



**Milwaukee County Commission on Aging  
Meeting Minutes  
May 24, 2019**

**Commissioners Present**

Fred Knueppel, *Vice Chair*  
Sharon Abston-Coleman, *PhD*  
Ronald Byington  
Patsy J. Delgado  
John K. Griffith  
Debra Jupka  
Jordan Luhr  
Elizabeth Meyer-Arnold, *R.N., M.S.*  
César Pabón  
Bettie A. Rodgers, *J.D.*  
Pastor Johnny C. White, Jr.

**Commissioners Excused**

Jason Haas, *Milwaukee County Supervisor*  
Charles Vang  
Barbara Wyatt Sibley, *Chair*

**Commissioners Not Present**

Maria Castrejon-Pérez, *Secretary*

**Milwaukee County Staff Present**

Holly Davis, *Executive Director*

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

Jon Janowski, *Director of Administration*  
Andy Bethke  
Dan Idzikowski  
Jill Knight  
Ayame Metzger  
Vonda Nyang  
Lorie O'Connor  
Bekki Schmitt

**Guests Present**

Barbara Bechtel, *Advocacy Committee*  
Christine Carter, *LGBT Community Center*  
Martha Collins, *Hunger Task Force*  
Stefan Dostanic, *Milwaukee County Clerk's Office*  
Matthew Hayes, *Legal Action of WI - Senior Law*  
Vevette Hill-Nwagbaraocha, *Serving Older Adults*  
Renée LaFleur, *Indian Council*  
Erika Lewis, *WI Dept of Transportation*  
Alyna Romain, *LGBT Community Center*  
Judith Troestler, *UAW Local 438 Retirees Chapter*  
Song Xiong-Buck, *Milwaukee Christian Center*  
Susan Yee, *Milwaukee Christian Center*

**I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:**

Vice Chair, Fred Knueppel, welcomed the meeting attendees. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., at Marcia Coggs Human Services Center, 1220 W. Vliet Street.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENT OF "GWEN T. JACKSON DAY" IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY:**

The Commission acknowledged former Commissioner Gwen T. Jackson, who recently passed away. Mr. Knueppel read a proclamation from Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele which honored her years of volunteer service and marked her birthday, May 28, 2019, as Gwen T. Jackson Day. In addition to serving on the Commission on Aging for many years, Ms. Jackson was a long-time volunteer at the Red Cross, the United Way, and the Urban League.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 26, 2019, COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** To approve the April 26, 2019, Commission on Aging meeting minutes.

**ACTION:** Motion carried unanimously (Abston-Coleman **Moved**, Jupka **Second**).

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**A. ADVISORY COUNCIL (February 14, 2019)** See *Advisory Council meeting minutes for February 14, 2019, (mailed and distributed)* for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions.

**B. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE (April 1, 2019)** See *Advocacy Committee meeting minutes for April 1, 2019, (mailed and distributed)* for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions.

**MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda for the February 14, 2019, Advisory Council meeting minutes, the April 1, 2019, Advocacy Committee meeting minutes, and the April 29, 2019, Executive Committee meeting minutes.

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

**V. REFLECTION: COMMISSIONER, FRED KNUEPPEL**

Commissioner Knueppel gave a reflection on the seasons changing, being thankful for being alive, and serving on the Commission.

**VI. PRESENTATION – “REAL ID – “WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW”: ERIKA LEWIS, WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.**

Erika Lewis from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation provided an overview of the Real ID. As of October 1, 2020, US citizens who plan to fly domestically, enter any military base or governmental buildings will need to have a “Real ID,” to pass any TSA Check Points. Ms. Lewis reviewed information on how to obtain a Real ID at a Service Center. (See flyer for more information, flyers were dispersed at the meeting).

**VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: UPDATE ON AGING BYLAWS, FRED KNUEPPEL, VICE CHAIR:**

The discussion on the Commission on Aging Bylaws has been tabled until the June 28, 2019, COA meeting. The Chair asked the Commission and meeting attendees to read over Corporation Counsel’s “Decision Guide” for the Milwaukee County Commission on Aging, (“COA”) and the proposed changes to Article V of the COA Bylaws before the June meeting to be prepared for the discussion.

**VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: HOLLY DAVIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

➤ **Update on Unison Contracts:** Ms. Davis provided updates on the following former Unison contracts: Vital Voices is the new service provider for the Telephone Reassurance contract. Services began April 16, 2019. The Neighborhood Outreach Program contract, which is now run by Eras Senior Network, began service delivery in the beginning of April (2019). Since that time, the Neighborhood Outreach Program has served approximately 709 older adults through limited services which concentrate on transportation to medical appointments and to grocery stores and emergency food outlets. Eras is holding various listening sessions throughout Milwaukee County to solicit feedback from the community, which will inform them on community needs. If you are interested in attending, register online on the Eras website or fill out a questionnaire if you are unable to attend. (Eras listening session information was distributed at the meeting).

- **2020 Budget Update:** The 2020 Department on Aging Requested Budget documents are due to the County Executive's Office by July 15, 2019. Ms. Davis discussed MCDA's target tax levy this year, which is \$248,000 less than the 2019 Adopted Budget level (MCDA can make cuts in the following four areas: Personnel, meals, elder abuse, and senior programming). Unless the State changes how it shares revenue, each County Budget cycle will be tough.
- **Retirement Announcement:** Ms. Davis announced that Beth Monrial Zatarski, Director of the Senior Dining Program, will be retiring as of July 1, 2019. Ms. Davis thanked Ms. Monrial Zatarski for her diligence, dedication, and years of service. She will be greatly missed by everyone.

**IX. STATE UPDATES AND REPORT: NEAL MINOGUE, OLDER AMERICANS ACT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR, STATE OFFICE - NO REPORT**

**X. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: FRED KNUEPPEL, VICE CHAIR**

- **Commissioner Field Trips/Announcement:** There will be a Commissioner field trip to Lapham Park on June 12, 2019. There are two spaces available for any Commissioners that are interested. Please contact Commissioner Jupka for more information.
- **Advisory Council Sessions:** The MCDA Advisory Council is holding a public meeting on Monday, June 10, 2019, to discuss the future of the Milwaukee County Senior Centers. The Advisory Council will be sponsoring a series of public community conversations to receive input over the summer. After the input sessions, the Advisory Council will compile the data from the public and provide a report with their recommendations to the Commission on Aging in the fall.
- **Advocacy Day in Madison, WI:** Dan Idzikowski, MCDA Program & Policy Coordinator gave a brief update on Advocacy Day in Madison. Forty people attended from Milwaukee County's Commission on Aging group, and all spoke with their legislators and representatives.

**XI. COUNTY SUPERVISOR REPORT: JASON HAAS, COUNTY SUPERVISOR – NO REPORT**

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

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

- **Executive Committee Meeting Date Change:** The Executive Committee will meet on June 6, 2019, from 2:00pm – 3:30pm., at Marcia Coggs Human Services Building, Conference Room 104, 1220 W. Vliet St.
- **E-Notify, Milwaukee County Meeting Notices:** If you would like to receive meeting notices on any County meetings, you can sign up for E-Notify. Simply visit our website, scroll to the bottom of the page, and look for the section titled CONNECT in

white letters on the right-hand side. Click on the first option 'Sign Up for News Alerts'.

- **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:** There will be a Memory Café Ribbon Cutting ceremony on June 10, 2019, at Meyer's Restaurant. For more information, please visit MCDA's website.

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

- **Celebrating Gwen T. Jackson:** On Tuesday, May 28 (Gwen's Birthday) the Red Cross will be celebrating Gwen T. Jackson at the King Drive Commons Gallery, from 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm. They will share stories about Gwen and discuss opportunities for others to volunteer for Red Cross.
- **Hunger Task Force – Senior Farmers Market Vouchers:** Hunger Task Force will be accepting applications in July for the \$25 dollar "Farmers Market Vouchers". For more information, please refer to the flyer (Flyers were distributed at the meeting and a copy can be found on CLIC, attached to this meeting's agenda).
- **PrideFest:** PrideFest will take place at the Henry W. Maier Festival Park the first weekend of June. For more information, visit PrideFest's website at [www.pridefest.com](http://www.pridefest.com)

**XIII. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

The next Commission on Aging meeting is at **9:00 a.m.** on **Friday, June 28, 2019**, at **Marcia Coggs Human Services Building, Conference Room 104, 1220 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee, WI 53205.**

Respectfully submitted,



Vonda Nyang  
Executive Assistant