

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON AGING
Bykota Senior Center
Classroom A, First Floor
Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Present: Cyndy Allen, Virginia Billian, Frances Bond, Don Gabriel (by phone), Allan Hirsh, Bill Lambert, Eula Marshall, Roy Moreland, Mabel Murray, Sheila Roman, Marlene Siegel, Melody Truffer, Cathy Ward

Staff: Laura Riley, Susan Brooks

Absent: Anne Perry, Sherita Thomas

Excused: Phyllis Myers, Joanne Williams

I. The Meeting Came to Order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Announcements / Acknowledgements

- Joanne and Phyllis are both sick today
- Eula Marshall welcomed back from surgery
- Mabel Murray welcomed back from surgery
- Sherita Thomas has been nominated as one of 2017's top 100 women in Maryland by The Daily Record

III. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes approved

IV. Old Business

Legislative Committee Update

- United Seniors of Maryland (USM) are tracking 43 bills and they have not yet sent an update on the status of the bills.
- USM held a caucus yesterday in Annapolis.

- The Governor's FY 18 budget has no new taxes or fees and reduces budgets across the board
- A sick leave bill for businesses with 15 or more employees has passed for the Governor's signature. If vetoed, there may be enough votes to pass.
- Maryland has passed and sent to the Governor the nation's first legislation on drug price gouging. Fines are \$10,000 for each violation and price increases could be ordered by a judge to be reversed.
- A bill was submitted to the Governor giving tax breaks for businesses creating manufacturing jobs in economically depressed areas in Maryland.

Drug Abuse

- Nationwide problem
- All economic levels
- Seniors likely to become targets of crime
- Seniors can become addicted
- Commission members can alert legislators that we are interested in seeing the problem handled
- The Hope Act focuses on drug addiction and education in schools

Villages

- Joanne spoke with John Donahue
- John will be at our June meeting to discuss villages and will have a brochure by then
- Looked to Churches for people in need

V. New Business

- Melody visited Overlea Senior Center and they had a warm feeling.
- Melody is meeting with the Middle River Community Association about the cap on lot rent. She will hand out resource information and refer people to the Victory Villa Senior Center.
- Senior Solutions is May 4 at Valley Mansion in Cockeysville—please note the location change. Several members had not received information and Laura will e-mail the information after this meeting.

- The Volunteer Luncheon is May 18 with the Commission meeting prior to the luncheon 8:30 a.m. This is a strategic planning meeting. Allan will not be able to attend.
- The budget message was last week. Our budget remains level and we have no new capital projects.
- We need to encourage seniors to have medical screenings such as a colonoscopy.

VI. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.