



## Senior Advisory Committee

Virtual Meeting  
[www.gaithersburgmd.gov/virtual](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/virtual)  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

### **AGENDA** **Regular Session**

Monday, September 14, 2020, 1:00 PM

The City is currently holding public meetings virtually via the Zoom webinar platform. Details can be found at [www.gaithersburgmd.gov/virtual](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/virtual).

The public is encouraged to listen in but will not be able to verbally participate in discussions. For all agenda items, you may submit comments in writing at any time. All comments should be emailed to [cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov](mailto:cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov).

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ELECTION OF OFFICER**
  - A. Election of Chair
  - B. Election of Vice Chair
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. August 3, 2020
- 4. DISCUSSION TOPICS**
  - A. Community Facility Manager's Report
  - B. Discuss a "Virtual Center"
  - C. Review Senior Advisory Committee Policy and Procedure and Mission Statement
  - D. For the Good of the Order
- 5. ADJOURNMENT**

All items and pertinent materials on this agenda are subject to change.

To request an ADA accommodation, please email [adameetings@gaitthersburgmd.gov](mailto:adameetings@gaitthersburgmd.gov) or call 301-258-6310 at least two business days prior to the posted meeting.

The City welcomes citizen involvement on all meeting bodies. Please visit the City's website for vacancies.

Electronic versions of materials related to applications are provided as a courtesy to interested parties. This is not the official record of matters before the meeting body and the City cannot guarantee the accuracy of electronic materials. Please visit the City's website to view the City of Gaithersburg Disclosure Statement. Materials provided electronically are submitted by applicants and are not the responsibility of the City. The official record of any matter is available for inspection by the public during regular business hours at City Hall, 31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877.



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## MINUTES Regular Session Monday, August 3, 2020, 1:00 PM

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Session of the Senior Advisory Committee was called to order at 1:00 PM with Member Marlene Shemelynec presiding.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Kathy Bennett	Member	Absent	
Jean Dinwiddie	Member	Present	
Mary Hoferek	Member	Present	
Yvette Monroe	Member	Present	
Marlene Shemelynec	Member	Present	
Carolyn Bass	Member	Present	

Staff present: Recreation Services Division Chief Smith, Program Supervisor Simpson, and Administrative Assistant III Bastian.

Council present: Sayles.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### A. Regular Session held July 13, 2020

*Motion was made to approve the above minutes.*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mary Hoferek, Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jean Dinwiddie, Member
<b>FOR:</b>	Dinwiddie, Hoferek, Monroe, Shemelynec, Bass
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Kathy Bennett

### 3. DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### A. Community Facility Manager's Report

Committee was made aware that Pope had resigned from the Senior Advisory Committee.

Division Chief Smith reported on full time staff positions - Tim Smith, Charlyn Simpson, Olympia Kozielski, Yoland Bastian and Andres Castillo are working their shifts. Andres is working five days a week helping with summer camps at Casey Community Center. Part time staff Robert Williams' hours have increased and Jerry Gagliano was added on two weeks ago. Committee enquired about Ebony Parker; Smith responded that due to her job as receptionist it is difficult since Center is not open but he is looking into other possibilities for her.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Aug 3, 2020 1:00 PM (Approval of Minutes)

Program Supervisor Simpson informed Committee of all the Virtual classes and programs offered online. Committee requested a video of the Water Walking exercise posted on the Center's website. We have switched Program formats to attract more attendees. Committee enquired about programming for seniors who have no access to computers. Simpson responded that they could call in, participate in the group discussions, and zoom classes all they would need is a number and password. Committee requested this information posted in The Center Post. Internet access is also an issue Committee pointed out. Simpson stated Comcast has a low-income program that she would look into. Councilmember Sayles stated that Comcast Business essentials has low cost computers, desktops and cellphone programs. A State level solution is required for WIFI access to meet the present need Committee stated. Simpson is in contact with the County, Rockville and Takoma Park Senior Centers sharing and discussing additional programming ideas.

The Center is not being used for summer camps Smith reported. Pipe replacement is a 60 days project scheduled for August 17. There are no further updates from Diamond Square Apartments.

We distributed 329 frozen meals for the month of July, averaging 65-70 individuals served per week with 20 pick-ups and 45 deliveries.

The fitness center at Bohrer Park averaged at 15 patrons a day four of them Benjamin Gaither Center members. Masks are required. Shemelynec enquired how this information was communicated to the members. An email was sent out to fitness members Simpson reported but Shemelynec had not received it and requested this information be added in The Center Post.

There are no plans for in person committee meetings and no plans for reopening Smith informed Committee. As for possible name change, not at this time. Councilmember Sayles stated that the Mayor and City Council will be talking about policing and improving racial equity in the City on September 15. Dinwiddie stated that the Commission on Aging task force is looking into racial equity, dementia and policing.

Funds are available in escrow and \$13,000 in the FY21 budget for improvements and updates to the Center. There is no update from the Washingtonian North developer. Committee requested an update and to check if the developer is going ahead with the plans to build senior housing during this crisis.

Hoferek asked about the gate that is needed to access the small courtyard. This has been on the improvement list for over 2 years.

#### B. Membership Input on Renovation and Updating Priorities During Closure

Committee suggested using available funds for replacing flooring, cosmetic upgrades and making the restrooms touchless with motion sensor paper dispenser and soap dispensers. Look into power washing the bathroom floors to better clean the grout. The wall under the hand dryers should have a Plexiglas barrier to catch water drippings for better cleaning. The gap between the doors of the stalls are too wide and needs to be fixed. Investigate and implement any appropriate new technology for air filtration or an improved HVAC system, as well as new sanitizing ultraviolet light technology.

