



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

April 2, 2025

Washoe County, 1001 E. 9th Street Reno, NV
Building A, County Commission Chambers

&

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

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

Pamela Roberts
Mary Ann McCauley
Mac Rossi
Patricia Gallimore
Benecia Price

ABSENT

(EXCUSED*)

* Martha Lavin
* Craig Bronzan
* JoEllen Keil

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Cara Paoli
Abby Badolato
Herb Kaplan
Chris Lopez
Eric Wacker

EX-OFFICIO PRESENT

Donald Abbott
Commissioner Mike
Clark

ADVISOR PRESENT

Sue Meuschke
Connie McMullen
Dr. Larry Weiss

3. Public Comment [Non-Action Item] –

Molly Rose Lewis, from Senator Jackie Rosen's Office, reminded everyone to contact their office for any assistance with Federal agencies. She informed social security recipients should have received bonuses due to the Windfall Provision changes reflected on recipient's April Social Security checks. The office is continuing to monitor federal changes to any programs and funding that may affect Seniors.

4. Approval of the Minutes from the Advisory Board Meeting on March 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 was made by Mac Rossi and seconded by C. Mark Neumann. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Update on moving future Senior Advisory Board meetings to the 2nd Wednesday of the month beginning May 14th, 2025. [Non-Action Item] – (10 mins)

Pam Roberts confirmed that the Senior Advisory Board Meetings will move to the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the County Commission Chambers from 3pm to 5pm. At least twice a year, or if the County Commission Chambers were to be unavailable, the meeting would take place at the Senior Center. Pam requested signage at the Senior Center indicating the meetings have now moved to the County Commission Chambers.

6. Update on the March Senior Volunteer Fair. [For Possible Action] – Denise Myer; Sue Meuske (10 mins)

Denise Myer stated they had 15 non-profit agencies, 107 participants, and 152 volunteers that signed up. The next Senior Volunteer Fair would be during Older Americans Month at the Senior Center on May 13th from 1pm until 3pm. There are currently 21 non-profit government agencies participating.

7. Presentation regarding the preliminary draft and progress of the Master Plan [For Possible Action] – Mary Ann McCauley; Sue Meuschke (30 min)

Attachment: [Master Plan Revised Objectives and Strategies](#)

Sue Meuske recapped the objectives of the Aging Services masterplan originally established in 2014. The last set of proposed objectives and action plans was completed in February 2025. Sue & Mary Ann McCauley produced 9 objectives & strategies to the Board for the upcoming years.

Objective 1 – Expand volunteer participation at senior centers by 10% annually through expanding recruitment efforts and diversifying opportunities.

MaryAnn stated the data would be tracked fiscally.

Objective 2 – Expand seniors' access to food and nutrition services 10% annually.

Pam Roberts wishes they could shoot for a higher percentage, but after speaking with Abby Badolato in Senior Services about funding, there may be concerns in the next few years which make even 10% unachievable. Patricia Gallimore stated 10% is a good start to generate a baseline. Commissioner Mike Clark claimed other agencies provide better quality food and that Washoe County's food is "dead last". He expressed interest in coming up with a new meal program and requested training from other local agencies. He stated the meals are cold and that the Senior Center facility is at capacity with people coughing next to one another. Mary Ann stated there is currently no plan to increase quality, just the access of food, and that this topic could be added as another objective. Adolfo Correo, who lives in South Reno, asked what percentage of Washoe County Seniors actually go to the Senior Center because they need food. This statistic would help determine whether the needs of Seniors are actually being addressed.

Commissioner Clark and Patricia Gallimore stated there are no meals served by the Washoe County food nutrition program at the Neil Road Recreation Center or south of the 9th Street location. Commissioner Clark expressed interest in another location in South Reno.

Objective 3 – Increase social interaction among seniors by 20% annually.

Mary Ann stated this includes more activities, more volunteers assisting with activities, and transportation.

Objective 4 – Advocate for increasing affordable and accessible housing units for seniors by 300 units annually.

Sue is hoping to create a database to establish a baseline to monitor growth. The goal is not necessarily building units but to assist seniors with finding housing solutions. Adolfo asked how the data could be tracked. Benecia Price asked if they had contacted HUD Housing. Mary Ann stated data could be acquired from the Reno Housing Authority and HUD housing and that there may need to be a separate day to meet and discuss all proposed objectives.

Objective 5 – Advocate for increasing funding at least 10% annually for home and community-based services including workforce expansion.

Cara Paoli stated it is too early to project the future state of government funding, but asked people to help advocate to Senators to lobby for Senior funding. She mentioned the County is already looking at budget strategies, other grants, and freezing positions when they become vacant to assist budgeting. Pam stated this objective may be unrealistic due to the current climate.

Objective 6 – Develop / promote / partner on a variety of educational programs reaching a minimum of 100 seniors, healthcare providers and caregivers annually.

Sue stated the intention was to provide educational programs on technology, fraudulent scams, health care systems, and elder abuse to name a few. Thuy Tran suggested classes held by Northern Nevada Medical Group.

Objective 7 – Increase senior access to transportation services by 10% annually.

Mac Rossi suggested calling RTC for their Flex Ride service.

Objective 8 – Grow all programs and services by 10% annually through focused outreach using all communication channels.

Objective 9 – Expand resources addressing the legal rights and safety of seniors by YE 2028.

