

Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: January 26, 2022

Start Time: 10:00am

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Carol Wheatley

Topic	Discussion
Attendance – COAD members in bold	Dan Andersen , Larry Burbank, Patricia Dodd , Dave Drezner, Lauren Hickey , Brian Keseling , Bobbie Lawrence, Diann Linton, Jim McCarron , Rich Ottone, Commissioner Rothstein, Celene Steckel, Cheryl Steinbacher , Gina Valentine, Leslie Wagner, Tiffany Warner, Carol Wheatley , Lou Yeager, Marisa Zaccagini
Acronyms	AAA - Area Agency on Aging, ADA - American’s w/Disabilities Act, ADL - Activities of Daily Living, AIP – Aging in Place, BCC – Board of County Commissioners, BOAD - Bureau of Aging and Disabilities, COAD – Commission on Aging and Disabilities, CDSMP – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, CTS – Carroll Transit System, CIL - Center for Independent Living, DSS – Department of Social Services, FFP – Federal Financial Participation, HSP – Human Services Programs of Carroll County, LTAC – Long Term Advisory Council, LTCOP - Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, M4A - Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging, MAP - Maryland Access Point, MASCC – Mt. Airy Senior & Community Center, MDH - Maryland Department of Health, MDoA – Maryland Department of Aging, MFP -Money Follows the Person, MOU – Memorandum of Understanding, MWOA - Medicaid Waiver for Older Adults, NCSCC – North Carroll Senior & Community Center, NED - Non-Elderly Disabled, NFCSP - National Family Caregiver Support Program, OAA - Older Americans Act, OHQCQ - Office of Health Care Quality, SALS - Senior Assisted Living Subsidy program, SCSCC – South Carroll Senior & Community Center, SHIP - State Health Insurance Assistance Program, SIP - Senior Inclusion Program, SMP - Senior Medicare Patrol, SPDAP - Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program, TSCC – Taneytown Senior & Community Center, VTV – Village to Village, WEAAD – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, WSCC – Westminster Senior & Community Center.
Call to Order/Introductions - Jim McCarron	Jim McCarron called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Rich Ottone introduced new member Patricia Dodd, who joined the SIP program in August 2021. She will be representing individuals with developmental disabilities.
Establishment of a Quorum – Jim McCarron	A quorum was established with eight members present.
Approval of Minutes – Jim McCarron	Jim requested approval of the November 2021 minutes as submitted. Lauren Hickey motioned and it was seconded by Cheryl Steinbacher. With a vote, all were in favor to approve as submitted.
Commissioner’s Comments – Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proud of the activities that COAD does in representing the community. • COVID is still here, and the hospital is challenged with the numbers. If there are any questions regarding testing and vaccinations, please reach out to the health department.

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Ed Rothstein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is happy to hear that BOAD and COAD is moving forward in the AARP Age Friendly initiative.
Bureau of Aging & Disabilities	<p><u>Title III American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding – Gina Valentine</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Rescue Plan Act – funding to support Title III • Meeting on 1/31/2022 with MDoA to review budget and narrative proposal. • IIIB – Aging Services – marketing, supplies and equipment to keep senior centers and administrative offices clean and safe; hire a consultant to take the lead for AARP initiative. • IIIC – Congregate Meals and Home Delivered Meals – expand both programs to reach more people. Home delivered meals offered more in the community and utilizing local restaurants for congregate meals. • IIID – Evidence-Based Health Promotion – training of leaders and payment for volunteer leaders. • IIIE – Family Caregiver Support – care packages and one time only payments. • Additional \$500,000 to be spent by 9/2024. <p><u>BOAD 50th Anniversary Celebration – Gina Valentine</u></p> <p>We will hold a 50th Anniversary celebration on April 27, 2022, outside at Westminster Senior & Community Center and BOAD. More details to come.</p> <p><u>Senior Centers Update – Rich Ottone</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open and operating with county’s masking mandate implemented. Very little pushback. Seeing an increase in number of people returning to centers. Decreased over the holidays and beginning of January. Very minimal disruption to classes and services. • Grab and go meals at all five centers in addition to congregate meals. Number of people who can participate in congregate meals are lower than pre-pandemic due to social distancing. MDoA asked centers to work with and consult with the health department about continuing to offer congregate meals. We understand importance of hot meals, socialization. Limited number at each table. Health department gave tips to keep people safe which we already were doing. • We have not stopped any services at centers even with recent surge. We are seeing other county members looking to play pickle ball. • SIP was able to offer employment to another full-time position. Fully staffed as of 2/17. Number of attendees

