

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING**

Meeting minutes from Thursday, February 24, 2022, held virtually on Microsoft Teams.

**Committee Members Present:**

- Kofi Impraim (Chair)
- Dianne Williams (Vice Chair)
- Margaret Baltimore
- Shaunda Bellamy
- Claudia Dickens
- Gwendolyn Drummond
- Deidre Jackson
- Gretchen Lofland, Ed. D
- Kym Taylor
- Vanecia Davis

**Committee members absent:**

Erica Noble (Secretary)  
Eddimae Tisdale

**Department of Family Services Staff:**

Joann Carnathan, Unit Manager, Aging and Disabilities Services Division  
Megan Vila, Aging and Disabilities Services Division

**Guests:**

Loretta Woodward Veney, Author  
Veronica Steele - Chair, Commission for Individuals with Disabilities  
Tiffany Harkless - Vice Chair, Commission for Individuals with Disabilities

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kofi Impraim at 9:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone and each member introduced themselves. Chair Impraim welcomed Ms. Veney and the attendees from the Commission for Individuals with Disabilities.

Because Ms. Veney had to leave early, Chair Impraim introduced her again and she proceeded with her presentation. Ms. Veney is a nationally recognized author. She discussed her book, "Being My Mom's Mom." This book discusses her mother's 16-year battle with dementia. In it she focusses on 1) Forgiveness; 2) Patience; 3) Preparation; 4) Financial and Legal Planning; 5) Humor; 6) Focus; and 7) Have no Expectations. Chair Impraim and Vice Chair Dianne Williams thanked Ms. Veney for her wonderful presentation, as did Ms. Kym Taylor and Ms. Deidre Jackson. Ms. Veney also briefly discussed her other two books, "Refreshment for the Caregiver's Spirit" and "A Coloring Book." Ms. Veney said that her mother has passed, and her memorial service will be held on February 25, 2022. Condolences were given Ms. Veney.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

The Committee reviewed the October 2021, November 2021, and January 2022 minutes.

- No edits were made to the October 2021 minutes.
- On the November 2021 minutes Ms. Taylor questioned why the categories Health Department and United Seniors of Maryland (USM) were on the agenda. Mrs. Dickens advised that previous minutes always had these categories, and she hadn't been advised to remove them. Vice Chair Williams said that a recommendation would be needed to the Acting Director to remove the Health Department update. Ms. Taylor then made a motion that United Seniors of Maryland be removed from future agendas. After some discussion it was advised that one last attempt be made to reach out to USM before its removal. Ms. Taylor rescinded her motion.
- On the January 2022 minutes under New Business, the next meeting date should be corrected to read March 24, 2022, rather than March 4, 2022.

Ms. Jackson motioned for adoption of the minutes with said corrections; Ms. Taylor seconded the motion.

### **Aging Report:**

In Ms. Sylvester's absence, the Aging Report was deferred to the March 2022 meeting.

### **Old Business:**

Vice Chair Williams thanked the members from the Commission on Individuals with Disabilities for being with us today and thanked Ms. Bellamy for letting her know they would be attending. The Vice Chair advised that she'd held pre-planning discussions with the Chairs of Communications and Public Awareness, Strategic Planning and Legislative Committees concerning their presentations. She also said that they had discussed the upcoming Nominations process, website, and social media.

### **New Business:**

**Communications and Public Awareness Committee** – Dr. Lofland discussed the following planned activities: Diversity Session with Seniors and the steps being taken to get this accomplished – this event is scheduled for April 28, 2022; Elder Law Day which will be on May 2, 2022; and Elder Abuse Day scheduled for June 2022.

**Legislative Committee** – Ms. Taylor reported on the committee's goals of: collaboration with the National Active and Retired Federal Employees and the Elder Law Section of the American Bar. She advised that the hope had been to have the President Pro Tem of the Senate Melony Griffith and Todd Dernoga, District 1

Representative speak at one of the ACOA meetings, but approval hadn't been received from the County Executive's Office. She then discussed several bills in the Maryland House and Senate: 1) Property tax credit for seniors, 2) Medicaid Bill, 3) Escalating minimum wage bill, 4) Family Medical Leave Insurance, 5) Waiver-Waitlist Program reduction by 50% in 2024, 6) Accessibility of Health care that upon admittance to a health facility there was an advance directive.

**Strategic Planning Committee** – Ms. Jackson reported that the ACOA brochure had been updated but it hasn't been submitted yet for review; she will submit today and have the electronic presentation completed by the March 2022 meeting. She advised that the headshots will be sent out for members' review this week. The Retreat discussion language will be submitted in a draft proposal for review. The Retreat will either be in person or virtual but isn't being planned for hybrid attendance. Ms. Jackson will also send out speaker recommendations for the Retreat. Per the guidelines there must be three (3) people on the Nominating Committee and right now there are only two. Members must be in place by the March 2022 meeting. Ms. Jackson will reach out to get one more person on Nominating and report back to the Chair and Vice Chair.

### **Announcements:**

Several ACOA members had to leave early to attend another meeting. Vice Chair Williams thanked Ms. Carnathan and Ms. Vila for a new background scene for ACOA and shared it with all members present. A determination must be made on when/what/which background to use. In the meantime, the Vice Chair asked that it be sent to all members. Several members are up for re-appointment and five (5) new members are being added to the ACOA. Chair Impraim reminded everyone that Ethics Training will be held at the March 2022 meeting. He also asked Ms. Bellamy to send flowers to Ms. Veney and let members know the cost.

**Health Department** – did not have an update.

**United Seniors of Maryland** – did not have an update

### **Adjournment**

Chair Impraim asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Jackson motioned for adjournment and Ms. Taylor seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging will be Thursday, March 24, 2022, on the Microsoft Teams platform.

**Minutes submitted by Claudia Dickens**