

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

June 21, 2019

Members Present – Brenda Charles-Edwards, Rev. Janice Davis; Tricia Diamond; Ina Howell; Dr. Brenda Jackson; Claudette Thomas; Paul Mitchell; Mattie Taplin; Cynthia Winters

Excused – Benjamin Abe

Guests – Beatrice A. Cox

ADS Staff – Cathy Knight, ADS Director, Karen Winston, Liaison

I. Remembering Juneteenth

A few members shared memories about past Juneteenth community celebrations in Seattle. Others shared thoughts about the significance of Juneteenth.

II. ADS Director's Report

ADS director Cathy Knight, provided the following report:

- The City of Seattle is gathering information from departments to draft their Legislative Policy priorities for the 2020 state legislative session. If MCAAE members have something they would like to see the City advocate for with the state legislature, now is the time to let us know.
- Friday, June 21, is the last day to provide comments on the proposed rule to change how poverty guidelines are calculated. The plan to shift to chained CPI would reduce the number of people eligible for Medicaid, SNAP, etc. Anyone interested can respond as individuals or organizations.

III. Speaking of Dying Video

Brenda showed the video “Speaking of Dying” that focuses on the importance of planning for end-of-life care and communicating your wishes with family members and friends. Brenda recently became involved with the outreach effort for the video and asked MCAAE members to consider hosting a community presentation. Paul commented that men often have difficulty talking about end-of-life and suggested targeting groups that involve men, like the Breakfast Group, an organization he co-founded. Mattie recommended targeting church groups. Brenda will follow-up with Paul.

IV. Grandparents Day Planning Update

- Brenda reported that the Seattle Science is also planning an event for GP Day.
- La Nisha recommends identifying grandparents to recognize from their membership instead of from churches. That would save a lot of time.
- Karen will coordinate proclamations from the City and County Councils.
- Brenda is looking into Rainier Avenue Radio airing “live” from the museum on GP day.

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- NAAM is working on a budget that Brenda will use to ask AARP for support.
- Cathy recommended writing an article to publicize the event. Note: The copy deadline for the September issue of AgeWise is August 16.
- Karen reported that a letter was sent to LaShawnDa Pittman, PhD., former MCAAE member who specialized in kinship caregiving research. She has not heard back yet.

V. July Meeting Agenda (Location – Southeast Seattle Senior Center)

- Beth Boram, Deputy Development Director, Beacon Development Group
- Continue planning for Grandparent Day.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 19, at the Southeast Seattle Senior Center.