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- almost at capacity. Very active in community. Looking at expanding again, in the community.

- Celene attended the Allied Agency meeting and they spoke of the impact COVID has had on their agencies. Very difficult time with staffing, and two agencies closed residential homes. The number of services they can provide and number of people they can serve have decreased because of staffing. They are struggling even after increasing their pay rates. This is a statewide issue. Dan Andersen mentioned creating a pipeline coming out of McDaniel to assist with the staffing shortages.

Program Updates – Bobbie Lawrence

- BOAD is fulling operational with in-person appointments available We accept walk-ins, but appointments are preferred so we can ensure staff are available to assist individuals seeking services. Masks are required.
- Debbie Frame, MAP Supervisor, retired after 28 years. Nicole Ranoull, formerly SHIP Coordinator, is now the MAP Supervisor as of 1/6/2022.
- Open positions include F/T SHIP Coordinator, P/T Waiver Program Specialist, P/T Vaccination Outreach Position (funded through CARES Act – increase vaccination amongst older adults), P/T Coordinator of Case Management in MAP, F/T Guardianship Coordinator.
- Nicole is still providing the Transition to Medicare classes. SHIP program saw 460 individuals during Open Enrollment.
- Veteran Services Program is still assisting veterans and their families needing resources to include health care benefits, preventing homelessness, utility assistance, and more.
- Chuck from the Freedom Center will begin working at BOAD one day a week.
- Ashley Weyer is still developing the relationship with the hospital and doing level one screens.
- The Vaccination Outreach position will work with the health department on the vaccine messaging. While 96-98% of older adults have the vaccination, those having the booster is much lower. This includes people with disabilities.
- Caregivers and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren are still holding monthly support groups at BOAD. The programs also provide a \$500 (annual) grant for qualifying caregivers of older adults and grandparents raising grandchildren under 18 years of age.
- Unaccompanied Veterans will be interred in local Veteran Cemeteries on 1/28 and 2/4. Leslie will forward the

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	<p>details to the group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Veterans Round Up event has been scheduled for 7/9 at the Farm Museum. Planning is in the beginning stages and more information will be sent out once details are confirmed.
<p>Old Business</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>New Business – JimMcCarron</p>	<p><u>Rec & Parks Update – Gina Valentine</u> Recreation and Parks hired a Part Time Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. Her name is Ann Marie Foster and she can be reached at afoster@carrollcountymd.gov or 410-386-2103. Ann Marie will serve as the point of contact for any Adaptive Recreation programs or issues.</p> <p><u>Current COAD Openings</u> Openings include Veteran’s representation, and the municipalities of Mt. Airy and Finksburg. A local veteran has applied, and another has reached out showing interest. If you know of anyone who may be interested in serving, please reach out to Leslie.</p> <p><u>AARP Age Friendly Community Initiative – Gina Valentine</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOAD is going before the BOCC with Jim and Carol, to provide a presentation on the initiative and request a letter of support. • Once a letter of commitment is received from the BOCC, they will submit an application to AARP. • In the first 1-2 years, a needs assessment and focus groups will be held. This will determine what eight domains of livability the community would like to focus. • Other counties participating include College Park, Montgomery, Baltimore, and Howard. • Eight domains are housing, outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, communication and information, civic participation and employment, respect and social inclusion, health services and community supports, and social participation. • Years 3-4 is implementation and transition from planning to developing strategies. • Year 5 is a review and revise for a continual cycle of improvements. • Will provide more information at our next COAD meeting. This will be launched at the 50th Anniversary Celebration on April 27th. • The Carroll Together sub-committee will begin meeting again. Frequency discussed was every other month on

