ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING AGENDA

Meeting: Thursday, November 10, 2022, 4 PM – 6 PM

At The Landing Alexandria – 2620 Main Line Boulevard

This meeting is being held in person. However, electronic access will be provided. The meeting can be accessed by the public through the Zoom link or phone number provided below. Public comment will be received at the meeting. Public comments can also be sent to daas@alexandriava.gov in advance of the meeting. Please indicate that your comments are for a meeting related to the Alexandria Commission on Aging in the subject line. A recording will be made of this meeting.

Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/97262502330 (copy & paste link into your browser to open or enter meeting

information below)

Meeting ID: 972 6250 2330

Password: 968693

Phone In number: 301-715-8592

MISSION

To identify the needs of older adults, develop overall planning to meet those needs, evaluate service delivery plans as implemented, and advocate on behalf of older adults

MEMBERS: PLEASE READ THROUGH THE AGENDA & HAVE AVAILABLE FOR REFERENCE AT THE MEETING.

- Call to Order
- 2. Approval of Agenda
- 3. Approval of Thursday, October 13, 2022, Minutes
- 4. Alexandria Police Department Liaison Report Sgt. Ian Torrance
- 5. Special Presentation: Jennifer Monaco Project Manager Duke Street in Motion
- 6. Executive Committee Report- 10/3/22 attached to minutes
- 7. Discussion / Action Items
 - A. COVID Update Gerri Wallace
 - B. Age Friendly Plan Update
 - C. Medicare for All Barbara Huelat and Barbara D'Agostino see attached
- 8. Liaison Reports Please provide a written summary to Pamela. Austin@alexandriava.gov
 - 1. Division of Aging and Adult Services Christopher Moore
 - 2. INOVA Alexandria Hospital
 - 3. Human Rights Commission Tom Reeder
 - 4. AHA Bob Eiffert
 - 5. AARP Jane King
 - 6. NVAN Michael Schuster
 - 7. St. Martins Senior Center Anne Coyne see attached
 - 8. Virginia Hospital Center Kate Chutuape/Blanca Cali
 - 9. Commission for Women Jenn Stowe
 - **10.** Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria Joanne Broderick
 - 11. Public Health Advisory Commission
 - 12. Commission on Persons with Disabilities Michael Kamin
 - 13. Senior Center @ Charles Houston Pamela Guerra see attached

- 14. Senior Services of Alexandria Mary Lee Anderson-
- 15. Alexandria Commission on Employment, ACE Mary Lee Anderson
- 16. Northern Virginia Falls Prevention Alliance, NVFPA Mary Lee Anderson
- 17. Arlington Legislative Committee Michael Schuster
- **18.** Arlington Commission on Aging Linc Cummings
- 19. Successful Aging Harold Little
- 20. Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities Harold Little
- 21. Alexandria Adult Day Services Center, ADSC Darrell Wesley
- 22. Housing Affordability Advisory Committee, AHAAC Jan Macidull

9. Committee Updates

- 1. Housing Committee Co-Chairs, Michael Schuster and Lois Steele
- 2. Outreach Committee Co-Chairs, Ray Biegun & Barbara D'Agostino- see attached
- 3. Transportation Co-Chairs, David Kaplan & Bill Campbell
- 4. Economic Development Chair, Mary Lee Anderson
- 5. Strategic Planning Chair, Michael Schuster
- 6. Health /Dementia Friendly Committee Chair, Barbara Huelat
- 7. Advocacy Michael Schuster, Chair
- 10. Other Business
- 11. New Business
- 12. Public comments please limit your comments to 3 minutes
- 13. Adjournment

<u>Next Commission Meeting</u>: Thursday, December 8, 2022 – 4 PM, at The Landing <u>Executive Committee Meeting</u>: Monday, November 28, 2022 – 4:00 p.m., at The Landing

COMMISSION OFFICERS:

Michael Schuster, Chair

Barbara D'Agostino, Vice Chair

Barbara Huelat, Secretary

The business of the Commission on Aging is largely conducted by its committees. ALL COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Please call the Division of Aging and Adult Services at 703.746.5999 for more information. In addition, the Commission has official liaisons with several other commissions, organizations or activities.

