



MILWAUKEE COUNTY
Department on Aging

Milwaukee County Commission on Aging
Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2019

Commissioners Present

Barbara Wyatt Sibley, *Chair*
Fred Knueppel, *Vice Chair*
Sharon Abston-Coleman, PhD
Ronald Byington
Patsy J. Delgado
John K. Griffith
Jason Haas, *Milwaukee County Supervisor*
Jordan Luhr
César Pabón
Bettie A. Rodgers, J.D.
Charles Vang

Commissioners Excused

Debra Jupka
Pastor Johnny C. White, Jr.

Commissioners Not Present

Maria Castrejon-Pérez, *Secretary*

Milwaukee County Staff Present

Holly Davis, *Executive Director*
Jon Janowski, *Director of Administration*
Andy Bethke

Milwaukee County Staff Present...Continued

Dan Idzikowski
Jill Knight
Beth Monrial Zatarski
Vonda Nyang
Lorie O'Connor
Bekki Schmitt

Guests Present

Christine Carter, *LGBT Center*
Mardi Charnitz, *SOA*
Martha Collins, *Hunger Task Force*
Ann Cook, *Wilson Park Senior Center*
Casper Green, *Advocacy Committee*
Elizabeth Hipp
Theodore Lipscomb, *Milwaukee County Board Chairman*
Dain Maddox
Gary Mikolajczyk, *Advocacy Committee*
Niedra Norat
Harold Oenig
Stacey Vojvodich, *SOA*
Ramona Dicks-Williams, *DOS*
Cathy Wood, *SOA*

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:

Chair, Barbara Wyatt Sibley, welcomed the meeting attendees. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., at Marcia Coggs Human Services Center, Conference Room 104, 1220 W. Vliet Street.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 24, 2019, COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the May 24, 2019, Commission on Aging meeting minutes.

ACTION: **MOTION** carried unanimously (Haas **Moved**, Delgado **Second**).

III. CONSENT AGENDA COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (April 29, 2019) See *Executive Committee meeting minutes for April 29, 2019, (mailed and distributed)* for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions.

B. SERVICE DELIVERY COMMITTEE (January 15, 2019, and March 19, 2019) See *Service Delivery Committee meeting minutes for January 15, 2019, and March 19, 2019, (mailed and distributed)* for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions.

MOTION: To approve the Consent Agenda for the April 29, 2019, Executive Committee meeting minutes, and the **January 15, 2019, and March 19, 2019**, Service Delivery Committee meeting minutes.

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

- IV. **REFLECTION: PATSY DELGADO, COMMISSIONER:** Commissioner Delgado gave a humorous reflection on “How do we define love?” There are many ways that a person can define love, and one of them is being a volunteer. Volunteers give up their time to serve others by living in and giving to their community. Commissioner Delgado ended her reflection with a few thoughts about love.
- V. **ENHANCED TRAINING AND SERVICES TO END ABUSE IN LATER LIFE GRANT PROJECT: RAMONA DICKS-WILLIAMS, MILWAUKEE COORDINATOR:** Ms. Ramona Williams, Milwaukee Coordinator for End Abuse in Later Life, State of WI Justice Department, provided a brief description of a grant that the Department of Justice had recently awarded to four Wisconsin counties. The funding focuses on offering training to the police as well as D.A., cross-training for Elder Abuse, DV workers, the Aging Network, and also for services to seniors to end abuse. The Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life Grant Project ends September 2021. Ms. Williams asked the Commission to participate in a survey to provide their feedback. If you fear that a senior is experiencing Elder Abuse, call the Elder Abuse Hotline at 289-6874.
- VI. **PRESENTATION AND Q & A WITH COMMISSION ON AGING MEMEBERS – THEODORE LIPSCOMB, SR., CHAIR, MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:** Milwaukee County is working on strengthening their relationship with the state, including state legislators to work together on creating a formula of distribution that will provide adequate funding for Milwaukee County, and/or provide the tools needed to raise a suitable amount of revenue.
- Milwaukee County’s tax levy is approximately \$300 million, and the County budget has a current gap of \$28 million. The State mandates that Milwaukee County provide many services, and it has imposed tax levy limits on the County which has restrained the growth of the County’s levy. The state funding that the County receives isn’t enough to keep up with inflation nor the County’s deficit; therefore, the County has no other recourse than to make service reductions. The County is hosting a few Town Hall meetings to educate and engage citizens so that they can identify the issues that the County faces. To find more information on the town hall meetings go to the county’s website at www.Milwaukee.gov/fairdeal.
- VII. **ACTION ITEM:** The Advocacy Committee was unable to act on a few of their June agenda items that need immediate action before their next meeting. Therefore, the Advocacy Committee is requesting the Commission to act on those three items today.

