

ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING AGENDA

Virtual Meeting: Thursday, May 13, 2021; 4pm



Communities of Strength



Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, this meeting is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 or Section 4-0.01(g) in HB29 and HB30, enacted by the 2020 Virginia General Assembly (Virginia Acts of Assembly Ch. 1283 and 1289), to undertake essential business. All members of the Board and staff are participating from remote locations through a Zoom Webinar. This meeting is being held electronically, unless a determination is made that it is safe enough to be held in person at a location to be determined. Electronic access will be provided in either event. The meeting can be accessed by the public through the Zoom link or phone number provided below. Public comment will be received at the meeting. Public comments can also be sent to daas@alexandriava.gov in advance of the meeting. Please indicate that your comments are for a meeting related to the Alexandria Commission on Aging in the subject line. A recording will be made of this meeting.

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5Vq0LkPxQuOmt1DgON4WjQ

Meeting ID: 935 7751 7116

Password: 251935

Phone In number: 301-715-8592

MEMBERS: Please read through the Agenda and have available for reference at the meeting.

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome guests
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of April 2021 minutes
5. Alexandria Police Department Liaison Report – Sgt. Ian Torrance
6. Special Presentation: Jacqueline Tucker, Race and Social Equity Officer
7. Executive Committee Report– see attached
8. Discussion / Action Items
 - A. Age Friendly Plan update
 - B. Zoom Protocols– see attached
 - C. Committee to write Racial and Social Equity Statement for COA
 - D. Scooter Task Force
 - E. Election of new COA officers

- F. Committee description and membership needs
- G. May is Older Americans Month – “Communities of Strength”

9. **Liaison Reports - Please provide a written summary to Debbie.ludington@alexandriava.gov**

- 1. Successful Aging – Margaret Orlando
- 2. Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities – Margaret Orlando
- 3. Alexandria Adult Day Services Center, ADSC – Darrell Wesley
- 4. Housing Affordability Advisory Committee, AHAAC – Bill Harris
- 5. Division of Aging and Adult Services – Terri Lynch
- 6. INOVA Alexandria Hospital
- 7. Human Rights Commission – Lynette Foster– see attached
- 8. AHA – Bob Eiffert
- 9. AARP – Jane King
- 10. NVAN – Babs Waters / Terri Lynch
- 11. St. Martins Senior Center – Anne Coyne– see attached
- 12. Virginia Hospital Center – Kate Chutuape
- 13. Commission for Women
- 14. Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria
- 15. Public Health Advisory Commission
- 16. Commission on Persons with Disabilities – Michael Kamin
- 17. Senior Center @ Charles Houston – Vanessa Green– see attached
- 18. Senior Services of Alexandria – Mary Lee Anderson– see attached
- 19. Alexandria Commission on Employment, ACE – Mary Lee Anderson
- 20. Northern Virginia Falls Prevention Alliance, NVFPA – Mary Lee Anderson
- 21. Arlington Legislative Committee – Mary Lee Anderson
- 22. Arlington Commission on Aging – Mitch Opalski

10. Committee Updates

- 1. Housing – Chair, Michael Schuster
- 2. Outreach Committee – Co-Chairs, Victoria Almquist and Asfaha Beyene– see attached
- 3. Transportation – Chair, Ray Biegun– see attached
- 4. Economic Development – Chair, Mary Lee Anderson– see attached
- 5. Strategic Planning – Chair, Babs Waters
- 6. Health /Dementia Friendly Committee – Chair, Marjorie Conner
- 7. By-Laws – Chair, Michael Kreps
- 8. Advocacy – ad hoc
- 9. Nominating Committee – Chair, David Kaplan - – see attached

- 11. Other Business
- 12. New Business
- 13. Public comments – please limit your comments to 3 minutes

Next Commission Meeting: Virtual Meeting; Thursday, June 1, 2021, 4pm

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Virtual Meeting; Tuesday, June 1, 2021, 10am

COMMISSION OFFICERS: Babs Waters, Chair
Victoria Almquist, Vice Chair
Secretary, Michael Kreps

The business of the Commission on Aging is largely conducted by its committees. ALL COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Please call the Division of Aging and Adult Services at 703.746.5999 for more information. In addition, the Commission has official liaisons with several other commissions, organizations or activities.

