

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
Mailing Address: PO Box 34215, Seattle WA 98124-4215
Office Address: Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Ave, 51st Floor
(206)684-0706 * TTY (206)684-0274 * FAX (206)684-0689
Website: www.seattle.gov/MCAAE

Meeting Summary

May 18, 2018

Members Present – Brenda Charles-Edwards, Claudette Thomas, Mattie Taplin, Noris Daniel, Janice Davis, Cynthia Winters, Tricia Diamond

Absent – Dr. Brenda Jackson, Jim Watkins

HSD/ADS Staff – Brent Butler, Cathy Knight, Mia Kato, Katie Clemens, Fahima Mohammed

I. Priced Out

The meeting started with viewing a KING TV video, [Price Out](#). In the video, a woman who lives in Seattle's Central District (CD), talks about how she feels unwelcomed in the community as a result of gentrification.

II. Housing Data

The HSD Data Team presented information in response to questions raised at the MCAAE March retreat. (See attached PDF)

Discussion

Members who live in the CD shared stories about housing challenges. Janice shared anecdotal information collected from older parishioners within a few African American churches located in the CD. The top three needs identified were health care, transportation and food assistance. Cynthia described the stigma around assistance programs. She added that many older African Americans are too prideful to ask for assistance, even when it comes to property discount program. Claudette, who is a housing counselor, discussed challenges her clients face when trying find low-income housing. Even the Seattle Housing Authority wait-lists are very long

Brent Butler discussed the Seattle Age Friendly Plan, specifically the strategies that address affordable and low-income housing for older adults. (get strategies from Brent) Some are specific to the issues raised by the MCAAE. He proposed that we first determine who is in the process of developing affordable housing in the CD, and what percent of the units are earmarked for people earning less than 30% (?) Brent added that public funds can be used for housing if the intended use is for people earning less than ____%. He will bring the guidelines for building housing to the next meeting. Once we determine what housing is in the pipeline, he recommended partnering with some of the churches to host a Housing Clinic. The intent would be to inform people in need of housing and provide assistance with completing applications.

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III. June Meeting

For the June meeting, members would like to invite individuals who are currently involved in housing assistance in the CD, including:

- Andrea Caupan, Executive Director, Byrd Barr Place (formerly CAMP)
- Linda Taylor, Housing Director, Seattle Urban League
- Jon Morrison Winters, ADS Planner – Age-Friendly Housing Report

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting will be Friday, Friday, June 15, 2018. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held at the Central Area Senior Center.

Upcoming Event



King County Councilmember Larry Gossett



7 hrs · 🌐

Central Area Neighborhood District Council meets next week, and welcomes special guests King County Assessor John Arthur Wilson and State Senator Rebecca Saldaña.

WHERE: Lutheran Church, 22nd & Union

WHEN: Thursday, June 14th, 6-7:30PM

WHO: King County Assessor John Wilson, Sen. Rebecca Saldana (37th District)

WHAT: Discussion on property taxes, particularly around impacts on seniors on fixed incomes and low-income people