



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

September 1, 2021

Washoe County Senior Center, Reno, Nevada 89512
Game Room
&
Zoom Webinar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78207944707?pwd=ZkgvSHFXeUxzMkNlRXNaWHd3R1F1dz09>

1. ***Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 3:01 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 via in person and through Zoom meeting.

WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT VIRTUALLY

Dr. Larry Weiss
Barbara Korosa
James Doyle
Linda Hardie

Deborah Whitehouse
Pamela Roberts
Donna Clontz
Hawah Ahmad

ABSENT (EXCUSED*)

Mark Miranda
* Rick Sorensen
* Sarah Deardorff

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Steve McBride
Abby Willrich

Sandra Vasquez
Herbert Kaplan (DA)

ADVISOR PRESENT

ADVISOR (ABSENT)
Victoria Edmondson
Connie McMullen

3. ***Public Comment** –
None.
4. ***Member Announcements** –
None.
5. **Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on September 1, 2021 (For Possible Action)**
Motion to approve the agenda was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Linda Hardie.
Motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on August 4, 2021 (For Possible Action)

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Deborah Whitehouse and seconded by Donna Clontz. Pamela Roberts abstained; she was not present. Motion passed unanimously.

8. *Update, discussion, and potential Washoe County issues and activities including housing, transportation, and meal program to seniors – Steve McBride, Division Director

Attachments: [PowerPoint Presentation \(washoecounty.us\)](http://washoecounty.us)

Abby presented (see attachment). Abby reported that there was an increase over fiscal year 20 and a lot more clients served. There was a huge jump in meals due to emergency meals that were being served. The Daybreak program was closed when the building was closed, the current daily census is between 5 and 10. Zoom was available for those interested. The limit capacity for the Daybreak room is 30 clients. Also, a new freezer was delivered, an equipment grant was awarded, live music is back and they had a record breaking year for the fan drive.

9. *Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee - Donald Abbott

Donald stated their next meeting will be November 17th at Sparks City Hall. The AARP Livable Communities is in the meeting agenda. The meeting is in person only and masks are required.

10. *Update on Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee – Paco Lachoy

Paco reports that they are meeting in person and people that want to attend can call in as well. Their next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 14.

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

Donna stated she is glad the Sparks Board will have an item on their agenda for livable communities. Also, there is going to be an annual workshop on Age Friendly Communities that AARP is hosting. It will be September 22 & 23. They are going to focus on community engagement. There will be about 30 presenters and people that want to join do need to sign up.

12. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the Friendly Visitor Calls project to selected Washoe County seniors (For Possible Action)

Donna stated they have the same volunteers and callers; they are looking for Spanish speaking callers. They are also looking for seniors to call.

7. *Presentation from Washoe Legal Services regarding services provided to the senior community – Drew Wheaton, Washoe Legal Services Supervising Attorney

Attachments: [PowerPoint Presentation \(washoecounty.us\)](http://washoecounty.us)

Drew Wheaton presented on Washoe Legal Services (see attachment). They are located in the Reno senior center and do accept walk ins, but also have appointments. They provide legal assistance to Washoe County residents age 60 and older, regardless of income. General they assist clients with housing issues, government benefits, consumer issues, administration and probate of small estates, elder abuse and exploitation, and immigration issues. He stated for the pro-bono program there is a waitlist because it's a popular program.

Donna asked how many seniors are served, Drew replied that on staff there are 2.5 attorneys and there are about 3 intakes a day. Donna asked if there is a certain type of service seniors are looking for, Drew stated housing is the majority of what they help with, about 60-65% of the

time. They expect this to go up now that landlords can proceed with evictions. Deborah thanked Drew for the information and asked how someone can get pro-bono help. Drew stated it depends on what attorney volunteers are available to give their time. If there are any question, people can call the office and provide help. Kitty Jung stated that people can contact the state if they have HOA issues. Hawah asked if Washoe Legal Services coordinates with Nevada Legal Services, Drew stated there is a fair amount of overlap and they try to split tasks. Also, Nevada Legal Services requests citizenship papers and Washoe Legal Services does not but they do focus on Washoe. Hawah asked for a flyer of Washoe Legal Services, Drew will provide it when available.