The City of Alexandria complies with the terms of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). An individual with a disability who wishes to request an accommodation may contact the Division of Aging and Adult Services at 703.746.5999, email DAAS@alexandriava.gov, or use Virginia Relay 711.

Visit the Division of Aging and Adult Services website for Commission on Aging agendas and minutes and other aging information: www.Alexandriava.gov/aging

**Alexandria Commission on Aging (COA)
 Executive Committee (ExCo) Meeting (Virtual via Zoom)
 Monday, May 3, 2021 10:00 - 11:40 AM**

MEETING NOTES

Members Present:

Barbara “Babs” Waters (COA Chair), Victoria Almquist (COA Vice Chair), Mary Lee Anderson, Asfaha Beyene, Raymond “Ray” Biegun, Marjorie Conner, Michael Schuster, Denise Mackie-Smith

Staff Members Present:

Debbie Ludington, Terri Lynch

Guests Present:

Bob Eiffert

1. Welcome

2. Call to Order: COA Chair, Babs Waters called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

3. The Agenda was approved.

4. Committee Reports

A.	Economic Development Committee	Mary Lee Anderson, Chair: Last met on April 7; see Committee Meeting Notes. Next meeting is on May 5.
B.	Outreach Committee	Victoria Almquist & Asfaha Beyene (co-chairs): Last met on April 28; see Committee Meeting Notes. Next meeting is on May 26.
C.	Housing Committee	Michael Schuster, Chair: Last met on April 19; see Committee Meeting Notes. Shared info on the Aspire Independent Living Facility - a senior affordable housing project. Next meeting is on May 17.
D.	Strategic Planning Committee	Babs Waters: All committee chairs are members. The June 2018 Age Friendly Plan covers the years 2019-2021. A new plan will need to be completed for the years 2022-2024.
E.	Transportation Committee	Ray Biegun, Chair: Last met on April 19; see Committee Meeting Notes. Ray represented COA at the April 22 meeting of the Alexandria Scooter Task force (Sharon Dantzig was our representative). Next meeting is on May 17.
F.	Health/Dementia Friendly Committee	Marjorie K. Conner, Chair. The Dementia Friendly Alexandria Committee met on April 30.

5. COA Executive Committee (ExCo) Business Meeting

A.	Presentation	
		None
B.	ExCo Information only	
	(1)	Chair Report.
	(a)	COVID-19 vaccinations update
	(b)	By-laws Committee needs to meet to complete by-laws revisions.
	(c)	Full time WDC Position was funded in the City Manager’s Budget.
	(d)	Annual Report: Committee annual report submissions due end of June 2021

(2)	DAAS Staff Report – Staff from the senior centers met April 30 to discuss when centers would open again. No dates yet, possibly in the fall.
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C.	ExCo Discussion Items
(1)	Michael Schuster shared info on the proposed Aspire Independent Living Facility - a senior affordable housing project near Braddock Road Metro. Still in discussions with the builder on having nine designated affordable housing units vs a builder contribution to the Alexandria affordable housing trust fund.
(2)	Update on designating a city bench to honor the memory of a former Commission member, Sharon Dantzig, who passed away in February. Fundraising was discussed.
(3)	Committee update on a Racial & Social Equity Statement for COA. The committee is still in the process of drafting the statement. Committee members: Denise Mackie-Smith (Chair), Victoria Almquist, Marjorie Connor, and Jane King,
(4)	COA Nominating Committee Update. Committee members: David Kaplan (Chair), Mary Lee Anderson, and Ray Biegun. Slate selected - Michael Schuster, Secretary, Barbara D'Agostino, Vice Chair, and Babs Waters, Chair. Term of office June 2021 - June 2022. New officers are installed during the June COA meetings.

D.	COA Action/Decision Items
(1)	Election of new COA Officers

6. Planning for Thursday, May 13, 2021 Commission on Aging Meeting

A.	Presentation
(1)	Presenter - Jaqueline Tucker, Alexandria City's Race and Social Equity Officer
(2)	Q & A
B.	COA Information only Items
(1)	Chair Report (a) COVID-19 vaccinations (b) COA Committee Chairs Discussion about their committee (c) Committee annual report submissions due end of June 2021
(2)	DAAS Staff Report
C.	COA Discussion only Items
(1)	City of Alexandria Age Friendly Plan Updates.
(2)	Zoom Protocol Reminders.
(3)	Committee to write Racial & Social Equity Statement for COA
(4)	Scooter Task Force. Ray Biegun was appointed COA representative.
(5)	The need for additional COA members on COA committees (Economic Development, Outreach, Transportation). The need for liaison positions to be filled: Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria and Public Health Advisory Commission are filled by COA members. INOVA Alexandria Hospital and Virginia Hospital Center liaisons will be designate by their respective organization. Commission for Women liaison will be appointed by City Council,
(6)	City Manager's Budget.
D.	COA Decision only Items
(1)	Election of new COA Officers

