

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
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Meeting Summary

June 17, 2014

Present: Rev. Don Davis, Mattie Taplin

Excused: Susan Millender

Guests: Marsha Andrews, Dr. Norward Brooks, Dian Ferguson, Dr. Brenda Jackson,
Dr. LaShawnDa Pittmann

ADS Staff: Rowena Rye

- I. Interim Chair Rev. Don Davis welcomed the group. Rowena updated the group on the status of pending appointments and the meeting request with the Mayor. Rowena shared that she contacted the Mayor's Office Liaison, Pedro Gomez, and he acknowledged that the process was taking time, noting that several of the boards and commissions have appointments pending. He will stay in touch about the status of the MCAAE appointments. He stated that he thought he may have an appointment time by next week.
- II. The group reviewed the 1st draft of the report, and had a discussion about programs serving African American elders that had been reinvented (Senior Outreach), rehoused (Kinship Center), or suspended (Community I&A), and wants to address their concerns about reductions/changes in services and to include this in the report to Mayor Murray. Rev. Don asked Dian to join the meeting center.
- III. Rev. Don Dian asked Dian to join the meeting and to brief the council on the current status of the senior. Dian told the group that the infrastructure is under development, and she provided an overview of core senior center programs at The Central, the Diabetes Program, Enhance Fitness, cholesterol screening, foot care, the walking club, steppers and sliders, photography, book club, knitting, quilting, sewing and jewelry making. The senior center has a Social Worker, a new Activities Coordinator, and new volunteer positions and committees. Dian is working on new programming that would include bereavement groups, a men's group, and Sister-to-Sister.

Volunteer massage therapists, and tech-savvy volunteers in the computer lab would add to the available activities at the center, and she is working on a possible collaboration with Pratt Fine Arts Center that would provide an intergenerational experience at the center.

- IV. Next steps: Update the draft of the report to the Mayor and get on his calendar over the summer to identify areas of need identified by the council. Also schedule with City Council Members. Maureen suggested CMs Clark, Rasmussen and O'Brien.

The meeting was adjourned.

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