The City of Alexandria complies with the terms of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). An individual with a disability who wishes to request a reasonable accommodation may contact the Division of Aging and Adult Services at 703.746.5999, email DAAS@alexandriava.gov

Visit the Division of Aging and Adult Services website for Commission on Aging agendas and minutes and other aging information: www.Alexandriava.gov/aging

The Alexandria Commission on Aging Racial Social Equity Committee (as of June 01, 2021)

No one should be denied the opportunity to engage fully in our community.

We encourage people of different cultures, races, nationalities, immigration status, ages, abilities, sexual orientation, gender identities, and religious affiliation in Alexandria to be informed about and have access to the range of services available in the City, and to be engaged in civic life.

We are committed to representing a diverse community that represents the rich heritage of our city. We are committed to ensuring older persons have access: to affordable housing, transportation, health care, broadband, nutrition services and to opportunities for meaningful employment and related training.

Older adults and persons with serious medical conditions often experience various degrees of inequity, particularly in obtaining access to health care. It is essential to support older persons, family caregivers, and direct care workers since these residents face additional biases and hurdles.

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT

WHEREAS, every person in the City of Alexandria, the Washington Metropolitan Area, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the entire United States deserves high quality health care; and

WHEREAS, although the Commonwealth of Virginia has made great strides in increasing our health care coverage through Medicaid expansion, we struggle to ensure quality health care for all, as more than 12,900 people, or 8.3% of residents, in the City of Alexandria remain uninsured^[1], and many more are underinsured; and

WHEREAS, more than 3,500 Black people, or 11%, and 6,100 Hispanic people, or nearly 24%, in the City of Alexandria remain uninsured^[2], and many more are underinsured; and

WHEREAS, health care expenditure comprises more than \$9,600,000 of the City of Alexandria's budget^[3]; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria suffers from racial disparities in quality of health care and patient outcomes, clearly demonstrated by the unequal rates of morbidity and mortality of Black residents in the City of Alexandria during the COVID-19 pandemic^[4]; and

WHEREAS, more than 25% of pregnant people in the city do not receive early prenatal care although it is known that babies born to those who do not receive prenatal care are three times more likely to have a low birth weight and five times more likely to die^[5]; and

WHEREAS, there are racial disparities in life expectancy in the City of Alexandria with white residents expected to live nearly 7 years longer than Black residents (85.4 and 78.5 years, respectively) [6]; and

WHEREAS, Black and white residents of the City of Alexandria have similar rates of cancer diagnosis, but Black residents are more likely to die from cancer compared with white residents^[7]; and

WHEREAS, hypertension hospitalization rates among Black residents of the City of Alexandria are 12 times the rate of hospitalization among white residents, and hospitalization rates due to long-term complications from diabetes among Hispanic residents are four times the rate of hospitalization among white residents^[8]; and

WHEREAS, 50% of undocumented children and 5% of all children in Virginia are uninsured, and 27% of the total uninsured population in Virginia are non-citizens^[9]; and

WHEREAS, City of Alexandria's culture and tourism depends heavily on its restaurant industry, an industry with only 31% health insurance coverage nationally before the pandemic^[10] and which now faces significant loss of income, while many restaurant industry workers frequently oscillate between Medicaid and other insurance or no insurance due to unstable wages, leading to interruptions of care for chronic disease management, which worsens outcomes^[11]; and

WHEREAS, many people delay seeking needed health care due to an inability to pay^[12], leading to a sicker and poorer population which is significantly more likely to develop serious illness if exposed to COVID-19 or other infectious disease, and will subsequently face higher mortality rates from infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, homeless populations use emergency departments at higher rates, and are more likely to have repeat visits than their housed counterparts, which has been linked to a poor understanding of the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act* and Medicaid enrollment criteria, and leads to increases hospital emergency room costs and to preventable deaths among the homeless population^[13]; and

