

MINUTES OF THE WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

September 9, 2015

Washoe County Senior Center, 1155 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada 89512
Game Room

1. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. – by the Chairman of the Board, Dr. Larry Weiss.

2. ROLL CALL – Dr. Larry Weiss asked for roll call; Lisa Bonilla took the roll. There was a quorum present.

WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT:

<u>PRESENT</u>		<u>ABSENT</u>
Connie McMullen	Gary Whitfield	* Dr. Larry Weiss
Dennis Chin	Jeanne Herman	* Victoria Edmondson
Donna Clontz	Marsy Kupfersmith	
Diane France	Wayne Alexander	

*Excused absence

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Leslie Williams
Lisa Bonilla

3. *PUBLIC COMMENT – Marsy Kupfersmith wanted to congratulate Connie and Chris McMullen on the success of Senior Fest this year. Dennis Chin explained that there is an issue with clients and seniors not being able to understand Medicare it would be beneficial if the senior centers provided a quick and easy guide to Medicare. Donna Clontz informed the group about a questionnaire provided to seniors at Senior Fest and over 200 completed questionnaires were turned in.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA for the Advisory Board Meeting on September 9, 2015 – Dennis Chin motions the approval of the minutes. Gary Whitfield seconds the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the Advisory Board Meeting on June 3, 2015- Dennis Chin motions the approval of the minutes as presented. Connie McMullen seconds the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. *Report on the status of the Northern Nevada Veterans Home – Wendy Simons, Deputy Director of Wellness at Nevada Department of Veterans Services – Wendy gave the group a general update regarding the new housing project for veterans that has been in

the works since 2006. A grant request was submitted to the federal VA Grants Division for new home construction for a veterans' home in Northern Nevada for funding pending state match for one third of the funding. The project has received notice from the Federal VA the maximum award grant will be \$33,507,000. On the VA priority list, the housing project was placed in 94th of top priority projects for funding. Once the project received the state match, the home was brought up to the 55th priority. The home will be located near the Adult Mental Health Campus in Sparks. It will be built on 14 acres. The perimeter will be fenced. It will feature a town hall, gymnasium for physical therapy, a restaurant style dining hall, sports bar, coffee bistro, general store and a chapel, a meeting room and conservatory. It will house 96 residents, with three large homes divided into rehab care, mental health and long term care. Each building will house 32 veterans and will be fully self-sustained. The projected opening goal is end of 2017, mid 2018.

7. *Announcement of the recruitment for Advisory Board secretary vacancy, selection scheduled for November 4, 2015. Action item deferred for next meeting

8. *Discussion and update on Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board FY2014-2015 Goals and Objectives – WCSSAB Chair-Dr. Larry Weiss – Dr. Larry referred the group to a hand out provided by Donna Clontz, outlining the 12 Washoe County Master Plan Aging Services Priorities. Grady Tarbutton suggested regular updates on the chosen objectives. Leslie Williams informed the group about Washoe County's efforts to combine multiple objectives into one project. The volunteer program would address not only volunteerism, but the food insecurity issue by implementing a SNAP program that would deliver groceries to homebound clients with SNAP benefits. It would also address the socialization issue by allowing the volunteers delivering the groceries some time to visit with the clients, reducing isolation in the senior community. Washoe County Senior Services has received additional funding to expand the Nutrition and Home delivered Meals programs as well as the Homemaker program. Senior Services is working across other departments within the county to identify other resources for seniors within the community. A \$75,000 was awarded as part of one of the special projects for FY15-16. The goal for the grant is to expand volunteerism and addressing the isolation issue by supporting a Senior Neighborhood Shuttle in Cold Springs. Connie McMullen reported the Sierra Nevada Transportation Coalition is currently working on developing the "Village Concept" in that area, encouraging senior neighbors to assist each other with transportation and coordinating rides and errands.

9. *Primer (briefing) for the Board prior to the Legislative session (standing item)-Connie McMullen and Donna Clontz- Connie McMullen provided an update regarding the Legislative session. The Legislative Subcommittee for the Commission on Aging had a meeting and decided to bring back Senior Day. Dr. Larry Weiss informed the group that the Care Act did pass and is in the process of being implemented, with a start date sometime in January. Donna Clontz suggested meeting with sister boards from other counties to discuss what kind of projects are being done throughout each community that address senior issues and what kind of topics could be brought up to the Legislators.

