



**COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS
GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY OF MINUTES**

Date: Thursday October 12, 2023
Time: 11:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Live via Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/92154181214>
Facilitator: Ann Germany

Board Members

Marsetta Ray, Past Chair, South Fulton Senior Center (Present)
Ann Germany, Board Chair, Sr. Services N. Fulton (Present)
Mary Blake, Chair Pro-Tem (Present)
Stephanie Fiber-Sutton, Member, District 1 (Present)
Beth Cayce, Member, District 2 (Absent)
Gary Snyder, Member, District 3 (Absent)
Linda Adams, Member, District 4 (Absent)
Dr. Sandra Wright, Member, District 5 (Absent)
Jill Lindsey, Member, District 6 (Absent)
Sarah Hilton, Member, Atlanta Housing Authority (Present)
Tracie Grant, Member, Fulton Atlanta Community Action Authority (Present)
Teresa Pearsall, Fulton Atlanta Community Action Authority (Absent)
Ruth Lyles-Bailey, Parliamentarian (Present)
Kweli R. Henry, Secretary, Department of Senior Services (non-voting)

Visitors and Staff

Two (2) visitors present; One (1) Senior Services staff

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** 11:35 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call | Attendance:** Board Members Present (7), Absent (6)
- III. **Review/Approval of Minutes:**
 - Action: Motion made, seconded, and carried.
- IV. **Updates from Officers or Board Members**
 - No updates provided
- V. **Summary of Meeting Minutes**
 - Combating disinformation, especially for seniors, and the importance of fact-checking and using reputable sources
 - Announcement of upcoming webinars and seminars, including the Council on Aging's annual meeting and a webinar on Medicare open enrollment
 - Discussion of creating a holiday resource guide to promote overall health and wellness during the holiday season
 - Introduction of Keith Knab as a speaker providing information on health and Medicare coverage options
 - Protecting seniors from scams and misinformation, such as the ongoing scam involving paper Medicare ID cards
 - Advocacy report on combating disinformation
 - Report from the dementia education awareness training and support committee
 - Planning for the holiday resource guide, including collecting information and seeking suggestions
 - Webinar on Medicare open enrollment called "Maximizing Your Medicare Choices" hosted by ARP on Tuesday, October 24th at 7 p.m.
- VI. **Summary of Potential Action Items**
 - Send any changes, additions, or corrections to La Tanya and myself for the minutes.
 - Change the program hours for the Adult Day Health program to 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. starting next week, October 16th.
 - Continue admission assessments for the Adult Day Health program.
 - Host a caregiver support meeting every third Wednesday of the month from 3 to 4 p.m.

- Plan and host upcoming events at the HJC Bowden Senior multi-purpose center, including a barbershop/men's seminar, Veterans Day program, Thanksgiving luncheon, and holiday celebration.
- Compile a calendar of events for all four multi-purpose centers and provide it to board members to showcase the anniversary date and activities.
- Register for the Council on Aging annual October meeting on October 19th.
- Attend the ARP webinar on Medicare open enrollment on October 24th.
- Request the links for the webinars and seminars from the speaker.
- Share the links with the group and via email.
- Identify a representative from the dementia Education Awareness Training and support committee.
- Collect all the information for the holiday resource guide by the end of October.
- Create a draft of the resource guide for the board to consider before its final release.
- Work together with senior services to ensure the guide is distributed in all senior centers.
- Focus on topics that promote overall health and wellness during the holiday season.
- Include information on how to support the health and wellness of individuals during the holidays, considering different circumstances.
- Include a section on healthy eating.
- Wholeheartedly recommend the project as a group.
- Educate seniors on scams and misinformation related to Medicare.
- Inform seniors about changes happening in Medicare, such as the new drug plan changes in the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Establish trusted centers of influence to provide guidance and support to seniors navigating Medicare.
- Develop a communication strategy to inform seniors about changes to the Medicare drug program and the reduction in the annual out-of-pocket maximum in 2025.
- Educate seniors about common scams targeting Medicare beneficiaries, including fraudulent calls and text messages, and inform them about resources to protect themselves.

- Encourage seniors to seek assistance from knowledgeable advocates or professionals to navigate the complexity of Medicare and make informed decisions about their healthcare coverage.
- Advocate for reforms in retirement systems to provide retirees with a wider range of Medicare plan options.
- Emphasize the importance of educating the team about red flags of scams and ways to protect against phishing and identity theft.
- Send the booklets to the board members.
- Ladisa should connect with Kathy to obtain hard copies of the information and distribute them to the centers.
- Sarah and Ruth's committees should review the resource guide and share relevant information with the board.
- Board members should attend the November meeting for a full quorum.
- The executive council should plan for the December meeting to discuss business for 2024.

VII. Adjournment

- Action: Motion made, seconded, and carried.
- Meeting adjourned 1:00 pm