

MEETING MINUTES
ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
November 24, 2025
Garvey Senior Activity Center, 23630 Hayden Farm Lane, Leonardtown, MD 20650

CALL TO ORDER:

- Barbara O'Neal called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

- Barbara O'Neal
- Rowena Bossio
- Dawnn Hahn
- Omonigho Olumese
- Triverr Gray (online)
- Shalonda Nelson (online)
- Kei Jenkins (online)
- Kimberly Hansing (online)
- Department of Aging & Human Services staff members present: Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Mercedes Jones, Coordinator

ABSENT:

- Aurora Hidalgo
- Christine Morgan
- Sara Oliver

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 22, 2025:

- Rowena Bossio motioned to approve the minutes of September 22, 2025; seconded by Dawnn Hahn, motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

- Melissa Craig, MAP I&A Manager, DAHS, presented information on Medicare (Parts A-hospitalization, B-outpatient services, D-prescription drugs not covered under A and B), Medicare Advantage (Part C). Attachment A provides PowerPoint slides. Key takeaways include the following:
 - In our area, there are only two Medicare Advantage programs available: CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield and Humana.
 - Medicare does not cover Long Term Health care. For information on coverage, information can be found online and/or contact the MAP POC at the DAHS.
 - For insurance plans, it is recommended to stay "in network" when possible. The insurance carriers can provide information on which medical providers are "in network".
 - Medicare open enrollment season is open until 7 December 2025.

BUDGET:

- The COA has a \$3,000 budget which expires on 30 June 2026.
- We discussed the plan to purchase birthday gift bags for the seniors who are under the Home Delivered Meals program. It is planned to use FY26 funding to purchase items for birthdays from January to June 2026; FY27 funding will be utilized to purchase items for birthdays from July to December 2026.
- We reviewed the draft process identifying the steps/timeline for the purchase, assembly and delivery of gift bags. In addition, we reviewed a potential list of items and tentatively identified items which the COA may want to purchase. The following additional action items are:
 - Mercedes will coordinate with Monika Williams regarding the availability of birthday cards for the seniors.
 - Mercedes will identify costs for items on draft list of provided and discussed.
 - A tentative date of 8 December at 3:00pm was identified for a working group meeting to finalize the list of items for the gift bags along with identifying a follow-on date for assembly of items. The meeting will be held at the Garvey Senior Center. At that time, we will discuss the process for voting by the COA to approve the items for purchase.
 - Mercedes will send an email to the COA confirming the working group meeting date, time and location.

SENIOR FOCUS AREAS:

- Senior Housing - Barbara O'Neal provided the following information:
 - The Homeless Coalition are looking for advocates to address the need/funding for affordable housing at the local and/or state level. Anyone who is interested in assisting the Homeless Coalition advocacy group can contact Barbara O'Neal.
 - In late January 2026, the Point-in-Time (PIT) count of homeless population will be held nationally. Anyone who would like to volunteer participating in the "count" of the homeless in the county, can contact Barbara O'Neal. Barbara will provide the COA with the date regarding when the local PIT will be held.
 - Community Resource Day held on 26 September 2025 was a success with approximately 190 attendees.
- Senior Transportation - Rowena reported that the fare-free program is still in effect with an increase by 1/3 of the ridership.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Another two new members may be coming on board to the COA in January.
- Elections for officers (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary) will take place at the 26 January meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The 2025 Annual Report is due in January 2026.
- Memory kits, which include books, games, puzzles and other information, are available in the County libraries, Mobile library, and Senior Centers.
- For the coming year, it is requested that COA members identify topics/speakers/presenters.

ADJOURN:

Shalonda Nelson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m., seconded by Triverr Gray, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, January 26, 2025=6 at 1:00 p.m.
Garvey Senior Activity Center
23630 Hayden Farm Lane, Leonardtown, MD 20650

Commission on Aging (Monday, November 24, 2025)

Minutes taken by Rowena Bossio

Generated by Mercedes P Jones on Friday, January 23, 2026