

Commonwealth Council on Aging

Executive Committee

**Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
8004 Franklin Farms Dr.
Henrico, VA 23229**

**December 6, 2024
10:00 – 11:00 am**

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Dr. Andrea Buck, Tresserlyn Kelly, Roland Winston **Via Zoom:** Carla Hesseltine Jo-Ann Chase

Staff: Sara Stowe, Kiersten Ware

Welcome and Roll Call of Members

Carla Hesseltine Chair

Chair Carla Hesseltine opened the meeting and confirmed that a quorum was present for the meeting.

Review/Approve Agenda

Carla Hesseltine

Proposed Action: Approve Agenda

There were no changes proposed for the agenda. Motion to approve was made by Roland Winston and seconded by Carla Hesseltine. Through a vote, the motion was approved unanimously.

Review/Approve the February 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Carla Hesseltine

Proposed Action: Approve Minutes

Chair Carla Hesseltine asked members if there were any additions or changes to the minutes from the February 16, 2023 meeting. There were no changes so the minutes were approved as presented by consensus.

Public Comment Period

Carla Hesseltine

There were no public comments.

Legislative Update and Discussion

All Members

Chair Carla Hesseltine shared appreciation for Legislative Chair, Andrea Buck's work on the Council's legislative priorities and asked Andrea Buck to share an update with the committee.

Andrea Buck, Legislative Chair, shared that a bill limit has been enacted in the General Assembly which limits bills being introduced to a 15-bill limit in House and 10-bill limit in the Senate. Bills carried over from last year, that are not failed legislation, may be reworked or

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reworded; these bills would not count toward the limit of bills introduction. It was identified that the following bills from last Session, which have since failed, closely aligned with the Council's legislative priorities:

- House Bill 886: Carried by Delegate Vivian Watts focused on nursing facility transparency of legislation
- House Bill 1063: Carried by Delegate Rodney Willett could be a natural vehicle for nursing home transparency and inspections
- House Joint Resolution 22: Carried by Delegate Wendell Walker could align with priority to conduct the study Multisectoral Plan for Aging

Carla Hesseltine recently reached out to Senator Christopher Head and Delegate Patrick Hope, who are members of the Council, prior to the deadline for filing bills that would not count towards their total number introduced for the 2025 Session. Senator Head filed two bills related to the following topics:

- Strengthen Nursing Home Transparency, Data, & Oversight
- Increase funding to Home and Community Based Services Through Area Agencies on Aging

The last bill Andrea Buck shared with the committee that was carried over from the 2024 Session, but has since failed, is:

- Senate Bill 579: Carried by Senator Mark Obenshain has alignment with nursing facility transparency legislation

It was noted that a few of the Council's legislative priorities are also being tracked and advocated for by partner organizations such as the Alzheimer's Association, Virginia Association of Area Agencies on Aging (V4A) and Northern Virginia Aging Network (NVAN).

Andrea Buck proposed bringing together partners to discuss legislative priorities at the March meeting to share synergies on legislation and share their progress from the 2025 Session. Roland Winston inquired if the timeline would be too tight following the 2025 Session to discuss priorities for 2026. Carla and Andrea both shared that they believed this would allow for greater continuity for our legislative committee to flow from the 2025 Session into the 2026 Session.

Chair Carla Hesseltine then introduced the three Issue Briefs which Sara Stowe presented. Sara Stowe shared that the Virginia Center on Aging provided their expertise in creating three issues briefs that align with three of the legislative priorities, one from each of the three groups (home and community-based services, long-term care and dementia services):

- Increase HCBS funding through AAAs,
- Replicating the RAFT program model across the state of Virginia, and
- Funding the Virginia Memory Project.

The Issue Briefs used the information and language from the Council's legislative priorities.

Committee members agreed the briefs were visually appealing. Carla stated it was a lot of text on a page and difficult to digest. The Committee agreed that the briefs did not seem like a good fit for the intended audience at this time and would like to table the discussion for potential use in 2026 Legislative Recommendations.

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CCOA Branding and Logo

Sara Stowe

Sara Stowe presented the new Commonwealth Council on Aging logo to the Committee along with a branding outline. The colors were based on the DARS blue and the teal color was from the old logo. The Committee liked the various coloring. Roland Winston did provide feedback on the teal coloring and “Commonwealth Council on Aging” text being difficult to see. Tresserlyn Kelly suggested updating the font to Roboto versus Aptos/Canva Sans for the bottom text. The Committee members agreed to update the font to Roboto for all parts of the logo, bold the bottom “Commonwealth Council on Aging” text.

Roland Winston made the motion to approve the logo with the updated font of Roboto for all text and to bold the bottom text of “Commonwealth Council on Aging.” Andrea Buck seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment Period

Carla Hesseltine

There were no public comments received.

Meeting Adjournment

Carla Hesseltine

Council staff reminded members about the next full Council meeting which will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 from 10am-11am.

Chair Carla Hesseltine adjourned the meeting at 11:08 am.

Members Participating Electronically:

- Carla Hesseltine, Caregiving provision, from Virginia Beach, Virginia
- Jo-Ann Chase, 60+ miles provision, Brambleton, Virginia

Handouts for the meeting included:

1. Proposed Meeting Agenda
2. Draft Meeting Minutes from February 16, 2023 Meeting
3. CCOA Branding
4. CCOA Logo
5. AAA Issue Brief
6. VMP Issue Brief
7. RAFT Issue Brief