WHEREAS, medical bills are a leading cause of bankruptcy in this country^[14] and more than 25% of residents of Virginia report past-due medical debt which is above the national average^[15]; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused increases in applications for Medicaid^[16] and other health care programs managed by the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to record levels of unemployment, loss of employer-sponsored health insurance, a severely strained health care system, widespread illness, and taken a profound toll on our community's mental health, all of which is placing significant demands on our health care system; and

WHEREAS, the ever-increasing costs of health care, which are further elevated due to the pandemic, may challenge our already strapped state and municipal budgets^[17], and COVID-19 related treatment is likely to cost-uninsured patients tens-of-thousands of dollars^[18]; and

WHEREAS, in order to equitably and effectively address the health care needs in the City of Alexandria, including the additional burden of the COVID-19 crisis, we must urge the United States Congress to expand health insurance coverage to provide every resident of the United States comprehensive health care without any cost-sharing; and

WHEREAS, only comprehensive universal health coverage can assure people that, no matter what health condition is ultimately responsible for their symptoms, or whatever treatment becomes necessary, all residents of the U.S. will be financially protected; and

WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Act would guarantee all residents full coverage for medically

necessary health care without copays, deductibles, or other out-of-pocket costs,^{[19][20]} provide full and comprehensive mental health services to all residents of the City of Alexandria, and provide long-term support services for people in the disability community and those with pre-existing conditions^[21]; and

WHEREAS, legislators in several states including California, New York, Maryland, and Washington have introduced bills in their legislatures that could potentially create state-based single-payer universal health care systems for their residents; and

WHEREAS, the State-Based Universal Health Care Act would amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to authorize the establishment of, and provide support for, state-based universal health care systems that provide comprehensive health care to their residents^[22];

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:

Vigorously SUPPORTS the enactment of federal legislation to provide universal and comprehensive health care for all residents of the United States including the residents of the City of Alexandria.

Specifically REQUESTS and VOICES SUPPORT for passage of the *Medicare for All Act* (H.R. 1976 & S. 4204) and *State-Based Universal Health Care Act* (H.R. 3775).

CALLS UPON the United States Congress to adopt federal legislation to provide universal, comprehensive health coverage with zero cost-sharing to all people in the United States.

THANKS the members of the U.S. Congress who have cosponsored the *Medicare for All Act* (H.R. 1976 & S. 4204), including U.S. Representatives Don Beyer and Robert C. Scott, for their continued support for a comprehensive single-payer universal health care system.

DIRECTS that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Secretary of Health and Human Services, U.S. Speaker of the House, U.S. Senate Majority-Leader, U.S. Senate Minority Leader, U.S. Senators Tim-Kaine and Mark Warner, U.S. House Minority Leader, U.S. Representative Don Beyer and all other Representatives to the U.S. Congress from Virginia, Governor Glenn Youngkin, and Members of the City's delegation to, as well as the leadership of, the Virginia General Assembly.

[1] U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey,

 $\frac{https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=Alexandria\%20city\%20Health\&t=Health\%20Insurance\&tid=ACSST1Y2019.S2701\&hidePreview=true\&moe=false$

[2] Ibid.

[3] Summary Tables, City of Alexandria FY 2023 Approved Budget,

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2022-06/Section%2006%20-%20Summary%20Tables 0.pdf#page=3

[4] City of Alexandria, June 2021, https://www.alexandriava.gov/performance/info/dashboard.aspx?id=115279

[5] Health Matters in Alexandria, measurement period: 2020, last updated: February 2022,

http://www.healthmattersalexandria.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=325&localeId=2967

[6] Health Matters in Alexandria, measurement period: 2018-2020, last updated: June 2022,

http://www.healthmattersalexandria.org/indicators/index/view?indicator1d=8195&localeId=2967

[7] City of Alexandria's Community Health Assessment, 2019,

https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/health/info/CHA%20FINAL_small%20file.pdf#page=21

[8] Ibid.

