



**MINUTES OF THE  
WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

February 7, 2018  
Washoe County Senior Center, 1155 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Reno, Nevada 89512  
Game Room

- 1. Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair-Dr. Larry Weiss.
- 2. Roll Call** – Dr. Larry Weiss asked for the roll call; Sandra Vasquez took the roll. There was a quorum present.

**WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT:**

**PRESENT**

Dr. Larry Weiss  
Wayne Alexander  
Marsy Kupfersmith  
Garth Elliot

Sandra Dexter  
Donna Clontz  
Barbara Korosa  
Rick Sorensen

**ABSENT (EXCUSED\*)**

Margaret Reinhardt\*  
Stan Dowdy\*  
Sarah Deardorff\*

**WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT**

Amber Howell  
Commissioner Kitty Jung  
Sandra Vasquez

Leslie Admirand (DA)  
Abby Badolato  
Chris Ciarlo

**ADVISOR PRESENT**

Connie McMullen  
**ADVISOR (ABSENT)**  
Victoria Edmondson

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

Jeremy Smith

**3. \*Public Comment –**

Garth stated he would like to see people look at Washoe County and how they could do re-staffing for better efficiency.

**4. \*Member Announcements –**

Donna stated there are Senior Connect booklets on the wall in the center for seniors to look over and see events going on; people can also see it online. She also stated Toccata will be playing in Reno and the tickets are \$25 for senior and free for kids, she encourages everyone to attend.

Garth stated the Planning Commission has paved the way for 75 housing units to be placed in Sun Valley.

**5. Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on February 7, 2018.**

Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Garth Elliott.

Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on December 6, 2017.**

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rick Sorensen and seconded by Wayne Alexander.

Motion passed unanimously.

**7. \*Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee – Donald Abbott**

Donald stated he talked with Councilman Lawson and City Manager Driscoll and they are looking into having an advisory committee, but he is keeping pressure on the matter and reminding his colleagues. Marsy stated she and Wayne attended the public council meeting and thanked the council for being attentive to seniors and requested having a Sparks committee and stated they did not need any funding.

**8. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding age friendly communities sponsored by AARP throughout the county and cities (For Possible Action)**

Larry stated they are going to have a conference call with Barry Gold on Friday 2/9/18. The City of Reno went through the process to be a STAR city. She talked to the staff person that worked on the STAR program and they will be having a meeting because part of the component had to do with the senior population. Donna stated the City of Reno is looking into a community land trust for those with land to gift; this would be to create money for affordable housing and be beneficial for people in weekly motels. Commissioner Kitty Jung stated a land trust won't work because a developer would have to build on a loss and there really aren't any developers that would do that.

**9. Discussion and possible recommendations for Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency demographic maps and data for Washoe County seniors (For Possible Action)**

Donna stated she would like the board to continue working with TMRPA and see how they can help. Jeremy Wilson referred to the map handouts (see attached). Jeremy stated when they first started working on the maps and the Master Plan for senior services, Grady Tarbutton wanted to see maps that showed where seniors with disabilities resided. The first and second map is a census track, showing the total senior population of age 65+ within the county. The third map is showing the change in population. Fourth map shows RTC bus stops and senior population. TMRPA uses Metro Quest, which is a quick survey and tool they use to gather information and it helps with how to consider seniors and policies. Motion to have a focus group that would help with data maps was made by Rick Sorensen and seconded by Marsy Kupfersmith. Motion passed unanimously. Jeremy also asked the Board what their principal goal is. Donna replied that their goal is to advice on needs for seniors and it would be a good idea to create a survey on food insecurity. Amber suggested to focus on home delivered meals and homemaker services and have a map that shows where food banks and senior centers are located. Larry stated it would be good to also have a map where they could see where seniors are getting home delivered meals. Amber also stated the goal is for a zero waitlist for programs such as homemaker services. Currently the waitlist is over 200 seniors for the homemaker

program. Chris Ciarlo stated a survey would help too to find what services seniors need. Rick Sorensen asked how they could identify people that are planning to move to Washoe County, Commissioner Kitty Jung stated they can look at employment agencies and realtors. It was also stated it would be good to have an income map. Chris stated he is trying to get media to seniors and find out what they need or don't need. Donna stated she is continuing to meet with Jeremy and look at surveys and maps in regards to seniors.

