



# COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** March 11, 2022

**Time:** 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Live via Zoom** <https://zoom.us/j/92154181214>

**Facilitator:** Marsetta Ray, Chair

### Board Members

Marsetta Ray, Chair, South Fulton Senior Services | Beth Cayce, District 2, Vice Chair (**absent**) | Mary Blake, At-Large | Ruth Lyles-Bailey, Parliamentarian, Council on Aging, West | Stephanie Fiber-Sutton, District 1 | Rosalind Elliott, District 3 | Linda Adams, District 4 | Barbara Brown, Council on Aging South | District 5 (**vacant**) | Jill Lindsey, District 6 | Council on Aging East (**vacant**) | Ann Germany, Senior Services North Fulton | La Tanya D. Walker, Senior Services Representative (non-voting)

### Additional Attendees

Ladisa Onyiliogwu, Kweli Rashied-Henry, Andre Gregory, Erica Flack, Senior Services | Visitors: Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Ms. Mommon, Ms. Rae Pollack

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m., with Chairperson Ray, Parliamentarian, Lyles-Bailey, Chair Pro-Tem Blake, Linda Adams, Rosalind Elliott, Barbara Brown, Stephanie Fiber-Sutton, and Ann Germany present to constitute a quorum. COEA mission statement was read by Chair Pro-Tem Blake.

### Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Ray noted corrections and updates to the February minutes, after which a motion was called by Chairperson Ray to approve the minutes with stated corrections. Rosalind Elliott made the motion and Chair Pro-Tem, Mary Blake seconded the motion. The vote to approve the meeting minutes was taken with all present approving.

**Speaker:** There was no Monthly Informational Feature as Mrs. Cayce, the scheduled speaker was absent

### Senior Services Report

#### Multipurpose Centers

- COVID Home Test Kits Distribution

- All four multipurpose facilities have started distributing COVID home test kits free of charge to any senior would like one. If interested, please go by any of the facilities and request a kit.
- **Facility Programming – Down Week**
  - The four multipurpose facilities have once again reopened for participant use. Onsite classes are being offered on a quarterly basis. In between each quarter there will be an facility down week in which **the only programs being offered during this period will be lunch, open gym and open swim.** Note, onsite and virtual classes will stop during this week to allow the facility staff time to do facility-wide cleaning, planning for next quarter classes, preparing for class registration and completion of facility maintenance and repair projects.
  - The first of four upcoming Facility Down Week will start on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> and end on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> with all classes starting back on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - Note, as the year goes on more and more onsite classes and events will be transitioned into each senior multipurpose facility's daily programming.
- **Facility Pool Openings**
  - The swimming pools at Benson and Bowden are now open for open swim. To use the pools, you must call the facility to reserve a time slot.
  - Mills and Darnell pools are undergoing some small maintenance and repairs in which afterwards will need to be inspected for their pool permit before reopening. We hope to have the pools up and running before the end of this month.
- **JUST FYI – OLDER AMERICANS MONTH 2022**
  - The multipurpose facility staff has begun planning for this year's May 2022 Older Americans Month virtual events. The official calendar of events should be out by or before mid-April so stay tuned.....

## **Neighborhood Senior Centers**

- The Department of Senior Services received a grant from Atlanta Regional Commission for congregate meals, and the provision to purchase incontinence products for seniors that have a need. The Grant award was \$254,877.30.
- The Department of Senior Services will receive an amendment grant from Atlanta Regional Commission to support the Alternative Transportation Services (Uber/Lyft) program. The amount is projected at \$200K.
- The Neighborhood Senior Centers are scheduled to reopen fully with more seniors in attendance beginning May 1, 2022
- The Department of Senior Services has submitted an application to the State of Georgia, Department of Human Resources, for a grant to support the Senior Transportation

Services (Transdev), which will support rides for seniors to designated Neighborhood Senior Centers and Training Centers for persons with disabilities.

### Adult Day Health Program

The Board of Commissioners (BOC) voted to reopen senior centers at the end of Feb 2022.

- Onsite Programming reopened Feb 22, 2022 for clients that have been cleared to attend by their physicians
- Onsite Admission assessments to begin Feb 22, 2022
- The Adult Day program continues to provide virtual classes, home delivered meals, in-home respite care and weekly wellness calls
- Adult Day Health Program applications available upon request. For more information, please call 404-613-6000

### Officers and Standing Committee Reports

- **Health (Beth Cayce, Chair)** – No report provided
- **Senior Services (Linda Adams, Chair):** Reported concerns with transportation and senior's ability to ride other than early mornings. The time to transport is up to two hours. Also inquired of the number of senior facilities in Fulton County. (Deputy Director shared updates on Neighborhood Senior Centers. Please see DSS Report)
- **Safety/Security (Lyles-Bailey, Chair):** The report provided brought awareness of crime. Advised to place cars in driveway and/or under carport to lessen chance of theft. Keep gas tanks ½ full. Voting rights on the MY VOTER PAGE – voting precinct has been changed
- **Technology:** No report given.
- **Civic Life:** Rising costs will impact Meals on Wheels and seniors may be affected. Governor Kemp is working to eliminate state gas tax to help support rising costs. Advised to take advantage of rewards programs (Kroger, Sam's, Costco, Shell, etc.). Pay attention to the amount of plastic you're using and putting back into the environment.
- **Programs/Features: (Mary Blake, Linda Adams & Chairperson Ray):** A list of program topics were sent to Executive Membership. There are three workshops for public. In April COEA will be discussing Decluttering and Downsizing for seniors.

### Unfinished Business

N/A

## New Business

Three workshops for seniors via Zoom:

- May/June (Senior Housing Options) – Fiber-Sutton will coordinate this event
- September: Medicare/Medicaid/Social Security
- November: Long-term Care Planning

A motion was called to approve workshops by Chairperson Ray. Moved by Rosalind Elliott and second, by Mary Blake. All present voted to approve as written.

Guest speaker title will change to Monthly Information Feature which allows a short segment from various entities to share.

Opened the floor to discuss not having a meeting in December to allow for the next year's planning. Motion to run meetings January – November of the calendar year. Once approved the bylaws will be updated to reflect the new change. Linda Adams moved to accept motion. Rosalind Elliott seconded. All present approved.

COEA Senior Highlights to capture 2-3 points on the COEA webpage on what's happening in the community. Then send to members to take back to their groups. A one-sheet will be completed by Ms. Ray.

Member profiles to be included on COEA webpage. Short bio is asked of each member including expertise, interest, etc. Birthdays are requested also...this information will be kept private.

## Public Comments

Two of which shared comments at two minutes each. Mr. Ben Howard was asked to email his list of additional concerns to Secretary of record.

## Announcements:

Ms. Adams reported that West Side Seniors on the Rise did a Valentine day activity with 17 seniors in attendance. Each received gifts. They also participated in Andrew Young's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday walk, and member Linda Adams along with 12 seniors participated and walked 1 ½ miles from Centennial Park to her senior Highrise. A ceremony will be provided to seniors who received tablets and are going through training. They will also be taught how to use Zoom.

A senior in Rosalind Elliott's building Peachtree City Towers is turning 101 years old and her sister will be 104 on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

All are encouraged to participate in online classes provided by Department of Senior Services.

Chairperson Ray will be interviewed April 12<sup>th</sup> during the Connect Show on Senior Advocacy – shown on FGTV. Daylight savings begin on the follow Sunday. Move clocks up

Motion was placed on the floor to adjourn meeting. Linda Adams moved, Mary Blake seconded with all present approving.

### **Next Meeting**

April 8, 2022 | 12:30 p.m., virtually via Zoom