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7. Planning for future COA meetings

A.	Possible Future Speakers
(1)	June - VA Delegate Charniele Herring
(2)	September - Councilwoman “Del” Pepper
B.	Additional items - Please submit other proposed speakers to babswaters@comcast.net

8. Other Business – None.

9. Announcements

A. Next two (2) COA Executive Committee (ExCo) Meetings

(1)	Date: Tuesday, June 01, 2021 (Note: Monday, May 31, 2021 Memorial Day is observed) Time 10 AM – Noon via Zoom
(2)	Date: Tuesday, September 07, 2021 (Note: Monday, September 06, Labor Day is observed) Time 10 AM – Noon via Zoom

B. Next two (2) COA Monthly Commission Meetings

(1)	Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 Time: 4:00 – 6:00 PM via Zoom
(2)	Date: Thursday, September 09, 2021 Time: 4:00 – 6:00 PM via Zoom

C. Other Alexandria COA events

	None
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D. Other non-Alexandria COA events

(1)	NVAN Date: May 18, 2021 Time: 9:30 AM-11AM via Zoom Host: N/A
(2)	Virginia Governor’s Conference on Aging www.vgcoavirtual.com Date: May 24-27, 2021 Time: Begins 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM via Zoom Cost: \$90/person for all Conference sessions Theme: “Virginia is for Aging”

10. Public Comment – None.

11. The meeting was adjourned by Babs Waters at 11:40 AM.

(Notes prepared by Ray Biegun.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESSFULLY USING ZOOM

FOR THOSE NEW TO USING ZOOM:

1. Download the Zoom application here: <https://zoom.us/download>. You can create a free account. Once you have downloaded the software, you might want to do a test meeting so you are comfortable using the platform: <https://zoom.us/test>. Also, Zoom has a lot of helpful information on its website (<https://support.zoom.us>).
2. Familiarize yourself with the controls. In particular, become familiar with:
 - how to join a meeting and how waiting rooms and passwords are used,
 - where the controls are for turning your audio and video on and off,
 - how to use the chat and raise hand functions, and
 - the different “views” --“Gallery View” when all participants are on the screen in small squares and the person talking is outlined in yellow, and “Speaker View” when the person talking is enlarged and others are minimized.
3. The controls will be in different places on your screen depending on what device you are using (laptop vs Ipad/tablet vs cellphone). Be sure to learn where they are on all the devices you might use.

FOR ALL ZOOM USERS:

4. Always mute yourself when joining a meeting.
5. Stay muted when not speaking and remember to unmute yourself to speak.
6. It is requested that you turn your video on when you are speaking if you have it turned off.
7. Whenever your video is on be aware of how your camera is positioned and center yourself in the middle of the screen. Also make sure there is adequate lighting so you can be seen.
8. Turn your video off when moving your device (ex - walking to another room) or when doing other activities (ex - answering a call, eating, working). It can be distracting to other participants when someone on screen is moving around or engaged in activities not related to the meeting.
9. Avoid using the chat function to ask a question or make a comment. Use the raise your hand function instead, unless the host specifically asks participants to use chat.

Notes on the April 20th Human Rights Commission Meeting-Lynette Foster

The Guest Speak was the City of Alexandria's Equity Officer Jacqueline Tucker.

Jacqueline presented the equity vision for the City. Her job is to establish a collaborative relationship with the City Manager's Office.

Her presentation included statistical information relative to poverty, Housing, and race relations in the City. The goal is to establish equity and inclusion in the City beginning with City employees.

It was noted that long term residents in the City are paying high property taxes on fixed incomes and are in danger of losing their homes. Some are paying more property taxes for their homes now than they did 30- 40 years ago. The Human Rights Commission would like the COA to look into what can be done to help with this situation. Perhaps work jointly with them on this project and to see if you have more information.