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	<p>the off months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt. Airy municipality is interested in doing the age friendly initiative and has been working the last 6-8 months on planning. They are working to get a letter of commitment from the mayor. <p><u>Alliance of Commissions on Disabilities Meeting – Carol Wheatley</u> Met the first week of January. There was representation from around the state as well as a delegate and senator. There was an update on COVID and the Maryland Insurance Administration. They have been waiving penalties for refills. There has been a massive deployment of assistive technology to vaccination sites around the state. This is to make the sites more inclusive to those with disabilities, i.e., video remote of ASL and foreign language interpreters. The Maryland Department of Disabilities Director is serving on the Vaccination Team. FEMA is reimbursing funeral expenses for those who have died due to COVID. There is no age limit, and it was discussed about notifying local funeral directors. Information on the funeral reimbursement will be forwarded to the list serv. State Plan for Independent Living is up for renewal and the council is soliciting new members. You can apply through the Governor’s Office. Gina and Carol are on the email distribution list for any upcoming meeting information. Brian Keseling would like to be added.</p> <p><u>Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Re-Use Program – Carol Wheatley</u> MDoA operates a DME Re-Use program with the main warehouse in Prince George’s County and several satellite locations across the state. Carroll and Frederick counties do not have locations. They accept donations of used DME and will clean, sterilize, and store. It is run by a Physical Therapist. They also assess, determine appropriate DME, fit for the individual and provide training on use. Can be short term or long term and is a free service. Since January 2022, they have collected 7,400 DME’s and diverted 130,468 cubic feet of DME from landfills. They have a power point and video that provides more information and Leslie will forward to the list serv. Some satellite locations are connected with landfills, senior centers, and Goodwill. A shed would be needed to store. There is a possibility of using Habitat for Humanity’s Re-Store. Lions Club does a lot of collection and distribution. South Carroll Lions Club uses storage at the fire house. They could be a strong participant in this program.</p>
<p>Area Reports – COADMmembers</p>	<p><u>Manchester – Cheryl Steinbacher</u> Interested in participating with booth space at Hampstead Day on May 21st?</p> <p><u>Westminster – Carol Wheatley</u> Appreciation to health department for being receptive to suggestions regarding COVID-19 and vaccinations.</p>

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	<p><u>New Windsor/Union Bridge – Lauren Hickey</u> There is a possibility for a \$3.7 million grant for water treatment. New Windsor and Carroll County Bureau of Resource Management are working together on stormwater management and wetlands. There have been a lot of complaints regarding high water bills, topping as high as \$600-\$1,000/quarter, and this is a concern especially for older adults on fixed incomes. Commissioner Rothstein advised that the \$85 million capital projects reported in the Carroll County Times represented a full list of possible projects and not the completed list of actual funded projects. He advised to let your delegation know what is important to you and your community. It is all about communication. Carroll Community College and Springdale Prep have partnered to offer GED classes for residents.</p> <p><u>Celene Steckel</u> Added the FEMA link and application in the chat. Advised that the county has purchased the Penn Mar property (the old CHANGE building). It will house the homeless Family Shelter. An RFP for design and engineering is being written. Some BOAD offices will move to that building as well.</p> <p><u>Commissioner Rothstein</u> Carroll County lost fireman Bobby Jones to COVID will in the line of duty. There will be a full honor ceremony this Sunday, January 30th at Westminster High School.</p> <p><u>Dan Andersen, At-Large</u> McDaniel College will begin offering quarterly webinars and trainings for the community. He welcomes ideas for presentations.</p>
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>Next meeting is Wednesday, March 23, 2022, at 10am. Meeting information will be provided prior to then.</p>