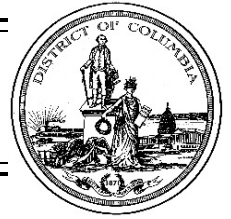

OFFICE OF AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER ANITA BONDS
CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION & LABOR



February 14, 2023

Charon Hines, Acting Director
Department of Aging and Community Living
500 K Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Acting Director Hines:

The annual performance hearing for the Department of Aging and Community Living is scheduled for **Friday, March 3, 2023, beginning at 9:30 AM**. The hearing will be held virtually, and government witness(es) will testify following public testimony. Please plan to arrive in time to listen to the entirety of the public testimony presented with respect to the agency. Pursuant to Council rule 522(a), we ask all executive witness(es) to submit their hearing testimony 48 hours in advance of their performance oversight hearing.

Written pre-hearing questions for your agency are attached. Please provide **five hard copies** of your responses as well as electronic versions in Microsoft Word and PDF format **by no later than 5:00 PM on Monday, February 27, 2023**, one week before the hearing to account for the time constraints in between receiving these questions and the hearing date.

If you feel that I could use additional information outside the scope of the attached questions, please feel free to include an additional written statement. If your office requires any clarification of the attached questions, please contact Amanda Chulick, at achulick@dccouncil.gov. Thank you in advance for your timely and comprehensive response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "ANITA BONDS".

Anita Bonds
At-Large Councilmember
Chairperson, Committee on Executive Administration and Labor

District of Columbia Department of Aging and Community Living

Commission on Aging

172. Please provide a list of the Commission’s current members. For each member, please provide the following:

- a. The member’s name;
- b. The Ward, agency or organization the member represents;
- c. Who appointed the member;
- d. When the member’s term expires;
- e. Committee membership within the Commission; and

Commission on Aging Voting Members <i>as of December 28, 2021</i>						
First Name	Last Name	Confirmation Date	Term Ends	Ward	Appointment Authority	Committees
Guleford	Bobo	10/27/2019	10/28/2025	8	Mayor	Transportation; Housing, Health and Wellness
Carolyn	Matthews	11/10/2020	10/28/2023	1	Mayor	Transportation; Housing
Maria	Wilson	5/2/2019	10/28/2025	4	Mayor	Housing
Barbara	Lee	11/10/2020	10/28/2023	5	Mayor	None
Hattie	Pierce	10/28/2019	10/28/2024	5	Mayor	Housing
Mary	Taylor	11/10/2020	10/28/2023	7	Mayor	Transportation; Housing
Gloria	Whitfield	10/30/2019	10/28/2025	8	Mayor	None

f. Please see Attachment Q1f

173. Please discuss how the Commission selects its committee memberships.

Committee membership is based on volunteers. The Commission allows members to volunteer for committees that are interesting to them.

174. Please provide a list of the Commission’s meeting dates, times, and locations, whether a quorum was reached, for FY22 and FY23 to date.

Please see Attachment Q1f

175. Please provide a list of upcoming committee’s meeting dates, times, and location for FY23.

DATES	TIMES	LOCATION
1/25/2023	10am	500 K St NE

District of Columbia Department of Aging and Community Living

2/22/2023	10am	500 K St NE
3/22/2023	10am	500 K St NE
4/26/2023	10am	500 K St NE
5/24/2023	10am	500 K St NE
6/28/2023	10am	500 K St NE
7/26/2023	10am	500 K St NE
8/23/2023	10am	500 K St NE
9/27/2023	10am	500 K St NE
10/25/2023	10am	500 K St NE

176. Did the Commission receive funds in FY22 and FY23 to date? If so, please provide the following:

- a. The amount of the funding;
- b. The source of the funding;
- c. A list of all expenditures; and
- d. A description of how these funds furthered the Board’s/Commission’s mission.

The Commission received no funding in FY22 or FY23, to date or any previous year. DACL does provide supplies and meals for seniors on the Commission.

The Commission operates with technical and clerical support provided on an ad-hoc basis by DACL.

