

Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: May 13, 2020

Start Time: 11:00 am

Location: Virtual with Go To Meeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Dan Andersen

Topic	Discussion
Attendance	Dan Andersen, Amy Baker, Dan Bowler, Lisa Carroll, Doc Doxzen, David Drezner, Art Frotton, Gail Gannon, Lauren Hickey, Diann Linton, Jim McCarron, Rich Ottone, Heather Robb, Commissioner Ed Rothstein, Cheryl Steinbacher, Celene Steckel, Leslie Wagner, Carol Wheatley, Lou Yeager, Marisa Zaccagnini
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, MDH - Maryland Department of Health , FFP – Federal Financial Participation, LTAC – Long Term Advisory Council, LTCO - Long Term Care Ombudsman, M4A - Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging, MAP - Maryland Access Point, MFP -Money Follows the Person, MOU – Memorandum of Understanding, MWOA - Medicaid Waiver for Older Adults, NED - Non-Elderly Disabled, NFCSP - National Family Caregiver Support Program, OAA - Older Americans Act, OHCQ - Office of Health Care Quality, SALGHS - Senior Assisted Living Group House Subsidy program, SHIP - State Health Insurance Program, SIP - Senior Inclusion Program, SMP - Senior Medicare Patrol, SPDAP - Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program, VTV – Village to Village, WEAAD – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.
Call to Order/Introductions - Jim McCarron	Jim McCarron called the meeting to order and everyone announced themselves. Cheryl Steinbacher, the new Commission member for Manchester/Hampstead, was re-introduced.
Commissioner's Comments – Commissioner Ed Rothstein	Commissioner Rothstein shared the county's desire to move forward in reopening and their support of the small business community. Governor Hogan will be having a press conference today at 5pm. He shared that in February, Carroll's unemployment rate was 2.8% and currently we are experiencing between 15 to 20%. South Carroll's Community Organizations Against Disaster (SCCOAD) is hosting pop-up food pantries. Carroll County government has a web page that list food resources. Please view and share. The Budget is open for comment so please share needs and remarks until May 19 th . The pandemic has made this budget season very challenging.
Establishment of a Quorum – Jim McCarron	A quorum was established with eleven members present.

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<p>Approval of Minutes – Jim McCarron</p>	<p>Jim requested approval of the March 2020 minutes as submitted. Dan Andersen motioned 1st and Doc Doxzen 2nd for approval. All were in favor to approve as submitted.</p>
<p>COVID-19 Update – Celene Steckel</p>	<p><u>BOAD’s Current Operations –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are on-site but the building is closed to the public. The main line (410-386-3800) is still being answered. • The food resources webpage link will be shared with the group. • Shelf stable food is available at BOAD. Call the main line to request assistance. Delivery can be made if unable to pick up. • Gail Gannon shared that the Ombudsman program is still present without physically being in the facilities. They have calls to the facility managers on a regular basis as well as conduct virtual visits and phone calls with residents. They have also received calls from families with concerns, mainly due to failure of facilities to notify them on a timely basis. The definition of “essential” worker has been an issue at facilities since they are not allowing nonessential visits. Residents who have tested positive and those who’s test status is still unknown are being moved without residents having a choice. This resident right has been waived during the pandemic. The Ombudsman program is working closely with Marisa at the health department as they share information on local facilities and leadership contacts. <p><u>Senior Center Status –</u> Rich reported that Senior Centers are still closed, and managers are contacting members by telephone. Needs that are identified are being met, i.e. food. The Mt. Airy Senior Center Site Council met in their cars in the parking lot to discuss their center’s closure and provide support to their members. Options for congregate meals once reopened may include grab and go meals or refurbishing the centers to support social distancing. A shout out to the custodians as they have been providing cleaning and disinfecting services to other county buildings. As soon as BOAD receives word about centers reopening Commission members will be contacted.</p> <p><u>Utilization of WSC during COVID-19 -</u> Westminster Senior & Community Center has reverted to a day shelter for street homeless to conduct housing searches, charge electronic devices, get a meal, take a shower, do laundry or be provided financial assistance resources. They are open daily from 11am to 4pm and will cease operations when the center opens to members.</p> <p><u>Food Resources –</u> With additional funding 25 slots have been made available to provide home delivered meals through Meals on Wheels. In addition, plans are underway for a pilot program at a local senior housing complex to provide home delivered meals to fifty individuals.</p> <p><u>Reopening Discussions –</u> No buildings are open at this point. We are waiting to hear from the Governor. It is anticipated that the senior centers may be the last to open. Doc asked that the site councils be given this information as soon as possible so</p>

