

## Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting on Go To Meeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Dan Andersen

Topic	Discussion
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Dan Andersen, Amy Baker, Dan Bowler, Jeff Degitz, Doc Doxzen, Dave Drezner, Gail Gannon, Lauren Hickey, Diane Linton, Jim McCarron, Rich Ottone, Heather Robb, Celene Steckel, Cheryl Steinbacher, Leslie Wagner, Andrew Watcher, Carol Wheatley, Lou Yeager, Marisa Zaccagnini</b>
<b>Acronyms</b>	<b>AAA - Area Agency on Aging, ADA - American's w/Disabilities Act, ADL - Activities of Daily Living, AIP – Aging in Place, BCC – Board of County Commissioners, BOAD - Bureau of Aging and Disabilities, COAD – Commission on Aging and Disabilities, CDSMP – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, CTS – Carroll Transit System, CIL - Center for Independent Living, DSS – Department of Social Services, FFP – Federal Financial Participation, HSP – Human Services Program of Carroll County, LTAC – Long Term Advisory Council, LTCO - Long Term Care Ombudsman, M4A - Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging, MAP - Maryland Access Point, MASCC – Mt. Airy Senior &amp; Community Center, MDH - Maryland Department of Health, MDoA – Maryland Department of Aging, MFP -Money Follows the Person, MOU – Memorandum of Understanding, MWOA - Medicaid Waiver for Older Adults, NCSCC – North Carroll Senior &amp; Community Center, NED - Non-Elderly Disabled, NFCSP - National Family Caregiver Support Program, OAA - Older Americans Act, OHCQ - Office of Health Care Quality, SALGHS - Senior Assisted Living Group House Subsidy program, SCSCC – South Carroll Senior &amp; Community Center, SHIP - State Health Insurance Program, SIP - Senior Inclusion Program, SMP - Senior Medicare Patrol, SPDAP - Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program, TSCC – Taneytown Senior &amp; Community Center, VTV – Village to Village, WEAAD – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, WSCC – Westminster Senior &amp; Community Center.</b>
<b>Call to Order/Introductions - Jim McCarron</b>	Jim McCarron called the meeting to order.
<b>Commissioner's Comments – Commissioner Ed Rothstein</b>	No report.
<b>Establishment of a Quorum – Jim McCarron</b>	A quorum was established with ten members present.

## Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting on Go To Meeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Dan Andersen

<p><b>Approval of Minutes –</b> Jim McCarron</p>	<p>Jim requested approval of the May 2020 minutes as submitted. Doc Doxzen motioned 1<sup>st</sup> and Dan Bowler 2<sup>nd</sup> for approval. All were in favor to approve as submitted.</p>
<p><b>Old Business –</b> Jim McCarron</p>	<p><u>COVID-19 Update – Celene Steckel</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BOAD’s Current Operations – BOAD as well as the Department of Citizen Services are open for in person appointments for essential reasons only. Call the program manager to receive approval for the appointment. There will be a temperature check as well as screening questions prior to entering the building. A drop box has been installed outside of BOAD for applications or documentation. All staff are back to work although some are working in different capacities. If you encounter someone who needs long-term services/supports, please refer the individual to our main number at 410-386-3800.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We have openings in our Senior Assisted Living Group Home Subsidy Program which pays up to \$650 per month toward the cost of an assisted living facility. If you are working with Veterans who need assisted living care and are receiving Aid &amp; Attendance benefits from the VA, please note, that we have been notified by MDoA that this benefit is no longer counted as income. If you are working with a Veteran who is not receiving this benefit, please refer the Veteran to our office and our Veteran Services staff will assist them with applying for the benefit.</li> <li>○ Appointments at VA medical facilities are starting to occur again, on a limited basis. Our Veterans shuttle continues to transport Veterans to the approved locations.</li> <li>○ We will be working on our annual Resource Guide in August. If you have suggestions for articles or would like to submit an article for the Resource Guide, please reach out to Gina, Leslie or Celene. Ideas for articles include: COVID guidance; falls prevention; behavioral health, tips for Caregivers, addiction resources; how to protect yourself or loved ones from fraud/scams; how your agency/organization is providing services during this time or additional services you are able to offer.</li> <li>○ Meetings are being held virtually and we are exploring ways to hold conferences and support group meetings virtually as well. Board sessions are also virtual, and they are looking to conduct a combination of in person and virtual possibly next month.</li> <li>○ A pilot program utilizing CARES Act funding to provide meals to residents of Westminster Overlook will begin next week. The contract has been approved with Mom’s Meals as the caterer. Currently there are 42 applications providing anywhere from three to twelve meals every two weeks. If this program is successful we are looking to replicate at other locations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting on Go To Meeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Dan Andersen

