MINUTES
COMMISSION ON AGING (COA)
Bykota Senior Center
Classroom A, First Floor
Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Present: Cyndy Allen, Virginia Billian, Frances Bond, Don Gabriel (via phone), Bill Lambert, Roy Moreland, Mabel Murray, Sheila Roman, Marlene Siegel, Melody Truffer, Cathy Ward

Absent: Eula Marshall, Sherita Thomas

Staff: Phyllis Myers, Laura Riley

I. The Meeting Came to Order at 9:10 a.m.

II. Announcements

Cyndy congratulated Laura on her new position as the new Director of BCDA; Laura has worked with BCDA for 33 years; she has had various positions within the department—Center Connection Specialist, Assistant Center Director, Center Director, Regional Manager, Manager of Guardianship, Chief of Individual and Family Services and Deputy Director

III. Approval of the minutes

• Minutes approved as submitted

IV. Old Business

• No old business

V. New Business

New Meeting Date

• Due to a scheduling conflict with the Director of BCDA, the Commission decided the new meeting date will be the second Tuesday of the month; same time and location; the February meeting will be on February 12; Phyllis will send everyone an updated meeting schedule
Commission on Aging Committees

- Cyndy wants the Commission to work on a welcoming binder for newly appointed COA members. She wants it to include COA committees and description of each. She asked that each Commission on Aging Committee Chair write a small paragraph about the function of their committee, highlighting what the committee has accomplished if applicable.

Handout – The GEMS: Brain Change Model

- Melody wanted each member to have a copy of an article by Occupational Therapist Teepa Snow regarding the use of gems in reference to different stages of dementia; Phyllis will e-mail the article to each COA member.

Healthy People 2030

- Increase the proportion of older adults with reduced physical or cognitive function who engage in light, moderate or vigorous leisure-time physical activities
- Reduce the rate of pressure ulcer-related hospital admissions among older adults
- Reduce the rate of emergency department visits due to falls among older adults
- Reduce the proportion of older adults who use inappropriate medications
- Reduce the rate of admissions for diabetes among older adults
- Reduce the rate of hospital admissions for pneumonia among older adults
- Reduce the rate of hospital admissions for urinary tract infections among older adults
USM Forum

- This year’s United Seniors of Maryland Forum is being held on March 20; Phyllis will send an e-mail to find out who will be attending
- Cathy will continue to represent the COA on the State Legislative Committee with Elizabeth Weglein

Handout – Annual Senior Center Report

VI. Director’s Updates

- Laura encouraged COA members to attend one of the County Executive’s Town Hall Meetings
- The County is working on the 2020 budget and is asking each department to take a one percent cut and think of creative ways to bring in more revenue
- Laura sent requests to have Sheila and Roy reappointed and the two vacancies on the COA to be filled
- Larry Simmons, former assistant to the late County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, is now the Assistant Center Director at the Cockeysville Senior Center
- BCDA’s Deputy Director position was posted on the Baltimore County Office of Human Resources website on Monday, January 14
- There are 7 transition workgroups for the new County Administration; six out of the seven groups identified transportation in Baltimore County as an issue
- BCDA received a $120,000 grant from the Wesley Foundation for minor home repairs and renovations
- Currently, Federal and State funding is stable; BCDA will be reaching out to more foundations for grant money
- Bykota Senior Center received a $70,000 check from an estate of a former member

VII. Meeting Adjourned at 10:05 a.m.