

**JOINT MEETING OF THE
WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
AND
CITY OF RENO SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes**

Wednesday, Apr.1, 2015

**3:00 p.m. – Washoe County Senior Center – Game Room
1155 E 9th Street, Reno, Nevada 89512**

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** - Meeting called to order - City of Reno and Washoe County met a quorum.

Present: **Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board:** Dr. Larry Weiss, Gary Whitfield, Connie McMullen, Diane France, Dennis Chin, Wayne Alexander, Victoria Edmondson
 City of Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee: Wendy Bozak, Robert Mulvana, Vanessa Dixon, Donna Clontz, Mac Rossi, Stan Dowdy, Marsy Kupfersmith

Absent: **Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board:** Clinton Smith, Karen Davis
 City of Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee: James Kozera.

Staff Present: **Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board:** Grady Tarbutton (ex-officio), Lisa Bonilla (staff).

City of Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee: Darryl Feemster (staff), Robert Forse (staff), Alexandra Moreno (staff).

2. ***PUBLIC COMMENT:** Wendy Bozak announced the Alliance for Retired Americans will be holding forums on retirement security, one to be held at the Labor Temple on Hymer Avenue April 9th going from 10:00am to 11:00am. RSVP's are required.
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Dennis Chin moved to approve the agenda, Gary Whitfield seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Dennis Chin moved to approve the minutes, Wendy Bozak seconded the motion. Motioned carried.
5. ***Presentation by Citicare a non-profit specializing in paratransit for seniors – Mark Tadder & Robert Townsend** - Deferred
6. ***Update on Older Americans Month – Len Reidenbaugh** – Len Reidenbaugh, Senior Services Facility Coordinator gave a brief update on Older Americans Month. The booklet has been finished with some minor adjustments to be made and is ready to be sent to Reprographics for publishing. Approximately 2,500 booklets will be printed and once they are ready, distributed to Reno and Sparks for their distributions. Thirty-three vendors have been confirmed for attendance for the information fair on Friday, May 1, 2015, and seventy-seven events have been confirmed for the booklet throughout the month of May.
7. ***Washoe County Staff Update- Grady Tarbutton**
 - a. **Advocacy**
 - i. **State of the County Address** – The State of the County Address is to take place Tuesday, April 14 in Building A of the Washoe County Complex on 9th Street. The County Manager will be giving a

presentation and of the topics to report on is the priorities for the next year that the Board will approve, which includes keeping Senior Services in pace with the growing senior population in the County. The goals of Senior Services include expanding the Nutrition Program (by increasing meals by 120,000), the number of congregate meal sites (by adding 4 more locations), information to seniors in the community, care coordination through Case Management, and other home and community-based resources. The County Manager's presentation can be viewed online or be attended. Grady provided a Power Point outlining the County Strategic Priorities for reference, which includes Elder Abuse Awareness (including cross-training with other departments on how to handle situations involving seniors), Outreach (Washoe County Senior Services did receive funding of approximately \$152,000, which will help fund a Volunteer Coordinator position), and Healthy Communities (Health District will be taking the lead on this aspect and a meeting will take place once a plan is established).

- ii. **Special BCC Meeting – County Manager prelim hearing for FY16 budget-** Grady announced the preliminary hearing for the FY16 budget will be taking place on Monday, April 27.
 - iii. **Budget update and recommendation (5/12/2015)** – Grady discussed the business plans Senior Services have in place. This plan includes additional staff in the Daybreak program, a community health aide, expanding the Nutrition program to four more locations, the volunteer program, and requests for home and community-based services. The County has come out with an updated financial report earlier in the week, and tax revenue has not come back as initially anticipated. The budget has to be based upon those financial projections. The resources Senior Services will receive will come from the indigent fund.
- b. **Washoe County Senior Services website** – Grady demonstrated the new Washoe County website to the group. Grady explained the website is the same throughout all County Departments. The Senior Services page is up and running with corrections made throughout. The idea behind the layout of the new Senior Services website is to make it easier to navigate with limiting the number of clicks required to find desired information. Grady encouraged the group to explore the site and give feedback on what their thoughts are on the site and if they have any suggestions for changes.
- c. **Aging in Place Discussion (standing item)** – Grady announced Senior Services received the Meals on Wheels Association of America Grant to purchase a vehicle for the Home Delivered Meal program. The new vehicle will allow the eligibility staff to do outreach and eligibility for the HDM program. A new eligibility worker position is to be opened coming next year as the integration of Human Services takes place.
- d. **Washoe County FY 15/16 Budget**
- i. **Elder Abuse-** No discussion
 - ii. **Outreach** –Grady announced the Volunteer Ambassador Program will be starting up beginning in July and is funded by community development block grants and indigent funds. The planning is starting immediately and will be searching for 100 volunteers for the first year to assist with

outreach in unincorporated areas and scheduling activities and events.

- iii. **Healthy communities** – Grady announced that part of the Ambassador Volunteer program would include outreach for the unincorporated areas and the idea is to provide a number of different services including home delivered meals, companionship and home safety audits.