Mary Ann made a motion to accept the Masterplan Objectives including any revisions and changes. Seconded by Denise Myer. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and possible recommendation regarding planning of Older American Month, including event schedules, timelines, and Stuff A Bus requests for donations.

[For Possible Action] – Abby Badolato (15 min)

Abby Badolato announced both the kickoff Vendor Fair on May 1st at the Senior Center, as well as the grand re-opening from 10am – 1pm. There are expected to be over 80 vendors, and they are currently working on the parking situation for the event. May 23rd is Stuff-A-Bus at the Sparks Target, where they receive donations of about \$10,000 worth of hygiene items, clothes, gift cards, and other items to give out to Seniors. For Older Americans Month (OAM), the booklets are on track to be released a week prior to May 1st, 3,000 in English & 250 in Spanish. Abby requested assistance distributing the booklets to the public.

Mac Rossi asked if it was possible to release the booklets earlier than a week prior to the event. Abby stated they would be able to release the books by April 21st and explained the process of getting the booklets edited, approved, & printed. She stated next year; the board could discuss an earlier vendor deadline to be able to distribute booklets out earlier to the event.

Thuy Tran mentioned that Mrs. Reno America, Taylor Evans, was interested in participating in the event. Abby instructed to send the information via email. She also thanked Pam Roberts & Patagonia for allowing the Senior Center to borrow 35 tables for the event.

9. Report on our status with AARP: Washoe Age Friendly and potential next steps [For Possible Action] – Benecia Price (10 min)

Benecia Price stated she attended a Zoom presentation for three days explaining that AARP's direction was not specifically just for Seniors, but for involving younger city individuals as well for an intergenerational approach.

10. 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 (15 min)

Attachment: [Monthly Data March 2025](#)

Cara Paoli brought up Neighborhood Network which also works with Seniors and children helping assist with odd jobs for seniors. For their 10-year celebration, they are holding a pickleball activity on June 7th from 11am to 2pm at the Plumas Street gym. She also explained Hug HS brings kids to the Senior Center to volunteer elaborating on intergeneration involvement.

Cara clarified that the Neil Road site is a city facility, but that the County provides meals for the seniors Monday through Friday at that location. She stated there are two County Senior Centers, 1 each in Reno and Sparks. And explained that the County provides meals at other sites including Lazy 5, Cold Springs, Gerlach, Westbrook which are County buildings to help cut down expenses. She mentioned the possibility of partnering with a South Reno facility in the future.

Cara presented a video about the OnMed Care Station that will be arriving at the Senior Center in early May, with a ribbon cutting and Senior Breakfast on May 16th. Mayor Schieve and Commissioner Hill would be in attendance as well as an OnMed representative to provide a demonstration. Each OnMed session lasts 20 minutes and will have a 90 sec disinfecting phase between clients. Anthem will be providing the funding for the station for a year.

Cara also reminded about the Senior Center grand reopening and Older Americans Month Information Fair on May 1st.

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

Donald Abbott stated Sparks has not had a Senior meeting for a while. He collected bricks from the Railroad building demolition which he brought over to the Sparks Senior Center. Donald mentioned Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Authority, which has an affordable housing tracker that can assist people.

12. 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 mentioned the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee on Tuesday April 8th at the McKinley Arts Cultural Center or Zoom at 2pm. City of Reno has a lot of events planned for Older Americans Month which can be viewed online at Reno.gov/Seniors. There clients can also sign up for the newsletter which has information about all upcoming events. The City of Reno is conducting a community survey for all ages to help improve the community.

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

Sarah Molleck complimented the Senior Legal Services team which has continued to serve seniors via their main office, conduct home visits, and pick up documents from clients with mobility challenges. They are opening an average of 60 cases a month. Northern Nevada Legal Aid (NNLA) has submitted several action letters to Congress asking to preserve essential resources for Seniors. NNLA is also looking to expand legal resources for Seniors regarding power of attorney, landlord tenant rights, and other educational programs. Sarah informed about a Power of Attorney Planning seminar every 3rd Friday of the month at the Sparks Senior Center. Pam asked if NNLA needed any volunteers to assist them from the Volunteer Fair, but Sarah stated due to the nature of legal work, NNLA would not need any volunteer assistance. Rather, volunteers could help spread the word to the public about NNLA to help connect Seniors with resources.

14. 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)

Mac Rossi was able to get a cross walk on 7th and McCarran installed after lobbying for 6 years to help make the intersection more accessible for seniors at a nearby senior living facility. On May 16th at Paradise Park, Mac Rossi will be teaching bocce ball lessons. C. Mark Neumann announced free swimming for seniors at the Sun Valley Center Tuesdays & Thursdays from June 12th through August 10th. Thuy Tran mentioned educational programs for seniors through Northern Nevada Medical Center, with more information on the about classes on their website. Patricia Gallimore informed about the Community Policing Symposium at the Reno Town Mall on 4/2/25 from 6pm to 8pm.

15. Public comment [Non-Action Item]

Commissioner Mike Clark mentioned Senior Rescue Magazine program “Defensible Space For Seniors”, which utilizes the Washoe County Fire Department to trim weeds & shrubs around homes. Commissioner Clark has donated \$7,500 to rent dumpsters to haul the debris away. He has found land in Cold Springs for pickleball courts, he just needs to raise funds for production. He also mentioned he donated to a Community Center in Douglas County to help feed 180 seniors.

16. ADJOURNMENT [Non-Action Item]

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m. by Chair - Pam Roberts.