#### **10. Report, discussion, and possible approval of projects for Older American Month 2018 (For Possible Action)**

Chris Ciarlo stated he talked to the Renaissance Hotel and they are willing to co-sponsor Bocce Ball on May 24 from 4-6pm, it just needs promotion. Chris also spoke with the Manager's Office and they are planning on giving the OAM proclamation in April so they can promote it in May. He is also working on an event for an event where seniors can meet and greet the commissioners. He is also working on an event for Pickle Ball, which they might have in Hidden Valley and also at Neil Road with an instructor. The library is also having many activities for OAM and Marsy is one of the leads with events at the library. Opening day for promotion of OAM will be regular and on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Donald stated Scott Carey is doing a historic walking tour on May 12<sup>th</sup>. He is also looking if there is interest for a walk at the Marina and dog wash. Barbara stated she has been working to get free admittance to the museums in the area for every day of the month. National Auto Museum (every Thursday for month of May), Nevada Museum of Art (every Wednesday for month of May), and Sparks Museum and Cultural Center (every Tuesday for month of May) have agreed to provide free admittance on their designated day for May. Connie stated Mayor Schieve is scheduled to be at Neil Road senior center on May 8 at 5pm. Councilman Jordan is schedule for May 29 at 1pm at Neil Road. Sparks Councilman Bybee and Abbott are schedule to be at Sparks Senior Center on May 15 at 11:30am. Washoe County Commissioners Jung and Berkbigler are scheduled to be at the Reno Senior Center May 9 at 11:30am. Commissioner Lucy is scheduled for May 1 at 9:30am at Reno Senior Center. The Senior Coalition is having a candidate's forum on May 4 at 8:30am at Senior Care Plus Building. Connie also stated she has asked about Guardianship workshop, but it is not confirmed. Wayne stated the Caregiver Organization is willing to do an event; he just needs a date and time that works best. Rick stated he has 5 classes going on in May for seniors to attend. The classes have a fee and scholarships may be available. Some of the classes are Tai Chi, Yoga, and Windows 10. Garth stated he is working on an event for beads and silver lapping. Marsy stated she has George Grand for affordable senior housing, RTC for transportation issues, Alzheimer's events in English and Spanish, Center for Healthy Aging, and may also have Tony Ramirez, Amy Jones and Bill Thomas for a housing presentation. There will also be 2 ice cream events, one at Cold Springs and Sun Valley. Marsy is also working on an event that helps seniors with Facebook. Larry stated his event is Healthy Walking and the also have a Naturalist. At the Senior Health they will have a Lucy booth. Donna stated Linda Musselman is working on doing an event to do a talk of the new tax bill. Wendy Bozak is working on organizing a tour event. They are also looking into an event with Senior Law Project.

#### **11. Report, discussion and possible approval of projects for Stuff-A-Bus for Seniors 2018 (For Possible Action)**

Chris Ciarlo stated he has made contact with RTC Public Information Officer. The Stuff-A-Bus barrels are not very effective, donations of items and money from local companies added to

about \$26,000 and not much from the barrels. Therefore, they are looking into making the event a one day event on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> before the baseball game up until just before the first pitch. They may do a drive by donation and the people that donate will get a coupon for 50% off a future ticket. He is also working to have a media sponsor to push for April and May. They would like to identify seniors who have benefitted in the past from Stuff-A-Bus. Garth stated there should be collaboration with businesses for donations. Barbara stated she is a part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club and four times a year they try to recognize an organization and they would like to make a donation for OAM, they will have a luncheon on April 12<sup>th</sup> at which they would need to have someone from Washoe County present. The organization is also looking at their by-laws and it looks like they may have to donate to an organization that is a 501c3, Catholic Charities might be the organization. Chris Ciarlo stated they will need to also do a wrap up new release and give the final report for Stuff-A-Bus.

