

CITY OF ROCKVILLE
SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION
ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER
1150 CARNATION DRIVE

October 21, 2021, 10:00 a.m. (virtual)

Members Present: Anne Herbster, Chair; Lynn Wagman, Commissioner; Krishna Kumar, Commissioner; Katie Ostrowski, Commissioner; Mike Laux, Commissioner; Alicia Seymour, Commissioner; Jack Sprague, Commissioner; Elaine Koubek, Commissioner

Staff: Alexis D'Angelo Swope; Fran Jablonski; Andrea Rogers; Mariella Correal

Absent: Norma Brailsford, Commissioner; Beryl Feinberg, Mayor and Council Liaison

Chair, Anne Herbster started the meeting at 10:00 a.m. She started with greetings and well wishes to everyone.

Chair, Anne Herbster said the 4th item on the Agenda, Discussion Regarding Starting Age for Seniors Services, will be tabled until after the Mayor and Council meeting on October 25, 2021. She asked if there were any comments or changes to the minutes from June and September. There were none. **Jack Sprague, Commissioner** made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. **Krishna Kumar, Commissioner** seconded. All were in favor

Andrea Rogers reported that for the 1st move from 90 Monroe Street, Town Center Apartments to 2 Helen Heneghan Way, Upton II Apartments they have received their apartment assignments. Volunteers are working with the tenants to help them pack and prepare for the move. The deadline for referrals for Holiday Giving is due Friday, October 29, 2021, (late referral). Seniors in need will be the focus in December. Some seniors have been reaching out for information on Medicare and Medicaid. She said she has been doing some Outreach and making phone calls. She has been helping and preparing for the Boo Through. **Chair, Anne Herbster** asked if Upton II had internet. **Alexis D'Angelo Swope** said she would check on that. **Katie Ostrowski, Commissioner** requested information on volunteering to help with packing. **Alexis D'Angelo Swope** said the volunteer nurses have been helping and **Andrea Rogers, Trish Evans** and Community Outreach have been helping to get volunteers. Packing supplies will be provided.

Chair, Anne Herbster asked about Holiday Giving. **Andrea Rogers** replied that it is a County-wide program. She said Rockville is a referring agent along with Community Services. We distribute gift cards for Thanksgiving Holiday Giving. In December the gifts are items like tea and cookies, flashlights, radios, gloves, scarves, etc. Last year we were able to provide food. **Andrea Rogers** and **Mariella Correal** make referrals to all areas in the County, and they check the data base for duplicate referrals. Anyone can go to the site and donate to the Holiday Giving Program.

Alexis D'Angelo Swope reported next. She said that the ADA renovations are almost completed. The contractors are working on the awning. They will start on the greenhouse next. It will be cleaned up and made ADA accessible. She said she attended a Hoarding Task Force in Gaithersburg with **Andrea Rogers and Mariella Correal** who will work with the County after the holidays in hopes to start a Hoarding Task Force committee and will need an organizer for it. Our daily lunch program has about 20 people and we are going to check on the ones that used to attend. Our current bus service is limited and will expand once we are fully open. The center held a flu shot clinic on October 12, 2021. There were 56 people registered. Not much of the Asian population attended and will be checking with the Chinese Culture and Community Center (CCACC) organization to see if they have helped with that. We will also provide a list of places where people who missed our clinic can get a flu shot. **Beryl Feinberg** has been out from back surgery and may be attending the November meeting. **Chair, Anne Herbster** will be presenting the Commission's Annual Report at the Mayor and Council meeting on October 25, 2021. **Alexis D'Angelo Swope** will talk to the City Clerk/Director of Council Operations, **Sara Ferrell** to get an invitation for Commissioners to attend and speak or answer questions.

Chair, Anne Herbster reported on Village news. **Trish Evans** is on vacation in England. Twinbrook Village hosted a Bird/Nature Walk at RedGate and it was well attended and very successful. King Farm Village has had very successful virtual events. Rockville Area Village Exchange (RAVE) is a non-profit group and has funding and is working with the County. Their biggest challenge is replacing Board members and getting people engaged. There is a lot of reluctance to meet in person.

Chair, Anne Herbster shared the report with the Commissioners and staff. She said she only has five minutes to present. She will highlight key words and focus areas to break it down to five minutes. **Jack Sprague, Commissioner** felt the presentation should be longer than five minutes. **Mike Laux, Commissioner** said to keep in mind, seniors vote. **Chair, Anne Herbster** said that was a good point and will pull up stats on the Board of Elections. **Katie Ostrowski, Commissioner** felt that the bulk of the presentation should be on page 7. **Alicia Seymour, Commissioner** gave kudos **Chair, Anne Herbster** for this report. She said it covers all of what they have talked about at each meeting. **Chair, Anne Herbster** asked the Commissioners to attend the Mayor and Council meeting. She said she may ask at the end of the presentation what would the Mayor and Council like to see from the Commission.

Liaison/groups:

RSI: Nothing reported

Pete Sante Fund: Nothing reported

United States Seniors of Maryland (USM) Forum: Nothing reported

Chair, Anne Herbster thanked everyone for their input and attending.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM. **Next meeting:** November 18, 2021- Virtual