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	<p>they can be part of the reopening discussions for the senior centers. Celene asked that commission members inform BOAD of any gaps in services they may hear about or see.</p> <p><u>Seniors on the Go Expo Update</u> – Leslie reported that a determination will be made later this week, although probably unlikely that the Expo will be held this year.</p>
<p>Bureau of Aging & Disabilities Update – Celene Steckel</p>	<p><u>Area Plan Update</u> – Gina will be given more information soon. This is an update year. Jim McCarron will need to review and sign.</p> <p><u>2020 Census</u> – Carroll County is #1 in Maryland for their response rate which is 74%. They will begin targeting street homeless soon. If you would like any flyers or printed materials please let Leslie know. It was suggested to have flyers at the various pop up pantries around the county.</p> <p><u>Congregate and Home Delivered Meals</u> – Discussed under Senior Center Status above.</p> <p><u>Senior Call Check</u> – This MDoA program is a free daily robo call system that calls participants at a predetermined time. Due to the COVID crisis, they have expanded the program whereas registered participants will receive a live call once a week where questions about COVID are answered and referrals to needed resources are made.</p> <p><u>Additional Resources for Existing Programs</u> – BOAD has received additional funding under the CARES Act. These funds can be used for caregiver needs, meals and the Ombudsman program. The Bureau is going before the Board of County Commissioners tomorrow to receive approval. They have had to become creative on how the additional funding will be used such as for transportation, additional caregiver support and the creation of a new pilot program on nutrition with home delivered meals at a local senior housing complex.</p> <p><u>Shared Position with Carroll Hospital’s Care Transformation Organization</u> – This new position will be shared between Lifebridge Carroll Hospital and BOAD. This co-trained and co-located position will be funded with an MDoA grant that has been extended until 2021. Finalizing of the contract is ongoing but has been delayed due to the COVID crisis.</p> <p><u>Senior Inclusion Program</u> – Leslie Thomas and Tiffany Warner have been calling participants and checking in with them. They have had one test positive but asymptomatic. DDA has submitted a waiver to CMS for flexibility in billing. Currently they can bill for a full day (6 hours) if they work with the individual for at least an hour.</p> <p><u>Staffing Updates</u> – There is a hiring freeze in the County. Current vacancies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veterans Services Coordination – Francine Hahn and Gina are covering • Aging & Disabilities Supervisor – Gina’s previous position

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<p>Area Reports – COAD Members</p>	<p><u>Taneytown (Jim McCarron)</u> – Pleased with how his community is looking after their own. The Lutheran church is providing meals as well as a pop-up pantry.</p> <p><u>Mt. Airy (Diann Linton)</u> – Referrals have been made to exercise classes being held virtually through Frederick County. She has had requests regarding assistance with taxes. HSP/VITA is still providing tax assistance remotely. Celene to send her that information.</p> <p><u>Manchester (Doc Doxzen)</u> – They have two food pantry locations which are being utilized well. He sees a lot of walking at Cape Horn park and within the various neighborhoods.</p> <p><u>Eldersburg (Heather Robb)</u> – There is a need for more online exercise classes or activities.</p> <p><u>New Windsor/Union Bridge (Lauren Hickey)</u> – Has seen more pop-up food pantries in her area. There have been mask distributions and thanks to the Carroll COVID Mask Makers Group for providing them. There are a lot of hills and not many parks in her communities. She does see there is a difficulty with the aging population using ZOOM.</p> <p><u>Carroll County Rec & Parks (Lisa Carroll)</u> – They are working on virtual classes and Facebook Live activities. The department has a limited program staff and instructors are considered nonessential. When in Phase 1 there is the possibility of outside classes with social distancing. Commissioner Rothstein would like to know if volunteers can be used.</p> <p><u>Commissioner Rothstein</u> – We are in a unique position to take care of our neighbors. He is interested in hearing about any gaps in services and opportunities, especially exercise. He encouraged continued use of Social Media.</p> <p><u>Mental & Behavioral Health (Amy Baker)</u> – The Health Department website has many resources for older adults, and she encourages everyone to refer to their webpage. It is critical that stress management support be given to staff of long-term care facilities.</p> <p><u>Dan Andersen, Member-at-Large</u> – There is a social isolation concern amongst older adults. Those with ongoing chronic conditions have not been visiting their health care providers. In addition, many scams and fraud are being perpetrated on this population.</p>

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Next Meeting Date	The next meeting date is Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. VIRTUALLY. Meeting information will be shared prior.