



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

March 7, 2018  
Washoe County Senior Center, 1155 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Reno, Nevada 89512  
Game Room

1. **Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 3:00 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.

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

**PRESENT**

Dr. Larry Weiss  
Wayne Alexander  
Marsy Kupfersmith  
Garth Elliott  
Sarah Deardorff

Donna Clontz  
Barbara Korosa  
Rick Sorensen  
Margaret Reinhardt

**ABSENT (EXCUSED\*)**

Stan Dowdy\*  
Sandra Dexter\*

**WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT**

Amber Howell  
Sandra Vasquez

Leslie Admirand (DA)  
Abby Badolato

**ADVISOR PRESENT**

Connie McMullen

**ADVISOR (ABSENT)**

Victoria Edmondson

**3. \*Public Comment –**

No public comment.

**4. \*Member Announcements –**

Garth stated that the new voter machines in the Registrar Office were recently unveiled. The machine is very large and senior friendly; there are also people that will help with using it and it is a good tool for seniors to use in the voting process.

Larry handed out a flyer for the Aces ball game fundraiser with the Center for Healthy Aging, proceeds will help fund programs for seniors (see attachment).

Donna stated she has Senior Connect booklets from City of Reno for anyone to take.

Marsy stated Friday will be the Senior Coalition meeting with a speaker from RTC. Friends of Washoe County Library are having a book sale starting this weekend at the Reno Town Mall. On Tuesday, 3/13/18, Senior Outreach Services is having an education talk and they will have Jack Mayes with his service dog.

**5. Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on March 7, 2018.**

Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Garth Elliott and seconded by Marsy Kupfersmith.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on February 7, 2018.**

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rick Sorensen and seconded by Wayne Alexander.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**7. \*Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee – Donald Abbott**

Donald stated he is talking to Steve and public comment is always welcome as a good reminder for what they are trying to get accomplished.

**8. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding recruiting new board members for District 2 (For Possible Action)**

Larry stated this is a new request for District 2. The application to be a board member is currently not on the Washoe County website. Amber suggested having an ongoing application for the Board, Donna and Rick agree. Barbara Deavers from the public stated she is receiving emails for committee openings. Larry stated they will start the process to open the application on the website and also asked members if they had any recommendations.

**9. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding age friendly communities sponsored by AARP throughout the county and cities (For Possible Action)**

Donna stated in the last couple of meetings, they had Truckee Meadows Regional Planning (TMRP) and Age Friendly issues. During the City of Reno meeting on February 13, they had the Sustainability Manager, Lynne Barker, do a PowerPoint presentation that went through what the City of Reno had to do to be a STAR community. The AARP Age Friendly fits exactly into the STAR Program. Donna spoke with Lynne Barker and she informed her that they received 1/3 of the points for the aging section. Donna commented she can send out to the board members the PowerPoint that was presented at their meeting. The City of Reno is also willing to create a survey with TMRP and WCHSASAB about transportation, housing, and access to information. The 3 different parts of government are working on age friendly and welcome input of senior advisory groups; on March 15 they will be getting together to work on the survey and have it out by April 14 so that it is ready for May. Rick asked if once there is an earned rating if it markets the area; Donna replied yes. It is a positive attractive point to grow the community with new business. Currently they have 3 stars and they can work to optimize health and security because those topics only received a 34% while other areas received scores around 70%. Donna stated they still need to work on getting a government entity to approve being an age friendly community.

**10. Report, discussion, and possible approval of projects for Older American Month 2018 (For Possible Action)**

Donna handed out an updated list of events for OAM (see attachment). Garth said he is still working on Reno Gem & Mineral Society and they may not be available for this year, but he is trying to get them for next year. Marsy stated she has multiple events in the Library and Karen from Catholic Charities said Cold Springs and Sun Valley do not have anything going on for OAM. Marsy also said that she will be helping Connie with the Senior Coalition and the assembly.

Sarah stated Incline Village would like to do a pet therapy program. She is also looking into a program for fraud prevention. Donna advised Sarah to talk to Stan Dowdy about the fraud prevention. Connie stated she is working on getting Commissioner Lucey to be at the center on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Donna commented the opening ceremony will have a short 30 minute presentation from officials; music will also be provided. There will be speakers and people from other agencies; she is looking for any ideas from members. Elected officials have not been invited, but they will work on inviting them soon. Barbara Korosa stated the Nevada Historical Society will provide free admittance every Friday for seniors during May.

#### **11. Report, discussion and possible approval of projects for Stuff-A-Bus for Seniors 2018 (For Possible Action)**

Amber Howell stated she received a communication plan from Chris Ciarlo. All is going well and they will be able to save about \$4,000 on public relations. Marsy asked how many brochures will be printed because last year they needed more than what was printed. There are locations that did not receive any booklets and they are requesting booklets for this year. Donna stated KOLO Channel 8 will be the sponsor and there will be a lot of media coverage. Barbara Korosa stated that the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club will need a representative and asked if Amber or Chris could attend their luncheon. Barbara Korosa explained that when reservations are being done, members will also give their donation to Stuff-A-Bus. The event will be on April 12, on that day the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club will identify Stuff-A-Bus as their donation recipient. The organization also wants to know how social workers use Stuff-A-Bus donations and help seniors. Stuff-A-Bus event will be May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Aces Ball Park location for the drive up donation from 4pm-7pm.

