

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, August 21, 2025
Kramer Building – Centreville, MD

ATTENDEES

Members

Becky Barbee
Toni Breeding
Betty Davis
Ida Hein
Janet Melson
Loretta Morris
Janet Salazar
Bonnie Walter

Advisory Members

Rebecca Jester
Annie Sparks
Anne Van Benschoten
Cathy Willis

Absent Members

Vashti Hughes
Kelly Johnson
Megan Pinder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Bonnie Walter at 10:00 AM.

OLD BUSINESS

- A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes was made by Loretta Morris and seconded by Janet Salazar. The minutes were approved.
- The Financial Report was reviewed and motioned to be approved by Becky Barbee and seconded by Loretta Morris. The report was approved.
- The Reginal Meeting was discussed. Invitations have been distributed. Bonnie Walter read the catering menu that received the most votes from Chesapeake Culinary Center; Harvest Salad, Grilled Chicken with wild mushroom cream sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Roasted Brussels Sprouts and Dinner Roll with butter; cost totaling to \$1,047.50 for 50 people. The Agenda (version 3) for the Regional Meeting was reviewed. A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Becky Barbee and seconded by Loretta Morris. The agenda was approved. The Commission discussed giveaway options for the Regional Meeting and other events. A motion to purchase 150 purple 10"x8" tote bags imprinted with the County Seal and Queen Anne's County Commission on Aging was made by Beckey Barbee, a second was made by Janet Melson. The purchase was approved.
- The Bylaws Sub-committee met in July to discuss changes in the bylaws. A copy of the bylaws with the proposed updates were distributed. Members should review the document and be ready to discuss it at the September meeting.
- Cathy Willis announced that MDoA are working on three legislative projects that could potentially impact the State Commission on Aging, the County Commission on Aging, and the Area Agency on Aging to better align the Code of Maryland with the Longevity Ready Maryland initiative. It was also announced that the new member, Lana Peck, was appointed by the Queen Anne's County Commissioners on August 12, 2025, and she is expected to attend the September meeting. The contact information for Kelly Johnson was confirmed and she will be attending the Regional Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- **The Commission would like to see a representative from the Queen Anne's County Housing Authority attend the Commission on Aging meetings and give a report. Annie will discuss this with Mike Clark.**

There was discussion about Housing Authority policies regarding emergency repairs. There is an emergency number to call and there are Housing Authority Staff on-call 24/7 to address those concerns.

Cathy Willis also reminded the Commission of the Housing Authority Board meeting schedule and suggested that Commission on Aging members attend those meetings as well.

SITE COUNCIL REPORTS

- **Grasonville**

Grasonville had an ice cream social which was a success, and they are planning another in September. Card making is well attended. They are planning a Tea Party, One Man Band, Potluck Dinner, and more Mini Craft events. There will now be two Bingos a month. The Fundraiser Bingo made close to \$1,500.

- **Kent Island**

There is a Hawaiian Bash taking place today. Book Club is doing well. Drumfit and Sit & Fit are getting new members. Lunches have been slow due to construction and closing issues, but they should start to increase again soon. The craft class that is held every month is attended by 8-10 people.

- **Sudlersville**

Attendance has been down but that is most likely due to the hot weather. Site Council is having trouble getting people to attend the meetings.

- **Active Aging Center**

No Report. Annie Sparks announced that September is National Senior Center Month and there will be a Proclamation read during one of the County Commissioners meetings in September.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

- **Annie Sparks discussed an Open Meetings Act training that she recently attended where she learned that sub-committees that are less than quorum do not fall under the provisions of the Act. She suggested that Commission members attend an Open Meetings Act training in the future if another one is held.**
- **Anne Van Benschoten shared that the Community Care Division has been very busy. Staff attended the QAC Fair, and the table was well attended in the new location. The Farmers Market program was a success, all cards have been distributed and there is currently a waitlist. Bonnie Walter discussed ideas to get the information out that recipients should keep their cards for the future. Open Enrollment will begin October 15 and end December 7. Two Home Delivered Meals positions became open; one has been filled, and the other is accepting applications. The MAP Program has two events coming up: Stories Love Music, the Joy of Creative Engagement for Caregivers will take place on October 23, 2025 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, space is limited and RSVP is required; 2025 Caregivers Conference, Building Caregiver Resilience will take place on November 14, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM for Caregivers only, space is limited and registration is required.**
- **Cathy Willis reported that elections are coming up with the Primary being held in June 2026 and the General being held in November 2026. The department has requested election guidance from the County Administrator.**

- **Two retirements were announced: Sharon Mohr will be retiring on September 30, 2025. Cathy Willis will be retiring on December 19, 2025. Anne Van Benschoten and Cathy Willis are currently working on setting up a Senior Care Case Manager position to cover the program that Sharon Mohr currently covers for the department.**
- **The Department of Community Services will separate into two separate departments: The Department of Aging and Transportation and The Department of Housing and Family Services. With this change there will be two job postings for Director of Aging and Transportation and Executive Director of Housing and Family Services.**

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- **Bonnie Walter announced that Commissioner Moran let her know that he is currently in Washington D.C.**
- **Next meeting will be September 18, 2025, at 10 AM, Kramer Building**
- **A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Loretta Morris and seconded by Becky Barbee. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.**

Submitted by Michelle Marshall, Aging Services Fiscal Administrator .