The U.S. Senate confirmed Vanita Gupta as associate attorney general on a nearly party-line vote, capping off a contentious fight that saw Republicans blast the civil rights attorney for her past support for decriminalizing drugs and shrinking police forces.

Before her nomination by President Biden, Vanita served as CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights (LCCHR). The International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) is a member organization of LCCHR; IAOHRA is the only network of state and local human rights and human relations agencies in the US and Vanita has been a good friend and supporter of our work.

The City was listed as the 18th most diverse in America. The link is below

<https://wallethub.com/edu/most-diverse-cities/12690>

St. Martin de Porres Senior Center COVID-19 Report for May 2021

Senior Wellness Checks and Assistance for Participants -we continue to outreach to all our seniors and members from the community fielding calls and questions. Weekly telephone calls to seniors to assist with the following services:

- Weekly shopping trips
- Promoting and transporting weekly to the Walking Club at Ben Brenman Park
- Participating at Patrick Henry Recreation Center's Senior Pop Up Exercises on 8/12 April.
- Spring activity kits, senior requests for toiletries, food such as milk, bread, and oatmeal
- Planting herbs in the garden as well as weeding, mulching, and selecting vegetables for planting

Social Isolation: we reach out to the seniors to alleviate anxiety and concerns about staying at home alone. Some even ask about returning to the center when it reopens. So, we continue offering virtual programs and assist many with participating with others in the Alexandria DAAS community to include weekly virtual classes with ADSC and CHSC. Exercise classes are popular as well as trivia, ESOL classes and old time shows. We added a chair arthritis prevention class and a SAIL fall prevention class on You Tube from Fairfax County Office of Aging. The exercises offer sitting and standing models. Also, seniors enjoy classes offered by Jane Franklin. Staff assist seniors contacting other agencies to ensure their needs are met.

Weekly wellness check calls, trivia, exercise, virtual travel, historical trivia, musicals, current events, and humor.

Senior Shopping Trips: This month the seniors participated in 4 weekly shopping trips. Our trips include going Target, Walmart, Lidl, and Landmark Plaza.

Monthly Senior Newsletters: Mailed 80 monthly newsletters to seniors with community and center updates, recipes, Coronavirus Q&A, and birthday greetings.

Weekly Virtual Newsletter: Emailed 200 weekly newsletters to seniors and their family's information pertaining relevant information from SSA and the community to keep them informed in activities around the city.

Virtual Programming: SMdP seniors continue to participate with Adult Day Services Center (ADSC) virtual programming along with Charles Houston Senior Center participants. We continue to team up with other senior programs in the city and participated in various senior activities virtual and in place. SSA invited senior center director on weekly zoom meeting to inform senior ambassadors and other visitors services provided by SMdP senior center before, during and post pandemic.

This month we began promoting increased outdoor physical activity with the return of the senior garden. This month we concentrated on weeding, mulching, planting flowers and herbs. Favorable Spring weather promoted the Walking Club at Ben Brenman park and the "Pop Up" senior activity and crafts class outdoors at Patrick Henry Recreation Center.

- **Submitted by Anne T. Coyne, Senior Center Director, St. Martin de Porres Senior Center. Tele: 703-751-2766. Email: anne.coyne@ccda.net**

The Senior Center at Charles Houston
April 2021 Report for May 2021 Meeting

Staff continue to provide weekly wellness telephone checks, weekly teleconference & Zoom virtual activities that include Bingo and cognitive/brain teasers, as well as participant led rousing discussions on a variety of topics. Houston staff continue to coordinate with the other two senior sites (St. Martin's and ADSC) for combined virtual cognitive and physical activities. Site staff have begun to do planning for late spring activities. Additionally, a weekly Thursday shopping trip to local area markets, grocery's, Walmart and Dollar Tree stores enable participants to purchase food, medical and household items is provided.

We are excited that our Arthritis Exercise class is now on Zoom twice monthly on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. Our instructor, Monique Bagby, continues to do an excellent job of leading our seniors in various seated and standing exercise movements. Our St. Martin's counterparts as well as ADSC staff have joined us in this activity and have expressed enthusiasm in participation.

Our seniors still continue to receive their COVID vaccines through the efforts of Annie B. Rose, Ladrey and the City. Many have received their 2nd dose, most report little to no side effects.

Our Monday Walking Club @ Ben Brenman Park is back in "full swing." The average number of participants walking is 10 individuals.