[9] Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis

https://www.thecommonwealthinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/For-Today-and-Tomorrow-

Increasing-Health-Coverage-for-Undocumented-Virginians.pdf

[10] Toast Restaurant Industry Report 2019, https://d2w1ef2ao9g8r9.cloudfront.net/resource-downloads/2019-Restaurant-Success-Report.pdf#page=13

[11] Annals of Internal Medicine 2017;167:424, https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/full/10.7326/M17-1403: An estimated 37-45 thousand Americans die per year for lack of health care coverage.

[12] JPMorgan Chase Institute, January 2018, https://www.jpmorganchase.com/content/dam/jpmc/jpmorganchase-and-co/institute/pdf/institute-tax-refunds-healthcare-report.pdf#page=17

[13] Homelessness and Emergency Medicine: A Review of the Literature, Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, January 11, 2018, https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/acem.13358

[14] American Journal of Public Health, March 2019, http://www.pnhp.org/docs/AJPHBankruptcy2019.pdf

[15] Urban Institute, March 2016, https://apps.urban.org/features/medical-debt-in-america/

[16] Kaiser Family Foundation, December 2020, https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/analysis-of-recent-national-trends-in-medicaid-and-chip-enrollment/

[17] Council on Foreign Relations, January 12, 2021, https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/how-covid-19-harming-state-and-city-budgets

[18] Kaiser Family Foundation, April 2020, https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/estimated-cost-of-treating-the-uninsured-hospitalized-with-covid-19/

110] H.R.1976 - Medicare for All Act of 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1976

^[20] S. 4204 - Medicare for All Act of 2022, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4204

|211-Modern Healthcare, March 2019, https://www.modernhealthcare.com/politics-policy/sanders-medicare-all-expands-long-term-care-benefits

H.R.5010 - State-Based Universal Health Care Act of 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3775

- AARP has not endorsed any Medicare-for-all or buy-in proposals. Our priority is to
 protect Medicare for current and future generations. Our members and other older
 Americans believe that Medicare must be protected and strengthened for today's seniors
 and future generations. The typical senior, with an annual income of roughly \$25,000,
 already spends one out of every six dollars on health care and counts on Medicare for
 access to affordable health coverage.
- As we look at these proposals to expand who can be in Medicare there are a number of
 questions that we have to consider: (1) How would a Medicare buy-in or Medicare-for-all
 impact the long-term financial status of Medicare? (2) How would a Medicare buy-in or
 Medicare-for-all compare both in cost and coverage to other potential coverage
 options? (e.g., buying a silver plan on the exchange); and (3) how would any cost for the
 bill be offset or paid for?

Medicare for All website: https://medicare4all.org/

St. Martin de Porres Senior Center Report for November 2022

This report is to report the activities and events from October for the November COA meeting. We continue to follow COVID-19 Omicron's community transmission rates and consult with the Alexandria Health Department for guidance on attendance capacity and vaccines and boosters for the flu and COVID. There were no seniors or staff reporting testing positive for Omnicron. All personnel who enter the center continue to be screened, adhere to social distance, wear an approved facial covering, and sanitize hands. All personnel entering the center who are ill are encouraged to remain at home. The seating capacity at the center for participants remains at 40 personnel in the main room as a precaution to potential exposure to viruses such as the flu, RSV and COVID. We are pleased to report our average daily attendance for the first two weeks of October reached 27.

During the month participants enjoyed two field trips the first to the National Museum of American History, the Molina Family Latino Gallery which depicted Latino and Latina Americans and their accomplishments Appreciation, and the second field trip was to the ever-popular Cox Pumpkin farm for a picnic and adventure to their Farmer's Market. Our senior garden's last harvest of the season and we picked the last of the peppers, tomatoes, squash along with fresh herbs and roselle flowers used to make herbal tea.

