



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

March 6, 2019  
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 3:04 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 MEMBERS:**

**PRESENT**

Dr. Larry Weiss  
Stan Dowdy  
Marsy Kupfersmith(phone)  
Donna Clontz

Barbara Korosa  
Sarah Deardorff (Arrived  
late-3:08pm)  
Garth Elliott (Left early –  
4:35pm)

**ABSENT (EXCUSED\*)**

Rick Sorensen\*

**WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT**

Abby Badolato  
Sandra Vasquez  
Amber Howell

Leslie Admirand (DA)  
Kim Schweickert  
Steve McBride

**ADVISOR PRESENT**

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

3. **\*Public Comment** –

Andrea Pelto stated she had a great experience at Senior Day at the Legislature and thinks everyone should do it.

4. **\*Member Announcements** –

Donna stated she still has Older American Month flyers from the last meeting and she would like people to post them at all locations.

Garth stated for people that are not aware of it, the opioid situation is bad; he had a friend that passed from opioid use. There are people that need their medication, but it's hard to get it due to the bad situation.

Sarah Deardorff arrives at 3:08pm.

5. **Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on March 6, 2019.**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Stan Dowdy and seconded by Larry Weiss. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on February 6, 2019.**

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Stan Dowdy. Motion passed unanimously.

**8. \*Presentation in regards to the Representative Payee Program from Nevada Fiduciary Solutions, LLC – Joe Arrascada**

Joe stated he is presenting on what Nevada Fiduciary Solutions (NFS) is about (see PowerPoint attachment). He also informed the board that they are now a source that the court contacts. Sarah asked what the amount of time is until a service is received; Joe replied if they meet at the social security office on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, they can start the following month. They currently have numerous clients from Washoe County Human Services Agency (WCHSA). Sarah also asked if clients that are in the program are able to donate to services like Home Delivered Meals; Joe replied yes. Garth stated he is concerned with people that get Washoe County resources and he is glad to see NFS is able to help. Garth also asked what can be done to make the program better. Joe stated their reputation speaks for itself and that's why they work well with the county and city court. They also contact everyone on the program on a monthly basis. Donna asked if the court can order a person into the program; Joe replied yes, the court has a big standpoint in the social security office. Joe also explained that the contract with WCHSA is for 66 spots and currently there may be about 55 slots utilized; sometimes they meet to make the plan work. Barbara Deavers from the public asked if they work with the state, Joe replied yes, they work with Elder Protective Services and Aging and Disability Services Division. Donald Abbott asked if there is an age limit, Joe replied there is no age limit.

**7. Report, discussions, and possible recommendations regarding Washoe County Strategic Plan FY 18 End of Year Report and ways to include more senior issues in the FY 19 plan (For Possible Action) – Kim Schweickert**

Amber stated the Board of County Commissioners decided to have a strategic plan a few years ago and a lot of the initiatives are locked into adult, children, and seniors. Kim provided handouts (see attachment) and stated first it was senior focus and then it went into Human Services Agency. One of the three main accomplishments was the expanded senior services. The FY 19/20 focus was to increase affordable housing; this affects everyone, including seniors. They also need to focus on case management, substance abuse solutions, and expand programming at the Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services. They are trying to look into a senior wing. The handout with the graph (see attachment) shows the MOST team is mostly contacted for the senior population. Donna stated it is a good idea for a senior wing and she asked about the beds in Temporary Assistance to Displaced Seniors (TADS). Amber replied that the 14 beds are always full. There are many things happening and it isn't enough low barrier shelter for the senior women population. TADS will remain open; this will be in addition to the senior women wing. Amber stated the timeline for having all the buildings ready is that they don't want to go through another winter in the same situation. They have a contractor and architect and they said they can be phasing people in on November.

**9. \*Update on Senior Nutrition Program – Steve McBride**

Steve stated there is much interest in the Lazy 5 location. In January there was a 61% attendance increase from December and it's becoming increasingly popular. The flyer of the center and word of mouth is helping. Steve stated the Home Delivered Meal program is expanding with the help of the Senior Ambassador Program; the meal delivery has doubled. It is very exciting and they are looking forward to more expansion. Donna stated she would like to request feedback in regards to a meal site in the North Valleys and meals services at the Sage Street location. Amber stated that at the Sage Street location it would be the same eligibility criteria in an individual basis. Steve stated the North Valley location does have its challenges since it's so busy. He explained that at the Lazy 5 location the rangers are located there, but not at the North Valleys location. Amber stated it is important to consider the funding that will be given for meals and they need to think if they want to use the money for a new site or home delivered meals, which is where the need is. Garth stated they need to consider how people are going to get to the North Valleys.

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

Donald stated they have their committee full and still have some seats open. Sparks Mayor is retiring next week, so they are hoping to start the meetings soon. Donna asked if they can have the Sparks Committee attend the joint meeting. Donald stated that they should keep it simple and wait until they have their first official meeting, but they are invited to do public comment.

