



**WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD
(Commission Districts)**

Permanent Members

Martha Lavin - Present
 Mavis Kay Bonzer - Absent excused
 Thuy Tran – Absent unexcused
 Adolfo Correa - Present
 Denise Myer - Present
 Charles Mark Neumann - Present
 Jane Baudelaire - Present
 Casey Reed – Absent, unexcused
 Pamela Roberts - Present
 MaryAnn McCauley - Present
 Hawah Ahmad, At Large - Absent, excused

Alternate Members & Ex-Officio Members

Mac Rossi, Alternate – Present
 Patricia Gallimore, Alternate - Present
 Michael Clark, BCC – Present
 Clara Andriola, BCC Alternate – Absent, unexcused
 Donald Abbott, Sparks City Council -Present

Associate Members (Advisors)

Sue Meuschke, Associate Member – Present
 Victoria Edmondson, Associate Member - Absent, unexcused
 Connie McMullen, Associate Member - Present
 Dr. Larry Weiss, Associate Member – Absent, unexcused
 Donna Clontz, Associate Member - Present

1. CALL TO ORDER [Non-Action Item] **Meeting called to order by Pam Roberts at 3:02pm**
2. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM. **Quorum achieved.**
3. Public Comment [Non-Action Item]
 Comment heard under this item will be limited to three minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Advisory Board agenda. The Advisory Board will also hear public comment during individual action items, in which comment will be limited to the specific agenda item. Comments are to be made to the Advisory Board as a whole.

Terry Brooks, Senior Poetry Club will start meet on the second Monday of the month starting in January.

Darla Lee line dances at the Senior Center on Thursdays and wants to thank the board for supporting putting the sound barrier up. Despite the barrier there are still other conversations happening that are disrupting the class. Asking the board to consider removing some of the tables in the area.

Autumn Blattman with Aging and Disabilities Services is having a conference on April 16th-18th at The Atlantis Resort. Registration is opening soon and they are soliciting speakers for the conference.

Commissioner Mike Clark, District 2 Co Commissioner. County wants to rent building in Lemmon Valley to seniors for one thousand dollars and Commissioner Clark is asking the County to waive the fee.

Megan Ebert, Reno City Council, Liaison to Senior Advisory Board. Senior Resource Fair coming up and looking for a facility in the North Valleys to host this event. The County would charge a fee for use of the building for the Fair but the Council is asking for a discount or waiving the fee. If you are interested in more information or to help with this project, contact Megan via email: ebertm@reno.gov

Donna Clontz, resource fair near Neil Road happening this month. Access to Healthcare will planning four resource Fairs near the libraries in 2024. Typically see between 50 and 80 seniors at these Fairs.

Molly Rose Lewis from Senator Rosen's office saying Happy New Year. If anything is needed from Senator Rosen, please let her know.

Marsy Kupfersmith, on Friday, January 12th, Fun Fridays Speaker series are restarting in Sparks at the Senior Center with ice cream and OLLI representative.

4. Member Announcements [Non-Action Item]

Mark Neumann handed out 80 Turkeys in Sun Valley for Christmas to Seniors. Tuesdays and Thursdays the Sun Valley pool will be available for free swimming for seniors.

Patricia Gallimore MLK holiday coming up and Patricia will be helping with the memorial service on January 14th at the McKinley Arts Building. Annual caravan will be Monday, January 15th starting at Grace Church at 10:30am the cars will start lining up for the caravan.

5. Approval of the Minutes from the Advisory Board Meeting of December 6, 2023 [For Possible Action]

Mark Neumann motioned to approve the December minutes.

Mac Rossi seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved.

6. Discuss and take action regarding the removal of Victoria Edmundson as an associate member of the Senior Advisory Board and further discuss the role of associate members and protocols for appointing and removing them to be clarified in amendments to our Bylaws [For Possible Action] – Pam Roberts

There has been no contact from Victoria Edmundson in the last two years. Pam recommending removing Victoria Edmondson from the Advisory Board. Additionally, we should consider revisiting the Bylaws to reflect the action we agree upon with this issue. There is no limit as to the number of associate members we can have on this Advisory Board. There is no term limit for associate members.

Associate Members, Section II, Article III, the board can designate associate members who may be past board members who have served their term limits or professionals with expertise to lend. They have all privileges except making motions and voting.

Pam will draft a recommendation to amend the Bylaws per the discussion.

Mark Neumann making a motion to update Bylaws for Associate Members, Seconded by Adolfo. Unanimously approved.

Mary Ann McCauley making a motion to review Victoria Edmundson as an associate member of the Washoe Co Senior Advisory Board. Seconded by Denise Myer. Motion

passed.

7. Discussion and possible action to recommend possible changes to the volunteer goals of the Senior Services Master Plan [For Possible Action] – Sue Meuschke
Attachment: [Master Plan topic schedule rev 1-3-24.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
Attachment: [Revised Volunteer Objectives .pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Sue Meuschke, Home and Community Based services is being split into two meetings starting today.

Increase opportunities with volunteer fairs throughout the year with success measured with percentage of attendees converting the volunteers.

Creating a volunteer committee with a goal of recruiting 12 volunteers by the end of the year.