- iv. **Business plan-** No discussion

- 8. ***City of Reno Staff Report – Darryl Feemster** – Robert Forse provided the update on behalf of Darryl Feemster. Robert explained to the group the issue City of Reno is having with running out of space at their recreation centers. It has been difficult to find available spaces for meetings and expansion for activities and meetings. The number of participants for the Senior Winter Games went from 118 in 2014 to 289 participants in 2015, more than doubling the number of seniors that were involved since last year's event. Robert announced there were over 100 participants at the Tea Party event that took place at the end of March.

- a. **Summer Senior Games – Update** – Robert announced the Senior Summer Games are coming up and will be taking place August 15 through 30. There will be approximately 20 events with subcategories. City of Reno is anticipating this event to grow from the approximate 200 participants of 2014 to over 300 participants in 2015.

9. **Business**

- a. **Update and Discussion of Fund Raising ideas for Senior Services** – Grady gave an update on the grants Washoe County Senior Services has applied for, including the SNAP Outreach grant and other grant opportunities such as Fall Prevention. A press conference will be held to announce September as Fall Prevention month. A grant application will be made to the Administration for Community Living. Robert announced the City of Reno currently has open dialogue with RTC regarding granting transportation vehicles to or for the city of Reno. Grady explained receiving funds for services, Washoe County is capable of writing grants requesting for funds but is unable to solicit donations. The City of Reno is not sure if they are under the same restrictions. Grady said he would like to look at non-profit partners to do fundraising and Washoe County offer support. Dr. Larry Weiss announced the Sanford Center for Aging, a non-profit, does do fundraising and will be holding a fundraiser on April 16, from 4pm to 7pm at 515 Court Street in Reno, which will include a silent auction. One of the programs supported by the Sanford Center is Elder Gap Services. Renown Senior Care plus is also a supporting agent.
- b. ***An update on the status of legislative recommendations to the Nevada Commission on Aging by its Legislative Sub-Committee and other possible legislative issues** – Donna Clontz updated the group regarding the legislative activities that began in January. This included the training and educating seniors about how to be effective at the legislature, communicating with their representatives and becoming more familiar with the bills that are pending at the legislature. The four areas the Commission on Aging has highlighted as being the most important are caregiving, home and community based services, expanding services, and elder protection and elder abuse legislation. There are a small group of bills that address these areas. The next bill of importance coming out is Senate Bill 284, which deals with the expansion of transportation to Medicaid recipients. Connie McMullen stated she would be willing to share

information on the bills she is currently following, some of which include electronic verification of personal care agencies and their services, and a bill regarding Alzheimer's and dementia and proper training on how to care for those clients.

- c. **Discussion and possible action on the Shared Goals & Objectives of the Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee and the Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board** – The group identified advocacy as one of the shared goals between the two boards. Donna outlined the three shared goals which are advocacy, transportation, and Older Americans Month. Grady reminded the group that advocacy is not included in the charter; however the county is able to provide information to the legislators for requests. The City of Reno is allowed to advocate. The group also identified education and reaching out not only the public but the legislators about the growing senior issues and what the needs are within the community in order to improve these issues. Dr. Larry Weiss suggested creating advocacy/marketing committees in order to establish common goals and objectives. Motion made to have an after-action meeting regarding the legislative session, in order to discuss the outcome and outline the successes and downfalls of the sessions, and discuss how it can be improved upon. Donna motioned, Connie seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - d. **Update on Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee's discussion regarding allocation of its City of Reno budget fund to support activities for seniors and possible action.** – Donna Clontz provided a summary. The City of Reno City Council gives money to the Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee in order to give back to the community and provide senior programming. Last year they were given \$37,000, part of it from general funds and part donations from the council. Multiple non-profits received funding for programs that are in the "gap services," which include dental and other services not covered by Medicare. Funding has also been given to Veterans Honor Flight to send veterans back east. Sanford Center for Aging received funding to support county social services client that other funds (county or federal) does not support.
 - e. **An update and discussion of the Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee's proposed communication and outreach strategies with possible action** – Donna Clontz provided a summary. The city started an update on the strategic plan in January, including discussion of the priorities for the city regarding seniors. The top three priorities were; transportation, information/education/outreach, and expanding resources within the community. There will be another meeting in May regarding the objectives and priorities and revise the draft before going to the Council.
10. ***Member Items** – Grady announced there will be a White House Conference on Aging forum on Thursday, April 2, in Seattle Washington. There will be a live webcasting of the event and can be viewed online. Donna Clontz announced the Senior Coalition meeting will be taking place Friday, at the Renown Mack Auditorium.
 11. ***Discussion of agenda items for next Board meeting** – Discussion regarding shared goals and objectives of Washoe County Senior Services and Senior Committee Advisory Board. Suggested that City of Sparks be included in updates for joint meeting.
 12. ***Public Comment** – None
 13. **Adjournment** – Mac Rossi, moved to adjourn the meeting, Wendy Bozak seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously and carried.