



MILWAUKEE COUNTY  
Department on Aging

## Milwaukee County Commission on Aging Executive Committee Meeting October 4, 2021

A quorum of Executive Committee members convened virtually on Monday, October 4, 2021. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting hosted on Microsoft Teams with video conference and conference call options (computer or telephone).

Chairwoman Rodgers took roll call and confirmed attendance by calling each person invited to the meeting.

### **Commission Members Present:**

Bettie Rodgers, *Chairwoman*  
Amber Miller, *Vice Chair*  
John Griffith, *Secretary*  
Elliot Moeser, *Legislative Officer*

### **Milwaukee County Staff Present:**

Jon Janowski, *Interim Director, DHHS, DOA*

### **Milwaukee County Staff Present continued...**

Schinika Fitch, *County Executive's Office*  
Vonda Nyang, *DHHS, Division on Aging*

### **Attendees from the Public**

Debra Jupka, *ADRC Governing Board*

## MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chairwoman Rodgers called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.
- II. **Review and approve the September 13, 2021, Executive Committee meeting minutes.**

MOTION: To approve the September 13, 2021, Executive Committee meeting minutes.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (A. Miller Moved, Rodgers Second)

- III. **Discussion and Action Items:**

- A. Discussion Items:**

- a) **Update on Commission on Aging Vacancies:** Schinika Fitch, Director of Community Relations for the County Executive's Office, provided an update on Commission appointments. There are still two open

Commissioner appointments that the County Executive Office wants to fill: someone from the Asian-American Pacific Islanders (APPI) community and someone from the health care field. Director Janowski and Chair Rodgers stated that they might have a candidate for consideration that meets the health care field criteria. If the candidates are interested, they will forward their information to Ms. Fitch.

Commissioner Miller stated she also has a potential candidate; however, they don't fit the current criteria. Ms. Fitch recommended that potential Commission candidates be introduced to the Commission on Aging's (COA's) committees and councils to see if they would be interested in becoming a member before being considered to hold a Commissioner appointment. The Executive Committee agreed with Ms. Fitch and will ask the candidates if they would like to attend and become a member of a committee or Council. The Executive Committee is tracking potential candidates' information for future open appointments.

Ms. Fitch informed the Executive Committee that the County Executive presented his 2022 Recommended Budget last Friday to the County Board. She stated she would be available to discuss the next steps with the County Executive's budget at the next meeting.

**b) Schedule of presentations for remaining COA meetings in 2021:** The Executive Committee discussed extending the November COA meeting to accommodate the presentations they want presented before the year's end. The Executive Committee decided to ask the Commission for a vote at the October meeting to extend the November meeting an extra 30 minutes to accommodate the presentations.

- **October COA meeting:** There are two presentations for the October Commission on Aging meeting; Jeff Roman from the Office on African American Affairs will provide updates on ARPA Task Force activities, and the state's Department of Health Services will do a short presentation on the new vendor providing Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) services.

**c) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Older Americans Act Allocations and Next Steps:** Director Janowski stated that the County and the DHHS Division on Aging had received its initial ARPA allocations, but as of yet DHHS has not received a formal contract or guidance on the expenditure of funds. The County has until December 2024 to spend its ARPA/Older Americans Act funds. He suggested that the Commission should wait until their January 2022 meeting to have an ARPA presentation from staff regarding service options for spending these dollars. The Executive

Committee agreed to wait to discuss having a presentation at the January 2022 COA meeting.

- d) **2022 Commission on Aging Officer Elections and Standing Committee Appointments Timeline and Next steps:** The Executive Committee decided to wait until January 2022 to have their COA officer elections, and the new Chair's standing committee appointments will follow those elections.
- e) **Miscellaneous:** A Commissioner requested that Director Janowski provide information and maps related to the Milwaukee County Board's redistricting process to the Commission on Aging and its network. Mr. Janowski said he would get that information to the Commission members.

Also discussed were ideas for fundraising for the Division, and whether to continue having virtual meetings or in-person meetings. The majority of the Executive Committee decided to continue having virtual meetings due to the pandemic and risk to seniors' health.

**B. Action Items:**

- a) **Setting the October 29, 2021 Commission on Aging meeting agenda:** The Executive Committee discussed and approved moving the October 22 COA meeting to October 29, 2021, to accommodate the Service Delivery Committee's process for approving DHHS vendor contracts before the Commission meeting. The Division on Aging's vendor contracts need to be reviewed and approved by the Commission at the October COA meeting. The Executive Committee meeting was moved from October 25 to November 1, 2021, at 11 a.m.

- IV. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Chairwoman Rodgers and seconded by Commissioner A. Miller to adjourn the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2021, at 11 a.m. (virtual and audio) on Microsoft Teams and a teleconference phone.

Respectfully submitted,

Vonda Nyang  
Executive Assistant