- A. The first item is the Miller Park Stadium tax, which is scheduled to expire in 2019. The Advocacy Committee would like to request approval of the continuation of the stadium tax to fund the maintenance of Milwaukee County’s parks and senior centers which would provide Milwaukee County with \$10 million in revenue. **Resolution in Support of Increased Funding for Milwaukee Parks, Including Senior Centers:** A request was made to put marks on the resolution before its passage. A discussion ensued regarding the Miller Park Stadium tax being politically unpopular with some non-Milwaukee County legislators, and what is the Commission’s plan in regarding support of this resolution.

MOTION: To send a letter to State Legislators requesting a resolution to continue the Miller Park Stadium tax, and have those funds set aside to be used for maintenance of Milwaukee County parks and senior centers

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

- B. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES** (May 6, 2019): See Advocacy Committee meeting minutes for May 6, 2019 (mailed and distributed) *for a comprehensive explanation of topic/issue discussions.*

MOTION: To approve the May 6, 2019, Advocacy Committee meeting minutes.

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

- C. The second item is a federal issue. The Trump Administration recently released a proposed rule to make significant changes to the scope of Section 1557 in the Landmark Affordable Care Act (ACA), to remove explicit nondiscrimination protections for the LGBT people by eliminating sexual orientation and gender identity from other HHS regulations. This proposed rule would also weaken civil rights protections for patients and requirements for providing services to individuals with limited English proficiency.

The last item is a federal provision. The Trump Administration and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) are proposing to change the federal poverty line by revising the Census Bureau's poverty levels with using a lower measurement of inflation which will cause millions of people to lose eligibility for healthcare (Medicaid and Medicare), food assistance, and other programs that help lower-income citizens to meet necessities.

MOTION: To approve sending a letter opposing the changes to Section 1557, and to send a letter opposing the changes to the poverty levels.

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

- B. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES.** A Motion was taken to reconsider the approval of the May 6, 2019 Advocacy Committee meeting minutes.

MOTION: To reconsider the approval of the May 6, 2019, Advocacy Committee meeting minutes.

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

- B. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FINAL:** For May 6, 2019, meeting minutes are to be accepted based upon two corrections to be made to the May 6, 2019, Advocacy Committee meeting minutes. The first correction is a misspelled name found on Page 2, Section 4, Courts, Guardianship & Elder Justice, after the Motion, Discussion, and Action section. It is the second paragraph, line 4. Ms. Donna Adams should be Donna James. Second, the header of the minutes date is incorrect and needs to be changed to May 6, 2019.

MOTION: To approve the May 6, 2019, Advocacy Committee meeting minutes, based upon the two corrections that have been made.

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

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

- MCDA's 2020 requested budget has been finalized, and it will be submitted to County Administration on Monday. Ms. Davis will provide a budget presentation to the Commission at the August COA meeting. Senior Dining Program Coordinator Beth Monrial Zatarski's last day will be next week Monday as she is retiring. Ms. Davis presented Ms. Monrial Zatarski with a proclamation for her eleven years of outstanding service with Milwaukee County Department on Aging. Ms. Davis as well as the Commission expressed their appreciation for all of Ms. Monrial Zatarski's efforts to feed and support Milwaukee's County's seniors.

