



**ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENCES**  
c/o Agency on Aging, DHS  
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**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**December 10, 2014**

Approved on January 14, 2015

**PRESENT:** Cyndy Schneider, Joy Nathan, Joe Briglia, Stephen Carfora, Lynda Carlson, Claire Jacobsen, Steven Jennings, Hale Montgomery, Alice Paxton, Lynwood Sinnamon

**ABSENT:** None \*Excused

**STAFF:** Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Glenda Blake, Meredith Eisenhart, Susan Lane, Reginald Lawson

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**I. Call to Order 6:35 p.m.**

**II. Presentation: Dean Montgomery, Executive Director of Health Systems Agency for Northern Virginia (HSANV)**

- The HSANV is structured by Virginia law as a private, non-profit organization composed of 30 board members, whose members are distributed by the populations of the areas represented. Arlington currently has three board seats. Local governments make 75% of the appointments and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission makes 25%. Appointees are a mix of medical professionals and other community members. The HSANV makes recommendations on where proposed hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living residences, and other support organizations such as in-home treatment services are needed, based on demographics, and hence needs, of the area's population.
- Arlington has a younger, better educated, and more affluent population than the rest of the state and most of the nation. Thus it uses fewer of the aforementioned resources and saves a great deal of money over state and national averages.
- Arlington's medical practitioners tend to be younger and more recently trained than average, and are likely to be more flexible about implementing new procedures.
- Nursing home stays are trending away from long-term custodial care with discharges due to death toward short-term rehabilitation stays with discharges due to getting better.
- Although Northern Virginia and Arlington are well positioned, Mr. Montgomery noted that three problems need looking into, which Northern Virginia has the resources to do:
  1. A much higher percentage than average of Arlington's population 65 and over do not qualify for Medicare and are uninsured. This may be a function of the high percentage of immigrants who did not work here long enough to get the needed 40 quarters.
  2. Northern Virginia has an unusually high rate of people 65 and over living with extended families. Much of this is thought to be involuntary, reflecting unavailability of housing for older persons below the poverty level. Arlington has done better than most areas, however the Auxiliary Grant Program for assisted living communities is far from supporting this need adequately.
  3. Having a disability is by far the highest correlation for being in poverty and lacking adequate housing and health care. This is extraordinarily high in Northern Virginia.

**III. Minutes Approval** The November 2014 meeting summary was approved with no changes.

**IV. Staff Reports**

- A. EMS (Anne Marsh): Distributed charts showing Arlington County's Fire Department (ACFD) responses for 2014 through present and compared senior living responses for 2011-2013. Introduced Kate Keller, the new ACFD Physician's Assistant and Assistant Medical Director, who is working on the new program to reduce the number of 911 call transports, which is saving time and resources for the units.
- B. APS (Reginald Lawson): Reviewed the Monthly APS Statistics reports for October and November 2014 that were distributed with the meeting packet.
- C. ADSD (Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield/Glenda Blake):
  - Ms. Bah-Duckenfield thanked the Commission for all of their 2014 accomplishments.
  - Ms. Blake reported that the County Board has met with representatives from Cherrydale Nursing and Rehab Center and is very close to finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding between Arlington County Health Center Commission, the Arlington County Manager and Medical Facilities of America.
  - Ms. Bah-Duckenfield noted that the County is expecting a possible \$28 million shortfall in the FY16 budget. To help close the gap, Arlington has offered an early retirement incentive for employees who meet certain criteria for length of service and age.
  - Ms. Bah-Duckenfield learned that the crossing from Hunter's Park to the Safeway is on the list of troublesome street crossings to be addressed. Ms. Schneider is looking for 2 Commissioners to keep track of this issue and advocate on behalf of the Commission.
  - Ms. Bah-Duckenfield noted that Steve Yaffe, Arlington's Transit Manager, has reached out to Tom Fonseca to make three dedicated vehicles available for groups of STAR users who wish to go on planned community outings together.
  - Ms. Bah-Duckenfield noted that the recent Information Exchange meeting went well and listed residences that sent representatives.
  - Ms. Bah-Duckenfield distributed information on the Respite Voucher program.

**V. Chair's Report (Cyndy Schneider)**

- A. Announced that Dan O'Donnell has resigned. Recommendations for two new candidates were submitted to the County Board. Advertising for remaining openings is in progress.
- B. The annual report was sent to the County Board. Ms. Garvey responded that she was impressed with and appreciated all that the Commission accomplished in the past year.
- C. Went with Commission on Aging members to four meetings with members of the state legislative delegation. It looks promising to accomplish 2015 legislative priorities with no budget impact.

**VI. Announcements and Public Comment**

- Mr. Montgomery: Gave details of two bills in the U.S. Senate and House aimed at supporting caregivers by different means.
- Mr. Sinnamon asked for comments for the committee he is on that is looking at whether Arlington Volunteers should continue to be recruited via the County or a non-profit.

**VII. Adjournment** 8:00 p.m.

The Quality and Standards Committee and the Outreach Committee met following the adjournment of the commission meeting.