Overall, our seniors continue to be faring pretty well during the pandemic. Their personal needs are met, they have food, shelter and resources to assist them. If a need arises that they're unable to address, center staff provides assistance in directing them to the appropriate resources and referrals.

Submitted by,

Vanessa K. Greene
Senior Center Director



May 5, 2021

To: Commission on Aging
From: Mary Lee Anderson, Executive Director
Senior Services of Alexandria
Subject: Update on Senior Services of Alexandria

This year's Virtual Senior Law Day will take place over three Friday mornings - June 4, 11 and 19 from 10 - 11 am. SSA and the Alexandria Bar Association are organizing a very robust workshop around the topic, "Estate **Planning and other Life Choices from a COVID-19 Perspective.**" **Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020, older adults have been forced to face a new reality on several fronts including choices around housing options; the necessity of technology; changes to legal documents; and changes in laws that older adults need to be aware of when making important estate planning decisions. Attendees will hear from local attorneys, healthcare professionals and care managers about changes in laws around housing, personal finances, and bankruptcies; how to make informed decisions about housing options as well how to use technology to improve the quality of your life. This is a free session open to the public. Click [here](#) to register or call 703 836 4414 ext 110.**

Are you looking for a flexible volunteer opportunity to help spread the word about all the programs and services available to older adults in our community? If so, SSA's Senior Ambassador program might be for you. We will hold a training session in June that will give you the tools to keep your community informed about all the ways Alexandria serves our seniors. Contact MaryAnne Beatty at communications@seniorservicesalex.org for more information.

City of Alexandria, Commission on Aging
Outreach Committee Notes
April 28, 2021 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
Via Zoom

Members Present: Victoria Almquist, Mary Anne Beatty, Asfaha Beyene, Ray Biegun, Gary Hacker, Margaret Orlando, Barbara Walters.

Hosting staff: Pamela Austin

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Victoria Almquist, and was conducted in conformity with the following guidelines:

“Due to the COVID 19 pandemic emergency, this meeting is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708-2 (A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adapted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 or Sections 4-0.00(g) in HB29 and HB30 to undertake essential business. All the members of the Committee and staff are participating from remote location through a Zoom Meeting. This meeting is being held electronically, unless a determination is made that it is safe enough to be held in person at a location to be determined. Public comment will be received at this meeting. A recording of this meeting is being made.”

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as proposed.

2. Updates on Outreach to:

Faith Community: Gary is hopeful that activities through these channels would start in the next 3 to 4 months, as churches and other religious centers start opening up.

LGBTQ community: Ray will represent the committee in the event that has been planned for June this year, although a final decision has not yet been made whether the event will take place.

Senior Ambassadors: Mary Anne reported that the number has reached 95, and the weekly regular meeting via zoom is taking place without interruption.

3. Discussion of presentation on bullying at the 3-21 meeting

Following the presentation on bullying in the last Outreach Committee meeting, a follow-up letter was sent by Mr. Mac Slover on behalf of the Mayor’s Campaign to End Bullying Committee (MCTEBC), summarizing the takeaways of the meeting.

The Outreach Committee agreed on most of the points covered in the letter, with the exception of the first paragraph. Members did not recall committing the Outreach

Committee to write letters on bullying to any seniors. If necessary, the Outreach Committee will help MCTEBC in providing a list of the seniors to whom the latter wishes to write.

Victoria will check the transcript to verify what was discussed. As agreed in the previous meeting, she will draft a letter to the Mayor expressing COA's support for this initiative as well as underlining the importance of training the staff and promoting awareness in the community.

4. Public comments

No comments were made

5. Date of next meeting

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26th May, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Commission on Aging – Transportation Committee

April 19, 2021 4:30 PM Via Zoom

Meeting Notes

Members: Ray Biegun, Chair; Cedar Dvorin, David Kaplan, Babs Waters (COA Chair).

Guests: Jennifer Slesinger (T&ES), Jan Macidull.

Staff: Debbie Ludington (DAAS).

Introductions: None required.

Review and Approval of the Agenda – The agenda was approved.

Discussion

Alexandria Mobility Plan (AMB)

Ms. Schlesinger briefed the committee on the draft AMB with particular focus on how the travel choices and strategies in the Plan will benefit seniors. Feedback is being sought on the Plan through April 30th. Approval by Planning Commission and City Council is expected in the fall.