10. *Discussion of the definition for an Advisory Board Associate Member and their possible role- Deferred

11. *City of Reno Staff Report – Donna Clontz informed the group there is a new liaison for City of Reno, Andy Bass, Director of Parks and Recreations and Community Services. Leslie Smith is the new staff member for City of Reno and Andy’s assistant. She will be the new contact for the Senior Citizen’s Advisory Committee.

12. *Directors Updates – Grady Tarbutton and Leslie Williams

- a. Announcement on timelines and process for the recruitment of vacant positions on the Advisory Board.** – The board was provided with a timeline of the board members and vacancies for each district. There is a vacancy in District 2 due to the loss of Advisory Board Member Clinton Smith. There is a vacancy in District 3 due to the resignation of Karen Davis, with an additional vacancy coming up at the end of Diane France’s term at the end of September. There is a vacancy in District 5. There is also an Alternate vacancy. It was recommended to do the recruitment by the end of the year. There was discussion regarding the size of the Advisory Board and whether if it would be beneficial to change the number of positions.
- b. Discussion or orientation of new Advisory Board members** – Not discussed
- c. Fan Drive Update** – With the fan drive winding down, over 407 fans have been donated to seniors so far, seventy of which were purchased from funds from last year’s drive. This year, over \$2,000 was received in cash donations which will assist in the launch for the program next year.
- d. Master Plan Update** The Master Plan has been absorbed by the Strategic Plan. Leslie Williams recommended replacing the Master Plan update with Strategic Plan Goal 2 update.
- e. Human Services Agency Update** – There has been discussion with tentative guidelines for presentation of code change to integrate into one agency. The tentative deadline is early 2016. The integration of Senior Services with Social Services has already begun. The social workers from Senior Services have been relocated to Adult Social services to provide collaboration and discussion to find new and innovative ways to reach out to the senior population. Senior Services is also receiving support from Social Services through the indigent fund. This collaboration allowed the expansion of the Home Delivered Meal Program by creating the second home delivered meal. The funds have also funded the Hopes Clinic nurse that operates the blood pressure clinic on a weekly basis. The Senior Ambassador Program also funded by the indigent funds.
- f. Fall Prevention Day, September 23, 2015** – There will be a press release coming out at the end of the week regarding fall prevention.
- g. Update on Senior Services waitlists (standing item)** – Over the last few months, with the collaboration with Adult Social Services eligibility workers; the waitlist for the Home Delivered Meal Program has been eliminated. There is still currently a waitlist for Case Management which coincides with the Homemaker program at 18 months.

- h. Budget Update** – The Nutrition Supplemental Incentive Program (NSIP) received an increase of \$71,500, bringing the total award to \$181,000 for this year. The Daybreak Program also received an increase of \$21,700, making the total award \$63,000. The Homemaker program also received additional funding of about \$5,500. The total increase in funding for the Congregate Meal and Home Delivered Meal Program of 171,000 meals, which means an additional 70,000 meals that can reach clients.
- i. Other Updates** – In October there will be a joint meeting with City of Reno Senior Citizen’s Advisory Committee. Before the joint meeting Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board will have a special meeting with the District Attorney Leslie Admirand coming to discuss the open meeting law.

13. *Member Items – No member items

14. Discussion of agenda items for the next Board meeting –

- a. Updated bylaws
- b. Update on the strategic plan
- c. Update on the Homemaker Program Waitlist
- d. Update on the Older Americans Act

15.*Public Comment – Commissioner Jeanne Herman found a donor, Lifestyle Homes, for the wireless service at the Cold Springs Community Center meal location. Donna Clontz reported there were over 300 seniors that participated in the Senior Games Closing Ceremonies and applauded Commissioner Jeanne Herman for attending the event. The Winter Games will be coming up February 1-14.

16. Adjournment – Dennis Chin made the motion to adjourn. Donna Clontz seconds the motion. Motion passed unanimously.