13. *Report and discussion on Washoe County Senior Advisory Bylaws

Attachment: [Senior-Servcies-AB-BY-LAWS-proposed-revisions-from-DClontz.pdf \(washoecounty.us\)](#)

Donna stated she looked at the Bylaws and briefly reviewed them (see attachment). Article 2 comes out of the County Code. Pamela asked when the Bylaws were amended, Donna replied on March 2021.

Abby stated the appointing of Ethan Hovest and removing of Mark Miranda went to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on August 24. The recommendations for the August meeting will be going to the BCC on September 19. The recommendations for Hawah for District 3, reappointing Rick and Sarah for a second term, Casey Reed for the At Large seat, and Mary Ann McCauley will be going to the BCC on Sept 14. Any recommendations from today can go to the September 28 BCC meeting. Ethan, as an Alternate, can fill in for any chair.

14. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding appointing a new Advisory Board Member for District 1 (For Possible Action)

a. Martha Lavin (District 1)

Attachment: [9-01-21 Martha Lavin Application Rtdtd.pdf \(washoecounty.us\)](#)
[9-01-21 Martha Lavin Resume.pdf \(washoecounty.us\)](#)

Donna stated Martha Lavin has been very active in the community and would be a great voice for seniors. Martha introduced herself and stated she has lived in Reno for 8 years. She has helped in the Reno Advisory Board and has a background as a tax professional and employee benefits for companies.

Motion to recommend Martha Lavin for District 1 was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Linda Hardie. Motion passed unanimously.

15. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to elect a new Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for the Senior Advisory Board to be effective October 2021 (For Possible Action)

Deborah stated that as of now, she does not feel like being the chair or vice chair would be a good fit. Deborah stated Hawah would be good for chair too. Donna stated Sarah Deardorff said she would consider being vice chair if someone would be chair.

Motion to appoint Hawah Ahmad for Chair, Sarah Deardorff for Vice Chair and Rick Sorensen for Secretary was made by Pamela Roberts and seconded by Donna Clontz. Motion passed unanimously.

16. *Report, discussion, 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)

Attachment: [9-01-21 Joint Goals Wrksht.pdf \(washoecounty.us\)](#)

Pamela stated her interest in senior law and increase social and recreational opportunities and advocacy. Deborah expressed her interest in grants and social services. The following names need to be removed from the chart: Mark, Linda, Moe, Vanessa, and Doris.

Ethan stated he is interested in Tech Café. Paco Lachoy stated there is money available for things that have to do with communication.

Hawah stated she would like to be in the volunteer box; she would also like to have a report on how the volunteering outreach is done.

Ethan would like a copy of the Master Plan.

Donna stated she would like to fill each box with members.

17. *Report and discussion on senior board members to attend ongoing Washoe County public meetings

Attachment: [9-01-21 Monthly Washoe County Public Meetings Chart.pdf](#)

Commissioner Jung stated there is money coming into Nevada, it would be good to make sure to advocate of what seniors want to be done; to think about what could be done as a senior services board.

Donna states she knows the state has a link on how money should be used; she would like to send the link to the Board.

Pamela states in the recent history of citizen advisory boards, there was a change where CABs don't only deal with development issues, but also looking at a way to discuss other issues.

18. *Advisory Board Members' announcements, reports and updates to include requests for information or topics for future agendas. (No discussion among Advisory Board Members will take place on this item.)

Donna states the senior games finished today. There was almost 3 weeks of activities and some people won medals. Larry stated Connie McMullen had devastating hacker incident and hopes they can re-instate everything they lost. Also, in the Center for Healthy Aging, they had an inter-generational event, and it was exciting.

Hawah stated she would like an update on COVID19 and boosters.

19. *Public comment –

None.

20. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

Motion to adjourn was made by Pamela Roberts and seconded by Linda Hardie. Motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.