Denise Myer made a motion to approve revision to the goals, Adolfo seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Martha Lavin volunteered to help with the Transportation goal. Mac Rossi asking to come off goal 8 (legal services) as he was added to goal 9. Denise Myer will take Mac's place on Goal 8.

Denise wants to thank board members for all the help on these goals.

8. Discussion and possible action to recommend possible changes to the Community Based Services of the Senior Services Master Plan [For Possible Action] – Connie McMullen, Mary Squillante, Abby Badolato, Janet Aldana
Attachment: [Home and Community Services.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Community Based Services enables people to age in place and Autumn Blattman, Aging and Disability Services, Regional Coordinator.

Mary Squillante, Community Advocate with Aging and Disability Services works to help keep seniors independent.

There are two different Medicaid waivers to help provide services for these waivers for 1) Frail elder waiver – home and community-based services waiver which allows a Medicaid provider to support elders in their homes. 2) People with physical Disabilities also have a waiver to get support with their daily living so they can stay living in their homes.

There used to be a group home waiver but that is encompassed in the existing waivers.

Autumn is not aware if there is a wait list. It takes several months for someone to get onto the waiver.

Two State programs that support folks who don't qualify for Medicaid – individuals with a higher income. COPE – Community Service Options Program for the Elder provided Personal Assistant Services (PAS) – for persons under 65 needing assistance needing help with daily living, case management, home delivered meals and life alert system.

Intellectual Developmental Disability is a waiver available for folks who qualify and is lifelong. This program provides respite services.

Aging and Disability Services grants out over \$20M in a grant cycle to keep seniors in their homes.

Contact the main Aging and Disability Services office for more information and get access to services or call 211 to get connected to Aging and Disability Services. There are offices in Elko, Reno, Carson City and Las Vegas.

Per Connie, a lot of the funding comes from the Older American Act and from Tobacco Settlement.

Abby Badolato, in 2021 the State discontinued the homemaker program and the County took over this responsibility and the wait list was at 400. This program provides light housekeeping which allows seniors to stay in their homes and there are approximately 60 requests a month. The current wait list is 188 and they are currently serving over 260

seniors. Title III funding support this work. There are nine case managers to help people navigate their life.

Representative Payee program helps seniors manage their money. This program was doubled in 2023 to serve up to 80 people and the program current has 75 seniors in the program.

Home Delivered Meal program supplies seniors for up to 14 meals per week. This program now also provides pet food.

Seniors have to be 60 to qualify for programs. There is no income requirement to receive services.

Hiring their own homemakers vs. contracting as they have done in the past. Deep cleans will also be offered in 2024.

These programs receive close to \$1M to run these programs via grants from the State.

Most people stay on these programs until they move on to a higher level of care or pass away.

Chaz Blackburn from Circle of Life Hospice. They provide Palliative and Hospice care including care management to support the end-of-life process. They are working on building out a 13-bed facility (hospice house) to support approximately 277 people a year with an anticipated length of stay of 10 – 21 days. Medicare doesn't pay for a hospital bed AND hospice. Medicaid pays for both. Quality of the program is easier to manage when the folks providing care work for the County.

9. Update and report on Washoe County Senior Services, Homemaker Program, Nutrition Program, ARPA Funds, and general Senior Services updates. [Non-Action Item] – Cara Paoli, Human Services Division Director
Attachment: [monthly data 12-2023.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
Cara Paoli – Home delivered meals in July 895 and in November 27,805
Congregate and duplicate client, in July 874 clients were served and in November 1055 clients were served.
Currently 258 homemaker clients.
Chris Garvey, the figures quoted represent just the seniors that have reached out and there are many seniors who do not know these services are available. Please remember the people who aren't represented.
10. Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee regarding their current activities [Non-Action Item] – Donald Abbott

Next meeting February 28th at 9am at Sparks City Hall. There are openings for all Wards for the Sparks Advisory Committee.
11. Update on Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee regarding their current activities [Non-Action Item] – Izabella Baumann

Next meeting January 9th at the McKinley Arts and Culture Center, January 23rd there is a Senior Fair and joint Reno/Sparks mtg January 30th.
12. Update and discussion regarding joint meeting to discuss Older Americans Month [For Possible Action] – Pam Roberts

Mtg January 30th at the McKinley Arts Center from 2-4pm.

13. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Human Services Agency staff regarding Age Friendly survey distribution and update on surveys collected. [For Possible Action] – Abby Badolato, Human Services Coordinator
Attachment: [Age Friendly SENIOR SERVICES SURVEY.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#) Attachment: [SENIOR SERVICES SURVEY 2023 Results.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Tabled to the next meeting

14. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Human Services Agency staff regarding increases to facility use fees. [For Possible Action] – Abby Badolato, Human Services Coordinator

Tabled to the next meeting

15. Advisory Board Members' announcements, reports, and updates to include requests for information or topics for future agendas [Non-Action Item]. (No discussion among Advisory Board Members will take place on this item.)

Mark Neumann asking for an update on computers for seniors from Mark Brown.

16. Public comment [Non-Action Item]
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Donna Clontz staff at the Washoe Co Senior Center have been helping the homeless who hang out at the center and this is a public thank you.

Life expectancy for a man has fallen 6 years and married men live longer but want to die sooner.

17. ADJOURNMENT [Non-Action Item] Meeting adjourned at 5pm.