**11. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding Senior Day at the Legislature (For Possible Action) – Larry Weiss and Donna Clontz**

Larry stated everything was very good, they were always busy and had no downtime. Donna stated they had about 50 seniors participate and over 20 seniors take the bus provided by RTC, she expressed her thanks to RTC, Suzie Trinidad, and David Jickling. Steve, Abby, John Slaughter, and Kate Thomas were at the legislature, there was great representation from Washoe County. The bill AB90, which was about the use of sick leave to take care of a family member, was heard and she and others testified. It will be heard again on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Also, Jane Gruner is making a list to provide to board members so they can make recommendations. Larry stated he testified for AB90 and it was well received, except by 2 chambers.

**12. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding recruiting new board members for District 3 (For Possible Action)**

Larry stated to put Linda Hardie and Danada Rausch in the next agenda. Abby stated she invited them to the meeting and they said they would attend the next meeting. Donna stated she wrote an email to Commissioner Jung about the District 3 openings and she contacted Chris Ciarlo and it was put on Facebook, Tweeter, and Next Door. The current need is for District 3, two seats and District 4, one seat.

**14. \*Report on the board of County Commissioners approved funding for new programs to improve care for seniors with dementia**

Abby stated two grants were accepted and they are for Caring for You, Caring for Me and it is a class that talks about what it means to be a caregiver and take care of themselves. The training will be for the internal staff so that they can do workshops and the knowledge stays internal. The Skills 2 Care is a program where an occupational therapist goes into the home and works on changing behaviors to decrease caregiver stress. They are working on identifying who the people that receive the training will be; at the moment two are considered. Donna asked if they

have identified who would benefit; Abby stated so far it looks like 20 families. They will start the program in the Daybreak program. Amber stated it is important to have sustainability when applying for grants.

**13. \*Report on the Board of County Commissioners grant approval for Senior Mental Health**

Abby stated they have had the mental health grant for almost two years. They have a contract with Alta Vista who supplied them with a case worker who is at the Reno Center. The case worker did stress management and grief and loss support groups for Reno and other sites. She also was able to de-escalate situations as they occurred at the Reno location. The hours of the case worker at the center are from 8am-1pm and out on the field from 1pm-5pm. Amber stated the grant is for one year, but they keep applying and have been awarded the grant. Also, with the suicide rate so high in Washoe County, the need is much more. Abby stated the case worker has talks about suicide prevention; a lot of it comes from grief and loss. Mental health was a big gap in the center and they are glad they are able to work on it.

**15. \*Report on the Board of County Commissioners approved Special District fund to Senior Services**

Marsy stated Commissioner Jung gave \$1,000 to provide food at Senior Day at the Legislature. Donna expressed her thanks to Commissioner Jung for the support.

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

Larry stated the Reno Mayor awarded a proclamation to City of Reno to be Age Friendly. He would like to make a recommendation to the county to do the same. Motion for the Board to pursue with the Commission for Washoe County to be Age Friendly was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Garth Elliott. Motion was unanimous. Donna stated the Reno group meets once a month to talk about activities and make an action plan. They received over 400 responses on the survey and that is enough to get statistics. The top three things that seniors responded on were affordable housing, health and community services, and transportation. The group asked if they could keep the survey open for a while to continue collecting data. They also had a brainstorm session to come up with a project to help be age friendly and apply for a grant to help the project. They came up with a healthy food project at Sage Street and they may look into the Food Bank or home delivered meals. Sarah suggested getting information on the Eagle Scout project. Donna stated she looked at last year's grant amounts and a program was awarded a grant for \$25,000.

**17. 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)**

Sarah stated she worked a little on Older American Month and she is trying to connect with Wendy Simmons. Stan stated she worked on Older American Month. Barbara stated she is working on free day admission at the museums for Older American Month.

Garth Elliott leaves at 4:35pm.

Sarah stated the Nevada Humane Society has free adoptions for seniors. She is also looking into having a centurion party to celebrate everyone that is over 100 years old.

Donna stated she looked online for a proclamation for Older American Month. Also, the logo for this year is out and there is a website where anyone can find it. Steve stated Chris Ciarlo is

working on a proclamation for Older American Month (O.A.M.) for the county, which may be on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Donna stated she and Barbara Deavers have contacted vendors that have had a table at O.A.M. Abby stated she worked with Chris on the Next Door App and will work on ideas for O.A.M.

**18. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations on senior board members to attend ongoing Washoe County public meetings (For Possible Action)**

Barbara stated she contacted both county and city entities and got only one agenda; it was not a continuing thing. She will find out what is going on and report back. Sarah stated she has been trying to get down to Incline Village for their meetings, but it has been cancelled due to snow.

**19. Agenda items for the next Board meeting (For Possible Action)**

Update on O.A.M. and Stuff a Bus

**16. \*Public comment –**

No public comment.

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

Motion to adjourn was made by Stan Dowdy and seconded by Donna Clontz. Motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 pm.