

**District of Columbia Commission on Aging  
Meeting Minutes for  
Wednesday, June 26, 2019**

**Attendance**

**Commissioners:** Guleford Bobo, Chairman; JoAnne Hersh, Charles Hicks, Barbara Lee, Hattie Pierce, Marguerite Pridgen,

**Members of the Public:** Heather Foote

**Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) Staff Present:** Laura Newland, Director; Garret King, Chief of Staff; Heather Stowe Clinical Director, Tanya Reid, Administrative Support Manager

**I. Call to Order**

Guleford Bobo (Chairman) called the meeting to order at 10:11 am.

**II. Review and Approval of Minutes**

The meeting minutes from the Commission's May 29, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved without correction.

**III. New Business**

Chairman Bobo started the session regarding the Senior Retreat, July 24<sup>th</sup>. The topics would be Age Discrimination, Senior Employment, and Insurance Agencies. He would like to have someone from AARP, Attorney General's Office to speak on these issues. He'd also like to have the commissioners ask seniors: What challenges are they facing in their Wards? The Commission would like to present their findings to the Mayor and City Council for FY2020.

Chief of Staff King said he would follow up for the locations that may be available, UDC, DOES, and Gallaudet University.

Director Newland introduced Heather Stowe, Clinical Director for the Department of Aging and Community Living. Director Newland said Adult Protective Services (APS) will be at the 500 K Street Location by October 1, 2019; this will be a 30% increase in staff.

Director Newland gave an update on the budget enhancements. The Council supported adding \$383,000 Club Memory for Alzheimer's Programing, \$67,000 for LGBTQ Programing.

Chief of Staff King said that the Ward 8 Wellness Center has been moved to FY 20 and FY 21 Funding.

Commissioner Bobo asked about the expansion of the wellness centers. Director Newland responded, that she met with City Administrator Rashad Young. There will be more conversations with DGS.

Director Newland thanked everyone who attended the Mayor's Senior Symposium. Commissioner Lee commented that there were a lot of Maryland residents who attended the Senior Symposium.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **Health and Wellness**

Groundbreaking, Senior Daycare Ward 8, projected opening December 2019. Commissioner Lee mentioned there were a lot of seniors dropped off at the Ft. Lincoln Senior Center with no engagement, some are being left in wheelchairs. Chief of Staff King said he would look into this issue. Commissioner Hersh mentioned that the donated computers at Claridge Towers were stolen. Chief of Staff King will also look into this issue.

#### **V. Ward Reports**

Most of the activities are sent out by Commissioner Bobo, to the commissioners as to what is available.

#### **VI. General Discussion**

Commissioner Bobo stated there is no stability in keeping a Senior Coordinator at DPR, he said that he would speak to Director Hunter about this issue.

Commissioner Lee mentioned that there are a lot of young people in her ward who have taken over some of the abandoned houses illegally. Commissioner Bobo said he would follow up with DCRA on this issue.

Administrative Support Manager Reid brought up the District Summer Meals Program for the youth. It's available in all 8 wards, breakfast and lunch.

Heather Foote said she would have a Transportation Option Table at the Senior Retreat.

Commissioner Hicks said he will be coordinating with Councilmember Allen and Director Newland in September. Two ward meetings for seniors (pilot project), how to reach the seniors in Ward 6, what services are available.

The meeting adjourned at 11:47am.

These minutes were recorded by Tanya Reid, Administrative Support Manager, DC Department of Aging and Community Living, and were formally approved by the Commission on Aging on September 25, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lance Holt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "H".

Lance Holt  
Staff Assistant  
DC Department of Aging and Community Living