



COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

Meeting Summary – January 18, 2024

I. Roll Call

- a. Meeting Called to Order: 11:32 a.m.
- b. Quorum - Board Members Present (7), Absent (6)

II. Committee Objectives/Goals for 2024 Shared

- a. Chair shared COEA purpose, mission and call to action
 - i. Chair will contact County Commissioners, remind of the COEA and ask their goals for Fulton County seniors.
 - ii. Charge to COEA members – join a COEA committee in 2024; consider recommending new committees and new business/community members
 - 1. COEA membership not required to serve on a committee
 - 2. See Bylaws section Article VII – Committees, Section 1: In addition, committees may include interested citizens from the community who have special interest, experience, or input into committee matters.

III. Senior Services Update

- a. See appendix A
- b. ARC public hearing link provided – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AreaPlanFY25>
- c. COEA questions
 - i. Means testing – in developmental stages
 - ii. Wellness Checks – Senior Services to explore opportunities within the County
 - iii. Public notice re: events
 - iv. New Horizon housing repair discussion, pending information for seniors and list re: home repair; requested point of contact

1. Community Development, Vanessa Montford, 404-612-7193 (office); 470-985-0240 (cell)
2. Question re: transportation cost and increase
 - a. BOC approved means testing development during 12/24/23 meeting; Senior Services will follow up with COEA and request feedback
3. Comment re: in-home services, request for point of contact and in-person conversation; expressed concerns regarding technology barriers & seniors
 - a. STARline 404-613-6000

IV. Unfinished Business

- a. Status of City of Atlanta Commissioners Parks and Recreation discussion; Senior Services will provide update to COEA during February meeting

V. New Business

- a. No new business

VI. Announcements

- a. Reflect omission of agenda public comments in meeting minutes
- b. February 22, 2024 - 9am – 2pm; Alzheimer’s Awareness and Advocacy Day at the State Capitol
 - i. Chair asked how we can support more than just presence
- c. February 15, 2024 – Senior Day at the Capitol (annual event); seniors are given an opportunity to meet Legislators; Free; registration is required; see <https://www.gcoa.org/about-co-age> and register

VII. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned 12:35 p.m.

Appendix A

Commission on Elder Affairs Meeting

January 2024

DSS Updates



A. COEA Meeting Attendees Awareness

- a. The COEA meeting was published on the Fulton County Government calendar page and Commission on Elder Affairs page. However, the meeting notice was not updated on the DSS homepage. Going forward, DSS will ensure that proper notice is provided on all three pages.
- b. LaTanya Walker is no longer with the County. The COEA point of contact will be Ladisa Onyiliogwu. LaTanya gave us permission to share that she is going into the counseling field and we wish her well in future endeavors.

B. Programs

- a. DSS, Adult Day Adult Day Health Program hours - 8:00am-5:00pm.
 - i. Program Admission assessments are ongoing
 - ii. The Adult Day program continues to provide virtual classes, home delivered meals, and weekly wellness calls to check in on registered participants.
 - iii. Caregiver Support Meeting-Every 3rd Wednesday 3:00pm-4:00pm
 - iv. Adult Day Health Program applications are available upon request. For more information, please call 404-613-6000
 - v. The Adult Day Health Programs hosts Virtual Programs Mon-Friday. Information can be found under the Department of Senior Services, on the Fulton County Website
- b. DSS, Multipurpose Program Hours – 8:30am – 5:00pm
 - i. Program annual assessments ongoing; used to confirm program appropriateness and identify service referral needs
 - ii. New quarterly session underway; open gym and open swim are available

- iii. All senior adults 55 and older can purchase facility breakfast and lunch meals. Meal customers are not required to be registered participants.
- iv. In 2024, Senior Services will implement Mobile Wellness Services at the four senior multipurpose facilities and three Neighborhood Centers (Dogwood, Southeast, and New Beginnings). The Mobile Wellness Program will provide monthly preventive medical services to seniors by reservation; all services rendered will be billed through Medicare. Currently, space is being identified at each location, and the program start date goal is sometime between the first and second quarters of this year. More information will be coming on this project.

c. DSS, Contracts

- i. The Common Courtesy contract provides Uber/Lyft transportation. Requests for this service increased in the last quarter of 2023. The Transdev contract (traditional transportation) supports senior center trips, behavioral health trips and some demand response.
- ii. Roswell Senior Center will be partnering with Georgia State University Dental Hygiene program to provide free dental screenings and cleanings at the Roswell Senior Centers for participants, in home clients and community seniors. Happening in January and February

C. Information and Referrals

- a. The STARline logged 1,036 calls in December 2023. Primary information request is transportation followed by 'other' and home repair.
- b. DSS is currently working with IT to address wait times and messaging process

D. Strategy

- a. The Board of Commissioners approved the Senior Services D Department (DSS) to develop a means test and policy recommendation; planning and development to occur in the 1st quarter of 2024.
- b. DSS is in the planning phases of a consumer directed service pilot. The consumer directed project enables senior clients to employ a loved one or trusted individual to provide in-home services. This service is allowable under the HCBS Older Americans Act.
- c. Senior Survey planning to resume in 2024
- d. Home Repairs are managed by the Community Development department (vendor Meals on Wheels). As of November 2023, 14 projects were completed, 10 projects underway and 17 projects pending (awaiting scope, contractor award and construction start date).
- e. The ARC will hold a Public Hearing January 24th regarding the Area Plan on Aging and Direct Services provided in the 10-county region. We will place a link of the survey in today's chat.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AreaPlanFY25>