177. Please describe the Commission’s activities in FY22 and FY23 to date.

Most of the the commission’s activities for FY 22-23 included:

- Working with the Age-Friendly Task Force
- Assist seniors with getting safe, affordable housing: without bedbugs, roaches or rodents.
- Working with lead agencies to engage seniors in more activities outside their homes
- Visit housing facilities to observe conditions and get feedback from seniors living in unsafe environments.
- Attend wellness centers and other senior organizations membership meeting to hear seniors concerns and suggestions.
- Visit senior daycare facilities where commissioners engaged participants and their caregivers for the safety of the seniors.
- Work with the Department of Recreation to organize and chaperone senior activities while coordinating with wellness centers.
- Attended Wards 4 & 8 mini-commission meeting to get input from seniors.

District of Columbia Department of Aging and Community Living

- Participated in the Office of the People’s Council’s virtual presentations addressing their efforts to protect seniors and others from utility and security scams involving bank accounts and investments.
- Questioned the testing process for at-home care personnel who have completed the licensure course but have not been able to test, originally handled by Board of Nursing (BON).

178. Please describe the Commission’s goals in FY23 and the plan/timeline for completion.

- Continue advocating for more home health care aides.
- Advocate for additional Tax Relief for seniors by passing B24-0855-Property Tax Monthly and Billing Payment Amendment Act of 2022.
- Continue advocating for more ways to pay and reduce real estate taxes for seniors.
- More transportation options for handicap seniors which include accommodations for walkers, canes and multiple wheelchair, including working with the Recreation Department.
- Continue to advocate for the return of transportation to DACL sites which the Commission on Aging, the Senior Advisory Coalition and Age-Friendly Task Force advocated for after doing surveys.
- Continue to assist senior programs in getting additional resources to achieve their missions.
- Advocate for more facilities in Wards 2 and 3 that can accommodate in-person programs and services

179. What are the Commission’s biggest strengths and weaknesses?

The commission’s biggest strength is its ability to work with most of DACL’s senior service network and elected official throughout the city to address senior issues.

The commission’s biggest weakness is that the commission was established with approximately 15 citizens and 15 ex-officio working together to address senior issues.

The commission has only 6 commissioners and 5 ex-officio attending commissioners’ meetings.

180. What were the Commission’s biggest accomplishments in FY22?

Some of the commissioners’ biggest accomplishment in FY22 are:

District of Columbia Department of Aging and Community Living

- Advocating for and seeing better services from many of DACL's service providers.
- Increase in senior access to technology and training programs.
- Progress in efforts for options for senior residents to pay their property tax.

181. What does the Commission plan to accomplish in FY23?

Keeping in mind that the constant changing demographics in the city also change the needs of seniors, the commissions' plans for FY23 include:

- Requesting better support from government agencies especially DGS and service providers in Wellness Centers.
- Increase outreach to seniors via churches, apartment buildings, daycare centers and media.
- Advocating for better health and safety in senior housing by providing better security and resources.
- Addressing senior physical and mental health issues while providing necessary resources.

182. What challenges does the Commission face in meeting its goals?

The commission addresses contemporary subjects, needs and concerns expressed by aging residents and issues at various meetings by requesting ex-officio to attend the commissions' meetings where the ex-officio can tell the commission how to best resolve the issues.

183. Does the Commission have a financial budget in FY22 and FY23? If so, what are those budgets?

The Commission on Aging does not have a budget.

184. How does the Commission address contemporary subjects, needs and concerns expressed by aging residents and issues presented at various Commission meetings?

The commissioners remain in contact with the agencies responsible for addressing seniors' concerns and the seniors until a resolution is reached.

District of Columbia Department of Aging and Community Living

185. How does the Commission represent and solicit feedback from residents? Please describe:

- a. The process for soliciting feedback and number of submissions

The commission solicits feedback by attending senior activities and promoting discussion on topics that affect seniors.

- b. What the Board/Commission has learned from this feedback

The commission has learned from the feedback which programs are not achieving their intended goals.

- c. How the Commission has changed its practices as a result of such feedback

The commission has changed its practice as a result of such feedback by working with more organizations that support seniors that now include religious organizations with senior outreach programs.

186. What are the action steps taken after receiving feedback or concerns from the community?

Please see question 184.

187. What is being done to promote greater diversity in the composition of the Commission's membership?

The commission along with many other government agencies have spent many hours trying to encourage more to join the commission and expressed the importance of having a voice in the programs and services they receive.