



**Minutes of Regular Meeting
May 28, 2024
Powell's Creek Conference Room, McCoart
Building
1 County Complex Court, Woodbridge, VA 22192**

Present: Nancy West, Occoquan District, Chair
Eileen Fowler Thrall, Potomac District
Sandra Dawson, Woodbridge District; Vice Chair
Josh Lee, Acting Director, Prince William Area Agency on Aging
Diana Paguaga, Representative-At-Large
Barbara Reese, President, Friends of Senior Center Manassas
Brenda Carswell, AARP Virginia

Absent: Mickey Feeley, Coles District; Secretary
Scot Crockett, Brentsville District
Brian Fulton, Neabsco District
Roberta Wilson, President, Friends of Senior Center Woodbridge

Visitors: Veronica Laughman, ADA Coordinator, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism
Anthony Frierson, President Elect, Friends of Senior Center Manassas
Gary West
Joe Stainsby, OmniRide

1. Meeting was called to order: 10:03 a.m. and Pledge of Allegiance recited.

2. Introductions

3. Public Comment Time: Joe Stainsby provided an abbreviated presentation of the OmniRide Local Eastern Restructure plan.

- a. Beginning June 10, 2024, there will be no deviated fixed route service. All routes will become fixed routes, with complimentary paratransit service. All current service areas will continue to be served; however, routes may change.
- b. The presentation covered the changes to local routes and reviewed the route name changes (routes west of Interstate 95 will begin with a "9" and routes east of Interstate 95 will begin with a "5").

- c. Criteria for transportation eligibility remains the same and is determined by “ADA Ride” and eligibility requirements can be found in the Paratransit Rider Guide at www.omniride.com.
- d. The dedicated complimentary paratransit system was introduced. Paratransit will run 7 days a week with hours to coincide with local fixed routes. Pick up will be in dedicated paratransit vehicles (not OmniRide buses). There will be no deviations from fixed routes, providing more service reliability.
- e. The western end of PWC has been in service for 18 months and service is coming to eastern area on June 10, 2024.
- f. In the fall of 2024, a new transit hub is opening in Stonebridge Plaza to facilitate a more comprehensive network of service and more community use of the Stonebridge facilities/services.
- g. The differences between paratransit services (OmniRide Access) and micro transit services (OmniRide Connect) were presented, with micro transit service being a corner-to-corner service.
- h. Speaking with local officials was encouraged, to gain support to bring micro transit services to underserved communities.

4. Presentation: Veronica Laughman presented the “Prince William County Parks Update.”

- a. The adaptive recreation and inclusion services for older adults are growing; with more programming being geared toward the older adult population.
- b. Accessibility for park trails and boardwalks is improving yet remains a concern.
 - i. specific areas discussed were the Neabsco Boardwalk, which does not have benches available, the handicap accessibility at the Locust Shade Park/Amphitheater, and the need for benches along the Powell’s Creek trail boardwalk.
- c. To continue to advocate for, and advance ADA inclusion, in the parks and trails, complaints and suggestions can be sent via email directly to Veronica, the ADA Coordinator for DPRT.
- d. A demonstration of the interactive Trail Locator and Program Finder was provided.

5. Administrative Items:

- a. Chair West reviewed administrative folder contents.
- b. Minutes of April COA meeting were approved.

6. Director’s Time: Josh Lee, Acting Director, PWAAA presented the following updates:

- a. The wait list for Personal Care services is currently 33; Meals on Wheels has a waitlist of 29 in Woodbridge, 0 in Manassas; and the Adult Day Healthcare currently has a waitlist of 19.

- b. Megann Hankins will begin on May 28, 2024, as the new Recreational Specialist at the Senior Centers.
- c. A Position Profile is being created for the HIPAA Compliance Officer, a position adopted by the BOCS in the FY25 budget, with a hire goal of July 1, 2024.
- d. Health Aide Sandra Wilson will retire, effective October 1, 2024.
- e. Courtney Tierney will retire from the County, June 2024.
- f. There were over 240 participants (not including staff or vendors) in attendance at the Older American's Month Celebration. The Commission thanked Josh for his efforts in making this event such a success.
- g. The PWC Gives! Campaign is on September 19th and 20th.
- h. The Prince William Health District is providing 200 free flu vaccinations at Ferlazzo on September 25th, times to be announced.
- i. The next open Bluebird meeting is scheduled for July 12th at 10:00 in the Board Chambers of McCoart.
- j. Aging will gather for an All-Staff meeting on Friday, September 13th.
- k. Prince William Chamber of Commerce will host a Senior Services Committee Information Session on May 20th at Arbor Terrace.
- l. In partnership with the Prince William Chamber of Commerce, Aging hosted an Aging Gracefully event at Potomac Mills Mall on May 1st.
- m. The Virginia Governors Conference on Aging is scheduled for May 19th and 20th in Williamsburg, VA.

7. Chairperson's Time: No report.

8. Old Business: None.

9. Standing and Informational Committee Reports:

- a. Housing: Chair West read Mickey Feeley's email.
- b. Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN): Chair West read Mickey Feeley's email.
- c. Friends of the Senior Center Woodbridge: Roberta Wilson absent.
- d. Friends of the Senior Center Manassas: Barbara was thanked for the lovely dedication of the garden. Barbara shared that there is an abundant vegetable and flower garden now. Two scholarships will be given out this year; anticipated at \$750 each and to be discussed at the next Friends meeting. Anthony Frierson will be taking over as President when Barbara steps down at the end of June. The grant request for the garden walkway was denied. Anthony introduced himself and thanked Barbara for her leadership of the Friends group. He looks forward to sharing ideas for the Center with the Commission.
- e. AARP – Brenda Carswell shared that advocacy work will begin after the Primary.

10. New Business: No new business.

11. Commission Member Announcements: No announcements.

10. Meeting adjourned: 11:24 a.m.

Mickey Feeley

Approved: 25 June 2024

Listing of Handouts in Record Copy (available upon request to the Secretary):

1. Agenda
2. COA Minutes – 23 April 2024
3. Executive Committee Minutes – 14 May 2024
4. Commission on Aging Meeting Schedule with Topics for 2023
6. COA Local Government Appointee & Prince William Area Members Roster
7. COA Updates from Aging
8. Mickey Feeley email regarding Housing Board and NVAN updates