IX. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: BARBARA WYATT SIBLEY, CHAIR

- **Succession Planning:** The Executive Committee has been working diligently on a succession plan for the Commission, and they have identified 25 possible candidates which the COA Chair will be interviewing in the upcoming weeks.
- **Advisory Council Sessions:** The Advisory Council is sponsoring a series of public community conversations (Listening Sessions) for the public to provide their visions of the future for Milwaukee County's senior centers. The listening session dates have been included in today's meeting packets which is listed under the Current Events handout.
- Commissioner Jordan Luhr has submitted his resignation which takes effect as of August 1, 2019. Mr. Luhr has served on the Commission as well as being the Chair of the Service Delivery Committee. The Commission and Ms. Davis both thanked him for his service on the Commission as well as being Chair on the Service Delivery Committee.

X. COUNTY SUPERVISOR REPORT: JASON HAAS, COUNTY SUPERVISOR

- County Supervisor Haas discussed how Milwaukee County's Parks had been significantly impacted by a lifeguard shortage. The Parks Department is challenged with providing a competitive salary for lifeguards and working within budget cuts within the County. Milwaukee County has had to close a few of their pools and reduce hours of operation for the pools that are open this summer.

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

- Ms. Fitch provided an update on succession planning for Commissioners. Ms. Fitch reported that in the past 30 days two Commissioners have resigned. Ms. Fitch, along with the Commission, is working hard to ensure there is a full Commission. There is a Commissioner candidate who is scheduled to go before the County Board in July, and the County Board will not be meeting in August; therefore, another potential Commissioner would not be able to be appointed and confirmed until the September cycle.

XII. STATE UPDATES AND REPORT: NEAL MINOGUE, OLDER AMERICANS ACT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR, STATE OFFICE

- Mr. Minogue announced that the State of Wisconsin's Health and Human Services Title VI Program Director has retired, and they are looking for a replacement. Also, Mr. Minogue gave accolades to Beth Monrial Zatarski for her service.

XIII. 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 all upcoming events which were listed under the Current Events handout, in addition to event flyers (See attachments).

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

The Commission reviewed Article V of the bylaws under the advisement of Corporation Counsel. The Chair announced how the process of the bylaw review would be conducted at today's meeting on Article V Commission Committees.

Article V, "Commission Committees," Section 1 "Standing Committees". A vote was taken to accept this article without changes.

MOTION: To accept Article V, Section 1, "Standing Committees" without changes.

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

The Commission discussed the proposed change to have at least one Commissioner serve on a Standing Committee. Article V. Commission Committees, Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," Subsection A. All standing committees shall consist of at least one Commission members.

MOTION: To accept the proposed change to Article V. Commission Committees, Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," to have at least one Commissioner serve on a standing Committee.

ACTION: Motion carried unanimously (Griffith **Moved**, Vang **Second**).

The Commission discussed if the COA Chair and Vice-Chair should appoint each standing committee member to a standing Committee. Article V. Commission Committees, Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," Subsection D. Nominees for non-Commission committee members shall be reviewed and approved by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committees. A vote was taken to accept the proposed change that the Commission Chair and Vice-Chair will appoint members to each standing committee.

MOTION: To accept the proposed change to Article V "Commission Committees," Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," Subsection D. "Nominees for non-Commission committee members shall be reviewed and approved by the Commission Chair and Vice-Chair.

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

Article V "Commission Committees," Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," Subsection A. Due to the total of Commissioners on Standing Committees, the Commission discussed changing the number of Commissioners to serve on each standing Committee to be at least two Commission members instead of one. A vote was taken to accept this proposed change.

MOTION: To accept Article V. Commission Committees, Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," Subsection A All standing committees shall consist of at least two Commission members.

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

The Commission discussed Article V. Commission Committees, Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," Subsection E. Every standing committee shall have a chairperson who

shall be appointed under Article IV, Section 4, A-2 of these By-Laws or elected by members of the standing committee. There was a proposed change that each standing committee should have a Commissioner as the Chair of a standing committee. A vote was taken to accept the proposed change.

MOTION: To accept the proposed change that every standing committee have a commissioner as a chairperson.

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

The Commission will revisit Article V. Commission Committees, Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," and Article V. Commission Committees, Section 2 "Composition of Standing Committees," Section B at the next Commission meeting.

XV. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:04pm

The next Commission on Aging meeting is at **9:00am** on **Friday, August 23, 2019**, at **Clinton Rose Senior Center**, 3045 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Dr. Jr., Milwaukee, WI 53212.

Respectfully submitted,



Vonda Nyang
Executive Assistant