Focus on the main entrance; add welcome signs in more languages and make the Center look inviting. Committee also suggested moving bulletin board for more impact, removing knickknacks, and place bread donations on tables.

Committee also suggested a mural like the one at the Quince Orchard shopping center. Councilmember Sayles offered to check G-PARC (Gaithersburg Parks, Arts and Recreation Corporation) for a local artist and will email Smith. Smith reported he is on the G-PARC committee and a meeting is scheduled for August 27.

Committee agreed to discuss cost effective ideas to make improvements and updates as an agenda item for the next meeting on September 14.

C. For the Good of the Order

Dinwiddie reported that the County Executive’s Community Recovery Advisory Group (CRAG) met with County officials and discussed housing needs. The County Council has approved \$20 million for eviction protection. The moratorium on evictions has expired, and courts will begin hearing cases at the end of August. It is estimated that 15% of renters are delinquent, compared with 5% pre-pandemic, 13,000 households are facing eviction in Whiteoak, Gaithersburg, Burtonsville and Silver Spring. Next meeting will be on School and Childcare. Committee wanted to know the area in Gaithersburg; Dinwiddie was not sure but agreed to check. For help with rent contact HHS helpline at 240-777-3000

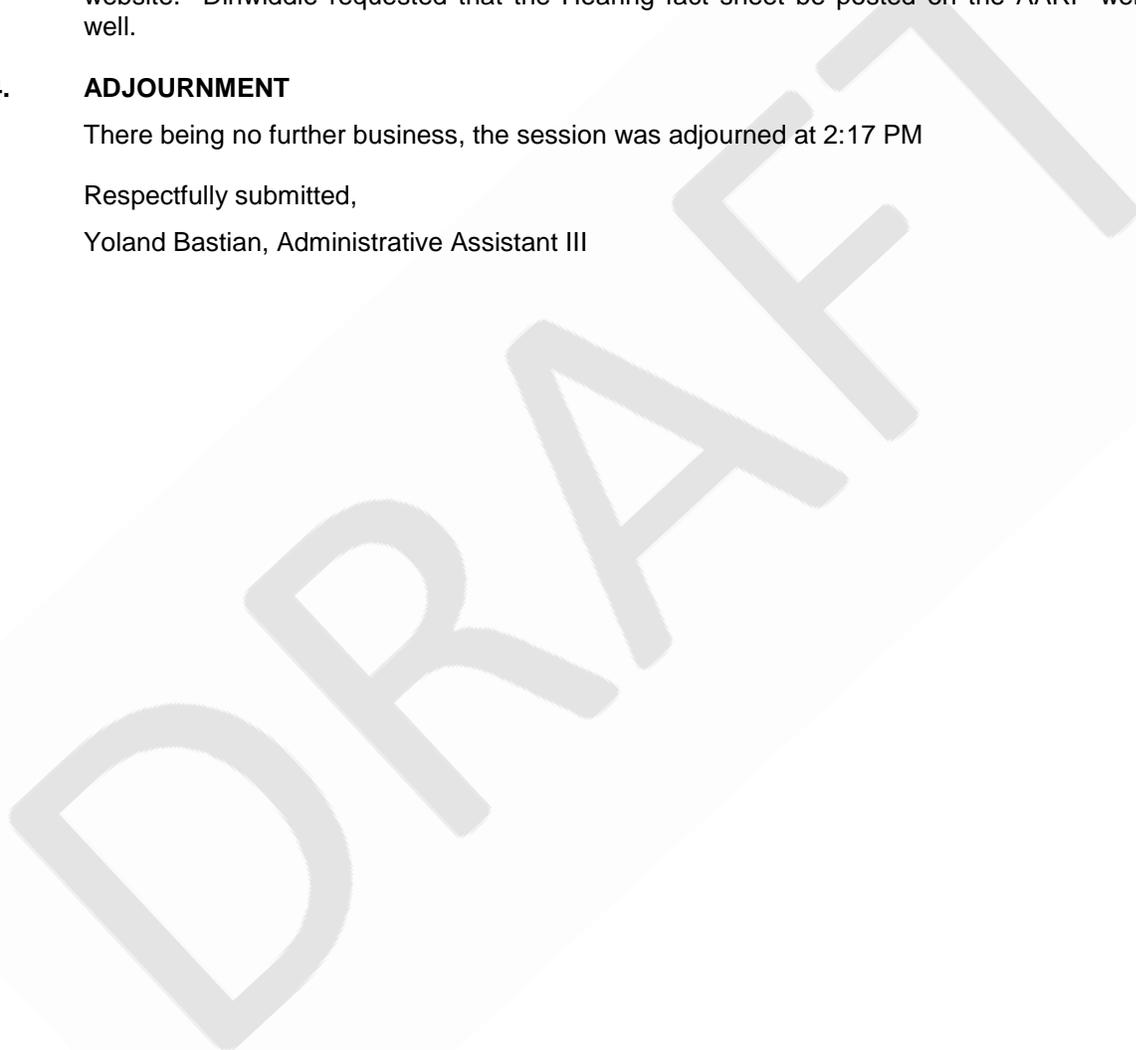
Smith reported the Mobile Dental grant is available and two Mobile Dental vans will be onsite at Bohrer Park on Aug. 13. Jerry Gagliano is the contact for appointments via email <<mailto:Jerry.Gagliano@gaitthersburgmd.gov>> or by calling 301-258-6380 and leaving a message. Information is in the August Center Post. Hoferek offered to post it on the local AARP website. Dinwiddie requested that the Hearing fact sheet be posted on the AARP website as well.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the session was adjourned at 2:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Yoland Bastian, Administrative Assistant III



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