- During the pandemic the number of Meals on Wheels clients has gone from 33 (in March) to 73 (at it's peak in June). Currently there are 71 clients being served by Meals on Wheels.
- WEAAD virtual events occurred beginning June 13, 2020 when State's Attorney Brian DeLeonardo wrote a Letter to the Editor highlighting assistance needed to protect the aging from abuse. On June 15<sup>th</sup> we had a no-contact shredding event at WSCC where 180 cars attended with 7,500 lbs. of shredding collected. Beginning June 15<sup>th</sup> an educational campaign began with five days highlighting information on signs, prevention, and reporting of Elder Abuse in the Carroll County Times. In addition, information on how to prevent and report financial exploitation was provided to all Meals on Wheels meals the week of June 22, 2020. Our scheduled in person event has been postponed until 2021.
- Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program – Gail Gannon. Visitation is much different now as Ombudsman staff have been utilizing FaceTime when contacting facility managers. There are three phases of easing restrictions for Ombudsman staff when visiting and investigating at Assisted Living Facilities. Outdoor or virtual contact is the recommended way. Skilled nursing facilities have different rules and phases whereas staff are tested every two weeks. Some facilities have no contact visitation stations with a plexiglass separation. When the facilities do open literature will be provided to remind residents of the program as well as to new admissions to educate. Their volunteers are in a holding pattern until the facilities are open, but they have been provided with virtual training and webinars.
- Farmer's Market Coupons – Rich Ottone. Previous coupon users have been notified of the new application process this year. During the week of July 20<sup>th</sup> each senior center location will have a grab and go event whereas the public can pick up applications or drop off applications they received in the mail. At that time the applications will be reviewed and then made available for signature. This will be a no-contact event and drivers are to stay in their vehicles.
- There will be no contact shredding events at all senior center locations, except Westminster, during the month of July.
- The Senior Centers have moved their newsletter to online and have provided live links for virtual programming including fitness classes.
- Senior Center Status/Utilization of WSCC during COVID-19 – The Senior Centers continue to be closed by Governor's Order. The WSCC continues to be utilized by HSP for their day program and they have offered to also permit the site to be utilized as a cooling center. HSP grant funding is allowing them to look at providing the day program at other locations.

## Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting on Go To Meeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Dan Andersen

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Resources – Shelf stable food is available for those in need as well as emergency meal kits for older adults. DSS continues to be the contact agency for people in need of food. The dedicated phone/email for inquiries: 443-929-4846 or <a href="mailto:fia@carrollco@maryland.gov">fia@carrollco@maryland.gov</a>. Individuals with food stamp questions may also contact DSS.</li> <li>• Reopening Discussions – Still no discussion regarding the opening of Senior Centers although the belief is it will be a phased in approach.</li> </ul> <p><u>Area Plan Update</u> – The Area Plan Update was submitted to MDoA in mid-June. We are waiting to receive an update from MDoA regarding any clarification/additional information that is needed. This year the Area Plan included questions related to COVID and how we are offering/adjusting service delivery.</p> <p><u>2020 Census Update</u> – Carroll County is #1 in its response rate and the due to COVID the deadline has been extended to October 31, 2020. Continue to encourage everyone to complete the survey. Soon there will be an outreach event to assist a numerator in counting street homeless.</p> <p><u>Staffing Update</u> – Vacant positions include Aging &amp; Disabilities Supervisor, Coordinator of Case Management Services (Veteran Services Program), part-time Guardianship Coordinator, part-time MAP Specialist.</p>
<p><b>New Business</b> – Jim McCarron</p>	<p><u>Change of Meeting Date/Revision of By-Laws</u> – MDoA has changed the AAA Director’s meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, the same as this meeting. If it works for the majority, we would like to change the COAD meeting to the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 10am every other month. This is an available date and time for Commissioner Rothstein. The meeting dates are written in the by-laws so we would need to make that change to a more generic wording.</p> <p><u>Water System issues in the Freedom Area and Flushing of the System – Andy Watcher.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Freedom District Water Service draws and processes approximately two million gallons of water per day from the Liberty Reservoir to serve the needs of the greater Eldersburg/Sykesville area.</li> <li>• The raw, or untreated, water contains a sediment load that is removed during the treatment process with an aluminum-based polymer that forces the sediment load to bond together. This helps facilitate the removal process.</li> <li>• After the treatment process is completed and refined water is pumped into the service area, tiny amounts of the polymer remains in the processed water. While this polymer poses no health risk to humans or pets, the polymer does seem to react to galvanized pipes that were commonly used in the private portions of pre-1990s apartment and condominium style complexes.</li> </ul>

## Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting on Go To Meeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Dan Andersen

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reaction of the polymer with the galvanized pipes can result in the presence of black specks in water services. Again, while unsightly, these black specks do not pose a health hazard to the public.</li> <li>• The galvanized pipes are on the private portions of the water supply systems and are not owned or maintained by the County.</li> <li>• If you are aware of the presence of black specks in your water services, please contact my office at 410-386-2164. Utilities staff will investigate and will likely increase the frequency of the fire hydrant flushing program for the community to remove any built-up material from the supply lines. Be advised, however, that fire hydrants are typically part of the public portion of the water service and that additional flushing of the private portion of the water service lines may be required.</li> <li>• The County cannot provide assistance with the maintenance of private portions of the water service.</li> </ul> <p><u>Rec &amp; Parks Update – Jeff Degitz.</u> Celene and Jeff will be meeting to discuss combining outdoor programming. The South Carroll Dog Park has 160 registered members with 200 dogs. Deer Park is under construction and adding additional walking trails as well as a pedestrian connection to an adjacent community. The new Westminster Veterans Memorial Park on Crest Lane is under construction and will also have walking trails. The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County has provided them with a grant for senior fitness equipment at Leister Park. Due to COVID most facilities have reopened with some restrictions. The Nature Centers are still closed but will reopen soon. Hashawa will be the last to open with their rental and cabins still closed. Their grounds are open for walking and hiking.</p> <p><u>Carroll Rebound</u> – This is a program that provides funding for non-profits and small businesses that have been impacted by COVID. This is not a loan but a grant for between \$2,500 and \$8,000. Leslie will provide information and the application link to the group.</p>
<p><b>Area Reports – COAD Members</b></p>	<p><u>Dan Bowler, Family Representative for Developmental Disabilities</u> – All day centers are still closed, and he has heard that they may not be opening this year. People with disabilities do not always live in a group home and a lot are facing serious health issues and isolation. Some agencies are providing in person services. Continue to reach out to families and people with disabilities and as you identify issues please pass them along.</p> <p><u>Rich Ottone, Senior Inclusion Program</u> – In April and May staff began to reach out to participants. In June they began virtual programming with some success as not everyone responds well to virtual. They have plans to begin limited in</p>

## Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: July 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting on Go To Meeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Dan Andersen

	<p>person visits outside of the home with restrictions. There are some day programs in the state that are making plans to reopen for they are typically for younger clients. Target does have some limited programming. Val Cioeff passed away this morning. There is no word on the services yet.</p> <p><u>Doc Doxzen, Manchester</u> – Local food pantries are open and active. Regarding site councils, Rich has advised that they can each make contact and decide best how to handle for their location. BOAD can provide a platform for virtual meetings. He will have the center managers reach out to the site council presidents with this information.</p> <p><u>Cheryl Steinbacher, Hampstead/Manchester</u> – She has provided some information to the HOA of Castlefield II community. She has begun to walk the neighborhood and is open to suggestions on how to best get the word out. Leslie will provide members with a list of 55+ communities as well as brochures and business cards.</p> <p><u>Announcements</u> – Carroll Food Sunday is now open with an outdoor pick-up model on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. CTS has opened their on demand and all the trailblazer routes are running.</p>
<b>Next Meeting Date</b>	<b>The next meeting date is Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. VIRTUALLY. Meeting information will be shared prior.</b>