this project. Further discussion on the 2020 Census project is on hold until a future COA meeting.

VII. COUNTY SUPERVISOR REPORT: JASON HAAS, COUNTY SUPERVISOR

- **2020 County Budget:** All departments have submitted their proposed 2020 budgets, which are scheduled to be reviewed in the first half of October by the County Board. The County Board is now in August recess.
- **Mitchell Park and Domes:** The Mitchell Park Dome Task Force completed its recommendations for Mitchell Park and its domes, which will be presented to the County Board next month. Their recommendations highlight possibilities with job training in urban acculture, horticulture, and culinary fields. There will be a public hearing starting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 18 at the Domes annex to discuss the revitalization of the entire Mitchell Park area. All are welcome to attend.

VIII. COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE REPORT: SCHINIKA FITCH, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- **Update on Commission Recruitment:** Ms. Fitch reiterated the Chair's report on Commission recruitment. Both the Commission and the County Executive's Office are working diligently to find replacements for the six commissioners whose terms end as of January 2020.

IX. STATE UPDATES AND REPORT: NEAL MINOGUE, OLDER AMERICANS ACT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR, STATE OFFICE: No updates.

X. 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:

- The Chair announced the Executive Committee meeting in September was rescheduled for Monday, September 9, 2019, and will meet at Marcia Coggs starting at 1 p.m. Also, she reviewed the upcoming events flyer provided in the meeting packets (see attachments).
- A meeting attendee announced a presentation on domestic violence in adult relationships would take place at Clinton Rose Senior Center on October 17, 2019, starting at 12:15 p.m.

XI. ACTION ITEM: COMMISSION ON AGING BYLAWS OF THE COMMISSION ON AGING - DISCUSSION AND REVIEW – ARTICLE V: The Chair explained how the bylaw process review would be conducted and took the following actions:

Bylaws Article V, Section 2.B

The Commission voted on requiring at least 50 percent of the members of each standing committee be Commission on Aging members. The Bylaws Workgroup recommended against it. The Commission agreed with the Bylaws Workgroup's recommendation. Therefore, the wording will remain the same: "Each standing committee may nominate non-Commission or auxiliary members to serve on their committee."

Moved Abston Coleman, **Second** Jupka

Bylaws Article V, Section 2.C

The Commission voted on whether to keep Article V, Section 2.C., "All Committee members may vote" as is, **YES** or **NO**. The Bylaws Workgroup recommendation was **YES**. The Commission agreed with the workgroup recommendation that "All Committee members may vote."

Moved: Jupka, **Second** Griffith

Bylaws Article V, Section 2.D, Question 1

The Commission voted on whether to require that the nominees for non-COA standing committee members be reviewed and approved by the full COA or by the chair and vice-chair of the standing committee. The Bylaws Workgroup's recommendation was for the chair and vice-chair of the standing committee to review and approve nominees. The Commission agreed with the Bylaws Workgroup's recommendation.

Moved: Griffith, **Second** Abston-Coleman

Bylaws Article V, Section 2.D, Question 2 1:01

Does the COA want to delete the requirement that the names and biological sketches of standing committee nominees be presented to the full COA? Yes or No? NOTE: The Bylaws Workgroup recommended Yes. A discussion ensued on whether there should be a requirement for committee nominees to submit their resumes to the full Commission for consideration to serve on a standing committee.

Bylaws Article V, Section 2.D, Question 1

After additional discussion, the Commission voted to withdraw their previous vote on Bylaws Article V, Section 2.D, Question 1.

Moved: Griffith, **Second** Abston-Coleman

Bylaws Article V, Section 2. D, Question 1

Next, the Commission took up Article V, Section 2. D, Question 1 again to discuss whether to require that nominees for non-COA standing committee members be reviewed and approved by the full COA or by the chair and vice-chair of the standing committee. The Commission voted against the Bylaws Workgroup recommendation and decided that the nominees for non-Commission committee members must be reviewed and approved by the chair and vice-chair of the Executive Committee, and then must receive final approval from the Commission.

Moved: Abston-Coleman, **Second** Griffith/Knueppel

XII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

The next Commission on Aging meeting is at 9 a.m. on Friday, September 27, 2019, at Marcia Coggs Human Services Center, Conference Room 104, 1220 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee, WI 53205.

Respectfully submitted,



Vonda Nyang
Executive Assistant