**12. Report, discussion, possible recommendations and updates on the Advisory Board member's Shared Issues and Goals for Housing, Advocacy, Communication & Information, Data Planning, Transportation, Nutrition Programs, Social & Recreation, Senior Law, Volunteering, Financing, and Social & Health Services (For Possible Action)**

No reports.

**13. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations for increasing use of donated Cold Springs van (For Possible Action)**

Amber Howell stated there were issues with Risk Management and volunteer drivers, but they have been resolved and the van is being used. They are also planning on putting a decal on the van thanking the Lissners. The van will be driven by volunteers that are a part of the Senior Ambassador Volunteer Program. The van is donated for the North Valleys and not only specifically for Cold Springs Senior Center.

**14. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations on 2018-2019 Washoe County Budget for Senior Services (For Possible Action)**

Amber Howell stated they are looking into ways to expand services even though there isn't new money coming into the budget. They have the internal capacity to look into contracts and are looking for efficiency. The position of a Human Services Support Specialist (HSSS) has been added for Home Delivered Meals Program and another HSSS for senior social workers; the mental health services grant was also received and they are looking to outsource or have an employee for that service. A housing specialist has also been assigned to help in part with senior services. There will also be added security to 9<sup>th</sup> street building. Amber stated that even on a flat budget, they are looking at housing for adults and seniors and adding critical components. The focus is on home delivered meals and the homemaker program. Kitty stated that part of the reason for the flat budget is due to the cap of property taxes. The volunteer program has over 60 people that do different volunteer opportunities and this helps decrease cost. Donna asked how the Board can help. Kitty suggested they can do a letter for demands.

**15. Discussion and possible recommendation for promoting automatic deduction donations from Washoe County employees to Senior Services (For Possible Action)**

Larry asked if there is a way to encourage donations, Amber and Kitty suggested looking into United Way and seeing if he can get more information for further discussion. Donna stated there might be other ways to donate other than through United Way.

**16\*Update for Senior Nutrition Program**

Abby Badolato stated the Home Delivered Meals Program continues to grow. Abby also stated Todd met with Animal Services and they are working on expanding the Pet Food Delivery Program for seniors in the Home Delivered Meals Program. To help with the pet food program and find out which seniors have pets, they will be using the program Animeals through ServTracker. Chris Ciarlo stated when a story aired on KOLO, he received an abundance of calls from people that said they wanted to help and volunteer; this is one way to let people know how they can help and volunteer.

**17. \* Update for senior center being planned at Incline Village**

Amber stated construction is complete. They had ADA issues and they are now looking into having the center open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 3 hours a day. There will be a soft opening in April, the center will not be a congregate meal site.

**18. Discussion and possible recommendations for updating senior services Master Plan (For Possible Action)**

Donna stated the Master Plan was sent by email by Sandra. The executive summary is a good tool to read and it would be good to focus on 1 or 2 items to get updates from staff. Amber suggested reading over the plan and looking at what is relevant or look for things that the Board can help with and approve or deny ideas. Staff can also provide recommendations and see what the needs are. The Board of County Commission Strategic plan also has seniors as one of their goals. Suggestion was also made to do a cross walk of the different plans and draft a new one. Motion to request from staff a crosswalk of the 3 plans where they are currently was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Rick Sorensen. Motion passed unanimous.

**19. \*Agenda and schedule items for Board meetings (For Possible Action)**

Carry over items from this agenda  
Discussion for moving WCHSASAB meetings to chambers

**20. \*Public comment -**

Garth stated that at the RTC meeting they promised to take care of transportation problems with the North Valley routes.

**21. Adjournment (For Possible Action)**

Motion to adjourn was made by Garth Elliott and seconded by Rick Sorensen. Motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 4:59 pm.