



Minutes of Regular Meeting
May 23, 2023
Manassas Park Community Center, 99 Adams
Street, Manassas Park, VA 20111

Present: Mickey Feeley, Coles District; Secretary
Nancy West, Occoquan District; Chair
Sandra Dawson, Woodbridge District; Vice Chair
Sarah Henry, Director, Prince William Area Agency on Aging
Eileen Fowler Thrall, Potomac District
Barbara Reese, President, Friends of Senior Center Manassas

Absent: Brian Fulton, Neabsco District
Diana Paguaga, Representative-At-Large
Joe Diaz, Brentsville District
Alleen Bagley, President, Friends of Senior Center Woodbridge

Visitors: Yvette Ragland, Civic Engagement Coordinator, Town of Dumfries, VA
Max Paguaga, Son of Diana Paguaga

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and Pledge of Allegiance recited.

2. **Citizens Time:** No report.

3. **Presentation:** Sarah Henry led a discussion and brainstorming session to address volunteer shortages that are down nationally as a result of the pandemic.

a. Although the Meals on Wheels program is currently the largest volunteer program, there are other important programs in critical need of volunteers.

b. There was a suggestion to break the program into manageable parts, focusing on what volunteer capacity levels the AAA can currently manage.

c. Other suggestions included expanded outreach to technology students and teachers for craft work, music, etc.

d. Paying for service is an option but not preferred. Volunteerism is about making a positive impact on the community and having a sense of self-worth.

4. **Administrative Items:** Mickey provided a review of all documents contained in each attendee's folder. Nancy West asked for a motion to approve the April 2023 COA minutes.

a. Sandra Dawson made a motion to approve the minutes, Eileen Thrall seconded the motion, with all present members affirming. The April 2023 COA minutes are approved.

b. Sandra Dawson made a motion to approve the COA 2024 meeting schedule, Eileen Thrall seconded the motion with all present members affirming. The 2024 COA schedule is approved.

5. **Director's Time:** Sarah Henry provided updates on ongoing programs/projects/issues:

a. A Heath Aid from her staff retired and the replacement is expected to start on 1 June.

b. The Senior Center's Virtual Center for Active Adults continues to go well and there is a hope that other jurisdictions or Senior Centers will use the services.

c. The Manassas and Woodbridge Senior Center Friends Groups will participating in the PWC Gives Campaign.

d. Her office will participate in the Cool Care program that is funded by Dominion Energy.

e. A Community Services Fair will be held on 6 June at the Potomac Library in Woodbridge.

6. **Chairpersons time:** Nancy West stated there were no updates for this meeting.

7. **Old Business:** No old business.

8. **Standing and Informational Committee Reports:**

a. Housing: Sandra Dawson reported that the Housing Board meets on 25 May is working hard to lease up all the vouchers they presently have. Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers are increasing and are now up to 75.

b. Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN): Mickey reported the 2023 NVAN Legislative Breakfast date is scheduled for 20 September at the Country Club of Fairfax. The NVAN annual legislative and budgetary platform is being developed and several potential keynote speakers are under consideration.

c. Friends of the Senior Center Woodbridge: No report.

d. Friends of the Senior Center Manassas: Barbara Reese reported that the Center's garden is planted and an animal fence will be installed soon. There was a recent meet-and-greet with approximately 12 persons attending. Dance parties continue.

9. **New Business:** No new business.

10. Commission Member Announcements: Eileen asked Sarah if she was aware of what was going on with the unused rescue squad building in Dumfries. Sarah said the town of Dumfries has reached out to the AAA to discuss senior programming.

10. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Original Signed

27 June 2023

Approved: _____

Listing of Handouts in Record Copy (available upon request to the Secretary):

1. Agenda
2. COA Minutes – 25 April 2023
3. Executive Committee Minutes – 16 May 2023
4. Commission on Aging Meeting Schedule with Topics for 2023
6. COA Local Government Appointee & Prince William Area Members Roster