- The following activities and wellness checks continued throughout the month:
- Outreach addressing senior basic needs delivering supplies needed at home as well as activity kits.
- Presented an excellent and delicious cooking class using spaghetti squash from Chef Phillipe; class/recipe requested by seniors and staff for the holidays and for home.
- This month we were pleased to bring back our intergenerational activities with Bishop Ireton/Blessed Sacrament students
- Encouraging eligible seniors to receive COVID-19 booster. Update seniors with weekly COVID facts from the AHD to educate and assist seniors to get the bivalent booster and answer questions.
- Continue weekly Line Dancing, in person SAIL class at PHRC and Zoom chair SAIL exercise classes.
- ESL classes are going well assisting seniors learn and practice English conversational communication. Currently, we have successful beginner, intermediate and advanced class levels to help nonconventional students.
- Continue biweekly SAIL classes with Marymount University, Patrick Henry Recreation Center and SMdP. Senior reporting feeling more confident, less pain and stronger when they walk.
- Recognizing Hispanic and Mexican culture, on Halloween Day, the center celebrated the festival of Día de los Muertos. The festival is celebrated to remember loved ones who have died. Seniors decorated an altar with photos, food, flowers, candles in memory of loved ones who are no longer with us. The festival helps people accept and deal with the idea of death. Also, we visited Smithsonian's American History Museum the inaugural Molina Family exhibit recognizing accomplishments of Latinos/Latinas in this country
- CUA junior/senior Community Health program's nursing students; screened seniors about health conditions, diseases as wellness activities; screened seniors; well attended.

Submitted by Anne T. Coyne, Senior Center Director, St. Martin de Porres Senior Center. Tele: 703-751-2766. Email: anne.coyne@ccda.net

The Senior Center at Charles Houston

October 2022 Report for November 2022 COA meeting

The Senior Center at Charles Houston has continued to focus on health and nutrition, by providing resources and information on healthy eating and the benefits of exercise. The center offers mindful movement, Arthritis Exercise training and weekly walking at the Pentagon mall. Participants also partake in virtual activities which include Bingo, word searches, and spelling tests, all which are cognitive and brain teaser exercises.

This month the Center celebrated a significant milestone of the center's 50th anniversary. We had a full program of historical facts, previous participants and family members who shared the importance of the center's role in their parents' life. Participants enjoyed music and delicious food and desserts.

Other notable activities and events during October include:

- Wellness/Informative Wednesday Presentation Chef Philippe cooking demos
 Featured the versatility of spaghetti squash. Chef prepared a meal with vegetables,
 and everyone enjoyed a vegetarian entrée. Ms. Nechelle Terrel from Virginia
 Department of Health came to present the latest information on Covid-19 and
 Monkey Pox.
- Weekly Thursday Shopping Trip Trips to local area markets and grocery stores, including Walmart, Dollar Tree, and the Dutch Amish Market to enable participants to purchase food, medical supplies, and essential household items.
- Weekly Walking Cub We continue our walk weekly at the Pentagon city Mall. Participants continue to track their steps on their phones.
- Participants enjoyed two field trips this month. One to an apple orchard in Thurmont, Maryland and one to the African Art Museum in Washington D.C.
- Mindful Movement and Arthritis Exercise Class Participants enjoyed an exercise class every Monday during the month. The Center has a monthly average of fifteen duplicated participants in the exercise class.
- No Goody Bags were handed out in October.

Staff continue to encourage participants to wear masks, practice proper hand washing and use of hand sanitizer. Center continues to use air purifiers to provide a safe and clean environment for all participants. Center provided several resources of community flu and covid -19 clinics so that participants could receive all updated vaccines.

Submitted by Pamela Guerra @ Charles Houston Senior Center

City of Alexandria, Commission on Aging

DRAFT Outreach Committee Notes
October 26, 2022, 11:30 a.m. In Person and Via Zoom

This meeting was held in person as well as electronically.

Members Present: Ray Biegun, Barbara D'Agostino (via zoom), Dawn Higgins (via zoom), Jane King (via zoom), Babs Waters (via zoom), MaryAnne Beatty, Tom Reeder, and Gary Hacker

Absent: Gerri Wallace, and Angela Redfearn

Hosting staff for designated virtual meetings: Pamela Austin, absent

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. by Ray Biegun.

