



COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

Meeting Summary – October 17, 2024

I. Roll Call

- a. Meeting called to order at 11:38 am
- b. No Quorum – Board Members Present (4), Absent (8), Vacant (1)
- c. One member from the public was present. Three (3) Senior Services staff present.

II. Motivational comment

- a. Given by Chair – quote from Denis E. Waitley -There are two primary choices in life: to accept conditions as they exist, or accept the responsibility for changing them. Chair charged COEA members to keep this quote in mind as the year ends and planning for the next year begins.

III. Review/Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes were emailed to COEA members September 27, 2024; motion cannot be taken due to the lack of a quorum to accept the minute. The minutes were not approved.

IV. Senior Services Updates

- a. Senior Services reminded COEA of senior Medicare wellness days locations and volunteer recruitment for AmeriCorps Senior Companion program.

V. Committee Updates

- a. Advocacy
 - i. COEA member Marsetta Ray highlighted that there is no working committed; early voting is underway and will run through November 1st; record breaking turnout re: advance voting

- ii. Anticipated changes to Medicare in 2025; COEA members encouraged to monitor and obtain information regarding changes
- iii. Increase in Medicare scams (referenced pharmacy owners having been arrested due to scams)
- iv. Posed question – should COEA take advantage of virtual workshops and seminars
- v. 2025 Advocacy Day at the Georgia State Capital – February 24, 2025; Stephanie Fiber-Sutton will attend the Co-Age meeting in Athens, GA

b. Elder Abuse committee

- i. No report

c. Dementia Education and Awareness

- i. Dementia Friendly Fulton October meeting minutes emailed to COEA members October 16, 2024
- ii. Stephanie Fiber-Sutton shared update:
 - 1. November 12, 2024 – Dementia Friendly to be held at Northeast Spruill Oaks Library 2pm – 3pm
 - 2. Atlanta Walk to end Alzheimer’s November 2, 2024 at 7:15am at Truist Park
 - 3. Chair invited COEA members to walk together at the Alzheimer’s Walk

d. Health and Wellness Committee – no report

VI. No Guest Speaker

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Bylaw and COEA vacancies review – will table and vote in November
 - a. Chair requested for all COEA members to email changes for consideration prior to November meeting
- b. Chair asked for a vacancy report and for Secretary to contact Commissioners
 - a. Secretary will provide vacancy report with October minutes and summary; vacancy report will be included with all future meeting agendas

VIII. New Business

- a. Chair requested nominations for new officers
 - i. No nominations offered by attending members
 - ii. Chair requested for secretary to remind COEA members of November COEA elections

IX. Public Comments

- a. Guest (Ben Howard) shared comments regarding Fulton County BOC meeting; another senior citizen publicly denounced transportation program changes; presentation regarding County legislative strategy – announced that Fulton County Youth Commission will take part in talks with the Legislative session

X. Announcements

- a. According to the bylaws, officers shall be elected for a two-year term in November and assume office in January. COEA members are asked to consider serving in any position (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Chair Pro-tem, and Parliamentarian).
- b. LIHEAP begins on December 2, 2024, for seniors who are 65 or older. To make an appointment, call (404) 320-6715.

XI. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned was by the Chair at 12:07 pm.