



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

March 5, 2025

Washoe County, 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Reno, NV  
Building A, HR Training Room

&

Zoom Webinar

<https://zoom.us/j/92347908306?pwd=K2k5UGdYSEVXVGNuRGFPZ3pub2kwQT09>

- 1. Call To Order [Non-Action Item]** - Meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair - Pam Roberts.
- 2. Roll Call [Non-Action Item]** – There was a quorum present via in-person and through Zoom meeting.

### **WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:**

#### **PRESENT**

Martha Lavin  
Thuy Tran  
Denise Myer  
C. Mark Neumann  
Adolfo Correa  
Edward Lamb

Pamela Roberts  
Mary Ann McCauley  
Mac Rossi  
Patricia Gallimore  
Benecia Price  
Craig Bronzan

#### **ABSENT**

**(EXCUSED\*)**

\* Martha Lavin

#### **WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT**

Cara Paoli  
Abby Badolato  
Herb Kaplan  
Chris Lopez  
Eric Wacker

#### **EX-OFFICIO PRESENT**

Donald Abbott

#### **ADVISOR PRESENT**

Sue Meuschke  
Connie McMullen  
Dr. Larry Weiss

### **3. Public Comment [Non-Action Item] –**

Tim Johnston, from Better Business Bureau, stated it was National Consumer Protection Week, and discussed 2 out of the 3 top scams. These scams involved people using relationships to take their money through investment and cryptocurrency scams. Another scam was through romance and friendship scams. In 2024, people aged 65 plus reported

the highest median dollar loss of all age groups at \$160. The full report is available online at [bbb.org/riskreport](http://bbb.org/riskreport).

**4. Approval of the Minutes from the Advisory Board Meeting on February 5, 2025 [For Possible Action] Advisory Board members may identify any additions or corrections to the draft minutes as transcribed.**

**Attachment:** [WCHSASAB](#)

Motion to approve the minutes with amendments was made by C. Mark Neumann and seconded by Adolfo Correa. Mac Rossi abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Discussion and possible recommendations regarding moving future Senior Advisory Board meetings to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. [For Possible Action] – (10 mins)**

Abby stated that the Chambers would be available on the second Wednesday of the month for the rest of the year. She stated it would be nice to also have some board meetings at the Senior Center two months out of the year so people could visit see the Senior Center.

Pam Roberts praised that holding meetings at the Chambers offers the advantage of a well-equipped facility. However, Pam agreed that a drawback, is that it prevents board members from visiting the Senior Center, potentially limiting their engagement with the community. Pam proposed the board meetings meet 10 out of the 12 months at the Chambers, so members of the Board could visit the senior center and sample the food. Mac Rossi suggested 4 out of the 12 months at the Senior Center. Pam wondered if people may be confused between moving meeting locations.

C. Mark Neumann made a motion to approve Senior Advisory Board meetings 10 months a year and 2 months a year at the Senior Center. Seconded by Patricia Gallimore contingent on confirmation of the Chamber availability. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. Discussion and possible recommendation regarding identifying a new point of contact for AARP: Age Friendly plan. [For Possible Action] – (10 mins)**

Pam Roberts asked if any Board members were interested in becoming the new point of contact for the AARP: Age Friendly Plan as the position was now vacant. Denise Meyer asked what the duties of the position were. Pam stated the person would be the main communicator with AARP and the services they provide. Benecia Price asked what the main method of communication is. Pam stated it is generally through personal e-mail.

C. Mark Neumann motioned to move Benecia Price as the interim contact for AARP: Age Friendly. Seconded by Mac Rossi. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Presentation regarding progress of the Master Plan [Non-Action Item] – Mary Ann McCauley & Sue Meuschke (20 min)**

Mary Ann McCauley stated there are 15 objectives, with 5 relating to isolation. Her goal is to eliminate repetitive objectives and present the final main ideas to the Board. She stated there are many ideas, but staff and resources are limited. She wants a realistic plan finalized by May and will be contacting Board members individually for input.

**8. Discussion and possible recommendation regarding planning of Older American Month, including event schedules, timelines, and limiting for-profit vendors at the kick-off event [For Possible Action] – Abby Badolato (30 min)**

Abby Badolato stated the Older Americans Month working group has been fantastic, thanking Chris Lopez for assisting with organizing the event. Chris Lopez confirmed 55

agencies comprising of non-profit and government agencies, with about 15 for-profit agencies on the vendor waitlist for a total of 70 vendors. Abby mentioned that the majority of profit vendors were Medicare vendors, and that profit agencies would receive automatic entry for the Info Fair if the vendors were also holding a May community event. She predicted being able to accommodate all vendors that are interested. Chris mentioned there are community events scheduled every weekday in May. Abby brought up the vendor deadline on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, Stuff-A-Bus on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the Senior Center grand reopening on May 1<sup>st</sup> in conjunction with the Older Americans Month Info Fair. Abby is looking to get the Older Americans Month booklet out to the public a week before May. Pam Roberts asked if Abby needed assistance confirming the remaining vendors. Abby stated that as long as the Board was ok with the working group making the decisions and due to the decrease in vendors this year, there would not need to be any action on this item.