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda and minutes were not approved as there was not a quorum of six people.

2. Welcome

Ray stated that we do not have a quorum so we will not approve minutes nor vote. He discussed meeting guidelines and that zoom is not an option for a quorum. The meeting will be for discussion purposes only. He asked if our usual schedule of the 4th Wednesday of the month worked for the group. The group agreed that the 4th Thursday of the month works best. We will not have a meeting in November as this is Thanksgiving, and depending if we can reach a quorum on December 22, we will then determine if our next meeting is in December or January. The meetings will continue at Goodwin House Alexandria.

MaryAnne discussed the cooperative extension. Jasmine is working with Margaret on reservations. Reaching out to civic associations. In the past, Gary got a good response by reaching out to individuals that are more vocal leaders. Gary believes that 1:1 conversations can allow for more informative detail gathering of information. If Ambassadors are active, it is beneficial if they would pass on information. Event at Watergate was a good event with brochures to distribute.

Ray – He and Gerri attended the Alexandria LGBTQ Task Force meeting on October 20. We are looking at what organization could be a single lead (SP Goal #2). The Alexandria LGBTQ Task Force is a space where LGBTQ people and allies gather quarterly to network, share ideas, and plan training and community events. The goal of the Task Force is to create safe and inclusive service provision to LGBTQ people in the City of Alexandria. In the past they have invited the COA to speak on Older LGBTQ issues. See link below for more information:

https://www.alexandriava.gov/LGBTQ

Dawn and Gerri met with MaryAnne and Mary Lee to look at the Senior Ambassador program with SSA and how they can be supported. It was felt that the Ambassadors were already quite busy so suggested other agencies in the community. Dawn met with Michael about looking at what is needed for the new plan and reviewing research that is already out there (similar to doing a metanalysis) versus creating new research and then doing an analysis of that. They discussed focus groups and surveys with a qualitative piece to it.

Jane stated that we could pay more attention to those who are underserved as it's not to difficult to do focus groups with them. Meals on wheels could be one example. AARP did survey for first plan that may be useful. Jane will make connection for Dawn with Jan Macidull. AARP still needs to see an evaluation of the old plan.

Mary Ann, Tom, and Barb met. Relationship with Senior Services of Alexandria is extremely vital. We need to support them. We all assigned each other plans. Tom is working on forming relationship with the Social Security Administration; however, their offices are extremely crowded and they have been very busy.

Gary stated that we should pay attention to other organizations such as churches that are on the border of Alexandria.

MaryAnne offered to help Jane with the communication plan.

Ray stated that we will not meet in November. Meanwhile, groups should continue to work on their goals.

3. Updates on Outreach to:

LGBTQ community: LGBTQ Task Force meeting on October 20

Faith Community: No update.

Senior Ambassadors:

Ambassador program-trained 4 more people.

4. Committee Planning for 2022/2023:

The teams are broken out below and include any updates:

Social Participation Goal #1 - Older adults are aware of and are increasingly comfortable accessing services available in the city and are engaged in civic and community life.

MaryAnne

Pam Angela Jane

Social Participation Goal #2 - Create inclusive services for LGBTQ older adults

Gerri

Ray

Communications Goal #1 - Communication of information

Dawn

Gerri

Communications Goal #2 - Relationship with SSA and other organizations

Barbara

Tom

MaryAnne

Other – Assessment and measurement (what we learned, what worked, what did not work, etc.)

Gary

Dawn

Ray

5. Follow up Items

Members were asked to continue to review the prior evaluation from the last 3 years as well as the Alexandria Age Friendly Plan for a Livable Community regarding the goal they chose. Be prepared to discuss approaches at the next meeting and we can then determine cross overs.

- 5. Public comments: None
- **6. Date of next meeting:** Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 22 at 11:30 a.m. at Goodwin House Alexandria. Date and time may change.
- 7. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Notes prepared by Barbara D'Agostino, COA Vice-Chair