

Wilmington, Delaware
June 3, 2021

#0077

Sponsor:

Council
Member
Dixon

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to ravage the social, economic and political landscape of the city of Wilmington and its impact has not yet been fully determined or realized. However, the lack of cohesion and dismantling of previous systems of support for vulnerable populations, including senior citizens, are pronounced and impactful; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes the importance of older Wilmingtonians and organizations and agencies that serve them. Senior citizens in this context are defined as people ages 62 and up; and

WHEREAS, healthy aging is much more than the presence or absence of disease and disability. The World Health Organization defines active aging as “the process of optimizing opportunities for health, participation, and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age”; and

WHEREAS, many agencies and organizations provide supports and services for senior citizens, there lacks a single entity focused on enhancing communication between and collaboration among senior-serving entities in Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, the Health, Aging and Disabilities Committee is a standing committee of the Wilmington City Council. The current chair of the committee seeks to develop a vehicle to empower, direct and connect senior-serving organizations in Wilmington.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that a Healthy Aging Subcommittee shall be established and serve as a subcommittee of the Health, Aging & Disabilities committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission shall be composed of Wilmington residents and Wilmington-based senior-serving organizations, agencies and issue area experts who have demonstrated an interest or expertise in promoting opportunities, services, equity and inclusion for senior citizens within city limits. The members shall hold no other public

office or paid public employment. The Health Aging & Disabilities chair shall appoint eleven commission members and designate two co-chairpersons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Subcommittee shall meet monthly with additional meetings as it deems necessary to properly perform its duties. All meetings must adhere to FOIA guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the duties of the Subcommittee are to make policy recommendations, identify the needs of seniors and whether those needs are being fulfilled by existing initiatives, recommend nominees to the Wilmington Health Planning Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Subcommittee shall report on its work, findings and recommendations to the Health, Aging & Disabilities Committee on a quarterly basis. The subcommittee's first report to the Health, Aging & Disabilities Committee must occur within 180 days of its appointment. The subcommittee is responsible for responding to FOIA requests and for creating and submitting minutes and reports and all other tasks as required by public committees that serve in this capacity.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution establishes a Healthy Aging Subcommittee and serves as a subcommittee of the Health, Aging & Disabilities Committee.