



MILWAUKEE COUNTY
Department on Aging

Milwaukee County Commission on Aging Executive Committee Meeting May 3, 2021

A quorum of Executive Committee members convened virtually on Monday, May 3, 2021. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting, which was hosted on Microsoft Teams with videoconference and conference call options (computer or telephone).

Secretary John Griffith took roll call and confirmed attendance by calling each person invited to the meeting.

Members Present:

Bettie Rodgers, *Chairwoman*
John Griffith, *Secretary*
Elliot Moeser, *Legislative Officer*

Milwaukee County Staff Present:

Jon Janowski, *Interim Director, MCDA*
Schinika Fitch, *County Executive's Office*

Members Excused

Amber Miller, *Vice Chair*

Attendees from the Public

Debra Jupka

MINUTES

- I. Chairwoman Rodgers called the meeting to order at 10:47 a.m.
- II. **Review and approval of the March 1, 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes**
Minutes to be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting.
MOTION: To approve March 1, 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes.
ACTION: No action was taken.
- III. **Discussion and Action Items:**
 - A. **Discussion and possible action:**
 - a) **Update on Commission on Aging vacancies:**
Schinika Fitch, Director of Community Relations, provided status updates on Commissioner appointments. The County Board had reformulated its Health and Human Needs Committee, which is now titled "Health Equity Human Needs and Strategic Planning Committee". The Committee is chaired by County Supervisor Felecia Martin. Due to the reinventing process of the "Health Equity Human Needs and Strategic Planning Committee," the review of new Commission appointments was postponed. The Health Equity Human Needs and Strategic Planning Committee will review Cherie Swanson's appointment at their May

cycle meeting, and if the Committee approves her, she will be reviewed lastly by the County Board. One Commission candidate (Leonor Rosas) is waiting for an interview from the County Executive's Office.

Currently, there are five Commission vacancies; if Ms. Swanson is appointed, it will leave the Commission with four vacancies to fill to have a full Commission. Ms. Fitch stated she is working hard to have a full Commission hopefully by the end of July 2021. Ms. Fitch asked the Executive Committee to forward any potential candidates they want considered to be a Commissioner. Currently, they are looking for someone in the healthcare field and individuals of Asian-American descent. Interim Director Jon Janowski reviewed the ordinance for Commission candidates and the procedural steps for submitting new Commission candidates.

B. Action Items:

- a) **Setting the May 25, 2021 COA agenda:** The Executive Committee set the May 25, 2021 Commission on Aging agenda. The Executive Committee expressed several concerns about DHHS's proposed organizational charts. The Commission would like more time to review DHHS's charts before the COA meeting, so they asked Interim Director Jon Janowski to have the organizational charts emailed separately from the COA email notification. The Commission discussed visiting the new restaurant pilot dining sites to show support; however, the Executive Committee will have to revisit this initiative later because all dining site locations are still closed for in-person dining.

Also briefly discussed was state legislators turning down over \$1 billion in Medicaid funding for the expansion of Badger Care and if the Commission should act. The Executive Committee agreed this is something for the Advocacy Committee to take on. Commissioner Griffith asked about the new IT program for low-income seniors that the government is offering – the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Emergency Broadband Benefit program. Director Janowski stated he would find information on the program and forward it to the Commission.

- IV. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Griffith and seconded by Commissioner Rodgers to adjourn the meeting.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2021, at 11 a.m. (virtual and audio) on Microsoft Teams and a teleconference phone.

Respectfully submitted,

Vonda Nyang
Executive Assistant