**9. Updates from Washoe County Senior Services [Non-Action Item] – Cara Paoli, Human Services Division Director, Adult and Senior Services; Abby Badolato, Human Services Agency Senior Services Coordinator (5 min)**

**Attachment:** [03-05-2025 SAB Monthly Data.pdf](#)

Abby Badolato pointed out that some of the construction items they are waiting for are being impacted by the tariffs. The kitchen renovation is on track as the mobile kitchen is only available until the 25<sup>th</sup>, confirming a May 1<sup>st</sup> opening. There was an elliptical found that will be donated to Crossroads. A Senior Volunteer Fair is being held March 20<sup>th</sup> at Carmella Ranch on Regency Drive, the Older Americans Month Senior Breakfast will be on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am. Senior Services was able to secure 12 laptops for computer classes that will be taught by Bill Sero. The Senior Center is still in talks with OnMed, the medical mobile pod, to help reduce REMSA calls and provide medical services on site. Cara Paoli stated that OnMed is open to everyone, not just seniors.

Mac Rossi asked if there was an emergency plan for Meals On Wheels funding if budgets are cut. Cara stated there are currently no backup plans as the County is already requesting additional funding from the State as the current reimbursement rate does not even cover 50% of meal costs. She mentioned the Agency Manager, Ryan Gustaffson, is meeting with the Manager's office for plans.

**10. Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee regarding their current activities [Non-Action Item] – Donald Abbott, Sparks City Council Ward 1 (5 min)**

Chris Lopez spoke on behalf of Donald Abbott. Donald collected 7,331 Valentine's cards for Seniors in Northern Nevada which is a new record for Donald. Public works installed new benches at the Sparks Senior Center, two which are available for adoption for \$150 by contacting Brandon Miles at [Bmiles@cityofsparks.us](mailto:Bmiles@cityofsparks.us). A tripping hazard at the Sparks Senior Center was fixed with new concrete. The Sparks Senior Advisory Board needed to cancel their last meeting due to lack of members. They are looking for possible consolidation of Boards. Edward Lamb stated he tried to volunteer but was turned down as there was no need for any more members in the Sparks district he resides. He mentioned specific districts are not interested in taking members residing outside of their districts.

**11. Update on Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee regarding their current activities [Non-Action Item] – Izabella Baumann, City of Reno Activities Coordinator (5 min)**

Izabella Baumann stated the next committee meeting would be March 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at McKinley Arts Center or Zoom. Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> is a free senior day at the Automobile Museum 11pm to 1pm with lunch provided. She had a successful Senior Resource Fair

at Neil Road on February 27<sup>th</sup> and mentioned upcoming resource fairs in May and August. Other events include three ice cream socials with free document shredding on May 8<sup>th</sup> at Paradise Park, May 15<sup>th</sup> at Dorothy McLinden Park, and May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Neil Road Center from 11am to 1pm.

**12. Update on Northern Nevada Legal Services [Non-Action Item] – Sarah Molleck, Northern Nevada Legal Aid Supervising Attorney (5 min)**

Chris Lopez informed that Sarah Molleck would only be attending the meeting if she was available as she was working on an emergency eviction case. No one present from Northern Nevada Legal Aid.

**13. 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.) (5 min)**

Denise Meyer thanked Donald Abbott for 1,800 valentines that she was able to give to seniors and veterans. She also addressed her ID was recently stolen and there are scams of people pretending they are from US Bank or NV Energy. Denise mentioned interest in a scam presentation by Sparks District Attorney Wes Duncan and having him present at the Senior Center or during Older Americans Month. Chris Lopez stated he had already reached out to Wes, and that Wes is unable to present but would be attending Older Americans Month. Chris brought up a scam prevention presentation hosted by City of Reno during Older Americans Month.

Pam Roberts suggested putting on a scam prevention seminar and ice cream social in the summer.

Adolfo Correa asked if there were any plans to open a Senior Center in South Reno, and the process to open a new Senior Center. Pam told C. Mark Neumann to speak with Adolfo about the procedure, and if needed, could present that topic as a future agenda item.

Adolfo also inquired about the need for other stakeholders regarding the strategic masterplan. Pam recommended Adolfo to relay his concerns to Mary Ann McCauley and Sue Meuske as they are working on the masterplan.

Thuy Tran stated Circle of Life Hospice was holding a ribbon cutting event at Reno Public Market Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Aspen Home for Seniors was having their Grand Opening on Wednesday, March 26 at 4:30 pm at 2000 Palisades Drive Reno, NV 89509.

**14. Public comment [Non-Action Item]**

Autumn Blackman from Aging and Disability Services is holding a Senior Day at the Legislature on April 17<sup>th</sup>, the details are on the Nellis website.

C. Mark Neumann went to a tour at the Rancho San Rafael Arboretum and informed that they will be making a lot of improvements to the park.

**15. ADJOURNMENT [Non-Action Item]**

Meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m. by Chair - Pam Roberts.