

Washtenaw County Commission on Aging

July 16th, 2021

8:30 – 10:30am

Remote Via Zoom

Join by Zoom: <https://zoom.us/join>

Join by Phone: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 954 3400 0397

Passcode: 633697

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

Called by Commissioner Maciejewski at 8:35 PM

II. Roll Call

Present: Jason Maciejewski, Gary Munce, Marta Larson, Bonny Webber, Elizabeth Thompson, Pearl DeLois Wilson, Ellen Offen, Steven Stein, Bennett Stark, Margaret Reynolds

Absent: Marie Gress

III. Swearing-In of New Commission Members

DeLois Wilson was sworn in by Trish Reilly of the Washtenaw County Clerks Office.

IV. Citizen Participation

None.

V. Commission Response to Citizen Participation

None.

VI. Report from the Board of Commissioners

1. *America Rescue Plan Funds - Commissioner Maciejewski provided an updated about the American Rescue Plan funding and engagement process, particularly highlighting the progress made on expanding Broadband access. He highlighted the engagement survey option and asked commission members to share. There was discussion about the details of what funding Broadband would look like logistically, who would own it, and what other related projects could support this work. It was suggested that the Commission on Aging could partner with the Broadband Task Force, to find ways to engage and train seniors to ensure they can use the internet effectively.*
2. *Additional Discussion in this section: Commissioner Maciejewski was asked questions by Commissioner Larson and Webber about the logistics, operations, and staffing of the Commission On Aging. Commissioner Maciejewski suggested that options are available, but that it may be better to hold off until the election of officers takes place to dive into this discussion. Commissioner Munce, also highlighted that he and Commissioner Gress has emailed about a cataloging system for data.*

VII. Election of Officers

Commission Maciejewski confirmed the term of officers being through December 31st, 2021 and asked for nominations for Chairperson

Commissioners Larson and Munce were both nominated. They proceeded to offer insights as to how they would lead the Commission on Aging and answered questions from other commissioners.

Commissioners Stark, Thompson, Munce, and Larson discussed and decided not to pursue a joint co-chair model.

Moved: Thompson, seconded Webber, that the Washtenaw County Commission on Aging appoint Gary Munce as Chair of the Commission on Aging.

In Favor: Webber, Offen, Maciejewski, Thompson, Stark

Opposed: Reynolds, Stein, Wilson

Obstain: Munce, Larson

Motion Approved.

--

Moved: Offen, seconded Thompson, that the Washtenaw County Commission on Aging appoint Marta Larson as Vice-Chair of the Commission on Aging.

In Favor: Webber, Offen, Maciejewski, Thompson, Stark, Reynolds, Stein, Wilson

Obtain: Munce, Larson

Motion Approved.

Commission Maciejewski discussed the roles of secretary and asked if anyone was interested. Commissioner Webber self nominated.

Moved: Thompson, seconded Munce, that the Washtenaw County Commission on Aging appoint Bonny Webber as Secretary of the Commission on Aging.

Approved by unanimous roll call vote.

VIII. Special Presentation

A. Senior Services in Washtenaw County

Jim McGuire | Director of Research, Policy Development, and Advocacy | AAA1B

Jim McGuire presented a comparison of Washtenaw County and Kent County Senior Services and fielded a variety of questions from the commission about definition of senior services to clarify how we measure and success access to resources. There were also questions about funding sources for these services, and how people currently get information about these services.

Many Commissioners suggested inviting resource and service providers as potential future special presentations to inform future work of the commission. Included was a suggestion for how the commission can highlight these resources publicly.

Chair Munce asked permission to invite Chris Lemon from the Ann Arbor Community Foundation as a guest for the next meeting, which all approved.

Chair Munce asked to include public engagement as a topic for consideration as a future agenda.

IX. Bylaws Discussion

Commissioners identified a goal of voting on the bylaws at the next meeting and walked through each section, making the following comments:

- *Adding the language of prudent spending, communications, advocacy, and equity into the purpose section of the Bylaws (2.1)*
- *The edits made to 3.2 reflect prior conversation and are good to finalize*
- *The edits made to 6.1 reflect prior conversation and are good to finalize*

- *There is a need to add information about the role of secretary in 7.1*
- *The edits made to 7.3 reflect prior conversation and are good to finalize*

X. New Business

Moved: Thompson, seconded Larson, that the Officers of the Commission on Aging draft a communication to the Board of Commissioners expressing their support of the expansion of Broadband, with a special emphasis on equitable access, with the use of American Rescue Plan Funds.

Approved by unanimous roll call vote.

XI. Setting Next Meeting

A. August 6th, 2021 8:30 –10:30am

Chair Munce identified potential priorities for the next meeting, including a presentation from Chris Lemon, a conversation about operations of the Commission On Aging, a conversation on data sharing, and formalizing a meeting calendar for the rest of the year.

Before adjourning, the Commission listed things on their parking lot of ideas of interest to ensure they don't get lost. This list includes:

- *Planning the logistics/management of commission/sharing work among group members*
- *Developing a catalog system to organize information*
- *Short and long term strategic planning for the commission activity*
- *The need for a new, detailed needs assessment vs. Using solely information that has already been collected*
- *Public engagement process and events (e.g., commission email, potential town hall, invitations to meetings for public comment)*
- *Discuss how individuals get resources and how the commission can help amplify and organize this information for folks*

XII. Adjournment

Moved: Stark, seconded Reynolds. Meeting adjourned.