#### **12. Report, discussion, possible recommendations 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)**

Garth stated he has been playing phone tag with RTC because he wants to have them do a presentation to the Board of how they plan to undo the transportation damage from 2009 in the North Valleys. Larry stated he has an associate that would like to work with Nevada to provide transportation. Donna explained to Board members that this agenda item is also a reminder that each member has areas of interests/goals that they can report on. Marsy highly recommends Senior Spectrum magazine for getting communications to seniors. Connie requested to be added to Communication and Information section. Connie reported there will be a Commission On Aging meeting and will send information on a nutrition gap analysis from the speaker to Larry. Sarah stated Truckee Chamber of Commerce has Fast Voice once a month and it is a variety of small surveys to inquire about what issues are going on within the community. Larry requested for Sarah to find out more information about Fast Voice. Barbara requested to be added to the section of Financing, Grants, and Fundraising. Wayne stated he heard the county is setting up a group to help with the issue of homelessness. The group will consist of 2 people from Washoe County, City of Sparks, and City of Reno. Amber Howell explained that there was the Transitioning Governing Board that would meet about 10 times a month to talk about homelessness. Now it only has 2 delegates from the county and both cities; this way they can have centralized meetings and work on ideas. It was approved by City Council last week, this week it passed the County and then it is going to City of Sparks next week. Donna stated she attended the Reno City Council meeting and they approved a new housing complex to

be built by Sutro Street. There was also the New Business Improvement District that mostly supported to change fees that downtown businesses were paying to clean up downtown and make it safe. They have also created a brand new Business Improvement District to fund the program where they will have staff and trained social workers who will be the navigators for homeless people. Amber Howell explained that part of the fees received from the Business Improvement District do not go to pay for the social workers, the county would have to come up with the money for them since the fees would go to other areas. Sarah asked where dispensary income is going, Amber stated she is not sure, but she is looking into it. Donna reported that for food insecurity, they will be having a presentation from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada at their next meeting with the city. The Food Bank of Northern Nevada gave her statistics and a letter from a Food Bank recipient (see attachment).

### **13. Discussion and possible recommendation for promoting automatic deduction donations from Washoe County employees to Senior Services (For Possible Action)**

Larry stated he will talk to Washoe County Comptroller and possibly contact Cathy Hill. Sarah suggested to also speak with USPS, it has been done before with United Way.

### **14. Discussion and possible approval for moving Board meetings to Building A in chambers (For Possible Action)**

Donna stated meetings in chambers are televised. Connie stated that she thinks regular people may not be too comfortable speaking while on TV. Leslie stated it makes the process more formal as far as strictly complying with open meeting law and the addition of public comment. Garth stated they can always just try it. The Caucus Room is also available and has the amenities, but the meeting would not be broadcasted. Larry stated for members to think about it and they will keep it on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **15. Update on administrative leadership for Senior Services Division**

Amber Howell announced that Ken Retterath's official retirement date is March 19<sup>th</sup>. They have selected a candidate, but they have to wait for the background check and paperwork to be complete. She may be making an announcement to staff on Thursday or Friday of who will be the new division director.

### **16\*Update for Senior Nutrition Program**

Amber stated the nutrition spreadsheet is useful (see attachment). The kitchen has reached capacity and there are different scenarios, they can spend \$15 million to \$20 million for a new kitchen or try another way to expand the program. Amber took a tour of the NAMS building and it has a commercial kitchen where they produce about 150 meals per day. The State is interested in partnering with the county; this would take away about \$20 million of what would be needed to build a new kitchen. They are also looking at making all home delivered meals frozen; currently when they deliver, it is 6 frozen and 1 hot meal. The hot meal is expensive to manage because of temperature regulations. They will be doing a survey to see if people will like 7 frozen meal deliveries; they have found that sometimes people don't eat the hot food right away and they still end up re-heating the meal. There is also another scenario, which is to purchase frozen meals through RFP and have freezers on site for the purchases. Currently meals are not catered toward people with dietary restrictions and RFP meals may help with this. Another advantage if frozen meals are purchased is that they would be able to increase meal delivery by 100,000. The reality is that a new kitchen cannot be funded and they cannot make

more meals since the kitchen is at capacity. Garth stated home delivered meals are great because it helps keep an eye on seniors and check how they are doing. Amber stated that the interaction with people on home delivered meal will be the same; but replacing the hot home delivered meal for a frozen meal will cut the hot meal production per day from 2500 to 600. Sarah stated that even with a frozen meal, there will still be labor costs and there have been studies that show there is more nutritional value in fresh hot meals than frozen meals. There would also be the idea of having enough space for the frozen meals. Amber stated the freezers have a saved space for placement. Larry asked if the frozen meals are heated by microwave or oven, Amber replied they are microwavable.

**17. \* Update for senior center being planned at Incline Village**

Amber stated their opening day will be May 18 and it will be called a community center. It cost about \$150,000 to do renovations and it is near the library. It will only be open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday with limited hours and will be run by volunteers from 1pm-4pm. Amber commented that volunteers are through the volunteer program and if someone wants to volunteers, they can contact Todd Acker.

**18. Discussion and possible recommendations to staff on Senior Services Master Plan (For Possible Action)**

Amber stated staff is working on a cross walk of the three major plans, which include Senior Services Master Plan and Strategic Plan; they may have a draft report by May's meeting.

**19. Discussion and possible approval of 2018 schedule for Board Meetings (For Possible Action)**

Motion to approve the schedule (see attachment) was made by Barbara Korosa and seconded by Donna Clontz. Motion passed unanimously.

**20. Agenda items for the next Board meeting (For Possible Action)**

Update from Amber on the budget  
Staff report for Senior Services

**21. \*Public comment –**

No public comment.

**22. Adjournment (For Possible Action)**

Motion to adjourn was made by Garth Elliott and seconded by Rick Sorensen. Motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.