Questions and comments offered on Plan:

1) What is the relationship between parking and housing affordability?

A: Too much parking increases the cost of development projects and impacts affordability.

2) New brick sidewalks should no longer be constructed outside of the Old and Historic District because they are unsafe and difficult to maintain. Ms. Macidull briefed the group on a recent fall she had while navigating a brick sidewalk on Slaters Lane.

A: Type of brick used has changed and is more accessible. Brick sidewalks are not addressed in the AMB because the bike and pedestrian chapter of the plan is not being updated. ALX 311 should be used to request maintenance on sidewalks. Ms. Slesinger will connect the committee with contacts in Planning and Zoning and T&ES sidewalk maintenance.

3) How will data be collected under the Plan?

A: Data collection is tied to Vision Zero and will include high crash intersections as well as ALX 311 requests for service. City is always working on better data for analysis.

4) How are needs of all ages accounted for in making streets more walkable?

A: Start with ADA compliance on streets and timing of traffic signals for crossing. This is a collaboration between Vision Zero and Complete Streets.

5) There is a need to educate users of all transportation modes on traffic laws.

6) There is a need for more equity when it comes to transit fares and low income riders.

A: DASH might be fare free in FY 22.

7) Consider using flags to improve pedestrian visibility at dangerous crossings (Arlington has a few locations).

A: Ms. Slesinger will look at what Arlington is doing on this.

Future Transportation Committee activities

Ray led a discussion of committee goals and suggested we consider partnerships with other organizations (such as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Families for Safe Streets) which have a large base of volunteers. What outcomes or changes are we looking for within the City of Alexandria?

Public Comment: See Comments by Jan Macidull.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

The next meeting: Monday, May 17, 4:30 PM via Zoom.

Minutes from April 7, 2021 meeting of the Economic Development Committee

Attending: Mary Lee Anderson, Babs Waters, Annabelle Reitman, Sylvia Benatti, Emilia Turcios (City Staff coordinator)

The meeting began at 10:15 am via Zoom

The City's policy on virtual meetings was noted.

Senior Consumers: *Goal is to encourage businesses to offer discounts, services targeted to seniors.* SSA has continued to distribute cards to older adults, no further activity related to new businesses is envisioned until after the pandemic. AHA will encourage members to patronize Silver Service businesses, but not push for discounts during the pandemic. SSA will reach out to existing businesses to confirm their discounts and then promote on social media.

Senior Employment: *Goal is to help seniors find employment and to encourage businesses to hire* Emilia Turcios advised that the third 50+ Cohort program started, but enrollment is smaller. WDC is helping AHD fill temporary job openings at FEMA vaccination sites.

AARP Livable Community

Jane King will continue to coordinate reports on this effort, as the Commission begins work on the next plan.

Housing Initiative *Goal is to make it easier for seniors considering moving to evaluate their options in Alexandria, and keep them here.*

City's Housing webpage includes information about apartments and condos in the City, including information on accessibility and public transportation.

Senior Ambassador Program

There are now 95 senior ambassadors. SSA continues to have weekly Zoom meetings with City officials and other non-profits, as well as send emails with news updates twice a week. SSA has offered to assist Arlington in starting an Ambassador program.

Seniors as Entrepreneurs

Annabelle Reitman and Sylvia Benatti are rolling out the "55+ Incubator" to help older adults who want to start their own business. They are interviewing people for design of their website. They are applying to AARP for grant as a pilot project and meeting with AARP Foundation to discuss the program. Babs Waters confirmed Sylvia Benatti as a new member of this committee.

SNAP Enrollment for Seniors

SSA is exploring funding to hire staff to focus on enrollment of seniors in the SNAP program. Sandy Freedman, Director of SSA's Groceries to Go program, (a registered SNAP retailer) will be invited to join the committee to provide updates on the initiative.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5 at 10am via zoom.

Submitted by: Mary Lee Anderson

Commission on Aging Nominating Committee – 4/19/21

Held via Zoom

Attendees: David Kaplan, Mary Lee Anderson, and Ray Biegun

Also Present: Debbie Ludington

The meeting was called to order at 4 pm.

Committee members discussed a slate of officers for the Commission to serve one-year terms beginning in June 2021.

Committee members agreed to notify prospective nominees to be included on the slate and confirm their willingness to serve as an officer.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

David Kaplan

Chair