

**D.C. Commission on Aging
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday February 24, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

Commissioners Present

Guleford Bobo, Chairperson; Carolyn Matthews Vice Chairperson; Gloria Whitfield; JoAnne Hersh; Grace Lewis; Maria Wilson; Barbara Hair; Barbara Lee; Hattie Pierce,

DACL Staff Present

Laura Newland, Director, Garret King, Chief of Staff, Tanya Reid, Administrative Support Manager, Lance Holt, Staff Assistant

Ex-Officio Members Present

Cesar Barreto, DDOT, Danilo Pelletiere, DHCD, Dr. Sheila Jones, DHS, Veronica Longstreth, DOH, Aimellia Siemson: Councilmember Bonds, Nana Bailey-Thomas, DDOT

Guest Present

Veronica Ingram, Heather Foote

- I. **Call to Order**
Chairperson Bobo called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. He began the meeting with a moment of silence.

- II. **Review and Approval of Minutes**
The January meeting minutes were approved with correction.

- III. **Presentations**
 - a. **Garret King: DACL**
Chief of Staff Garret King informed the Commission that DACL's Oversight hearings will be held February 26th (public) and March 15th (Government Witness).

Administrative Support Manager Tanya Reid, mentioned that ads are being placed in the Beacon Newspaper to help fill vacancies on the Commission. Garret suggested that Commissioner Bobo should mention that there are vacancies to be filled when testifies before City Council.

- IV. **Ward Reports**
 - a. **Ward 1:** Vice Chairperson Matthews was able to contact DPW regarding the snow removal/shared exemption/Move/DC.

 - b. **Ward 2:** Leadership individuals recommendation reached out to Parks and Recreation. Meeting will be in September to extend their survey. Also, Iona House is currently open to a limited number of people. Everything else is virtual.

- c. **Ward 5:** Commissioner Hattie Pierce is working with Johns Hopkins and Howard University trying to get the seniors their COVID-19 vaccination shots.

Commissioner Lewis mentioned that information should be sent out to remind people about street cleaning returning in March.

- d. **Ward 8:** Vice President Kamala Harris will be touring the ARC and the Giant Supermarket on February 25th. This is regarding the COVID-19 vaccination shots being administered at both locations.

Commissioner Whitfield mentioned that on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00pm to 10:00pm, The ARC at 1901 Mississippi Avenue SE in collaboration with Giant Foods will be administering COVID-19 vaccine shots to seniors 65 and over.

V. **Ex-Officio Updates**

- a. **DC City Council**

Aimellia Siemson announced that hearings are coming up. If anyone is interested in receiving Councilmember Bonds Weekly Newsletter, send her an email.

- b. **DHCD**

Danilo Pelletiere stated that DHCD's Oversight Hearing will be March 9th, the public oversight hearing will be March 15th. There may be additional Stimulus Money for rental programs in mid-March. Also, there will be a committee called Saving Rental Housing Strike Force. The committee will make recommendations starting in Mid-March, it will have three councilmembers, someone from the Office of the Tenant Advocate, DHS, Planning, Housing Providers, and community organizations. Meetings will be held Fridays at 3:00pm, public is welcomed.

- c. **DC Health**

Veronica Longstreth updated the Commission that the nursing homes, assisted living facilities are getting the vaccinations. CVS and Walgreens are also providing shots. Commissioner Wilson asked about mobile units for vaccinations. The response: until the FDA approves a less stringent process, the mobile units will not happen.

VI. **Public Comments**

Heather Foote mentioned that she is working with DDOT on Move DC, to extending the response time to the end of March. Online surveys and emails are welcomed.

VII. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:28am.

These minutes were recorded by Lance Holt, Staff Assistant, DC Department of Aging and Community Living, and were formally approved by the Commission on Aging on March 24, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lance Holt

/s/ Lance Holt

Lance Holt

Staff Assistant

DC Department of Aging and Community Living