



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

September 5, 2018

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

1. ***Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 3:15 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
Sandra Dexter

Donna Clontz
Barbara Korosa (phone)
Marsy Kupfersmith

ABSENT (EXCUSED*)

Rick Sorensen*
Garth Elliott *
Margaret Reinhardt*
Stan Dowdy*
Sarah Deardorff*

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Amber Howell
Steve McBride
Sandra Vasquez

Leslie Admirand (DA)
Abby Badolato

ADVISOR PRESENT

Connie McMullen

ADVISOR (ABSENT)

Victoria Edmondson

3. ***Public Comment** –

Barbara Monroy, director of The Community Food Pantry, stated their food pantry also serves seniors and they would like to increase their footprint in the community. The organization would like to have a program to deliver groceries to seniors' homes and they would also like input from the senior advisory board. Connie McMullen expressed concern about the senior center not giving information about housing. Donna Clontz stated she wrote the housing article in the Senior Spectrum and believes people need a one door stop to get help. Barbara Deavers from the public stated that when she did social work, she helped people find housing and would also do referrals and direct people to where they needed to go.

4. ***Member Announcements** –

Marsy stated Connie McMullen did a great job at Senior Fest and that all Sparks City Council attended the event.

Donna stated there will be an Alzheimer's walk at the Marina and if anyone wants to help or walk, they can go see her.

Larry stated the Services Guide and Resources pamphlet will be updated and asked for members to provide feedback.

5. Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on September 5, 2018.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Wayne Alexander.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on June 6, 2018.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Wayne Alexander and seconded by Donna Clontz.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Report, discussion and possible recommendations for Washoe Legal Services Center for Seniors and the Law – James Conway, Washoe Legal Services

James Conway stated the program is called Center for Seniors and the Law. James explained that senior law project was active for over 10 years and was run by the county; then about 5 years ago the project was divided and some cases went to Washoe Legal Services, but most went to Nevada Legal Services. In December the contract with Nevada Legal Services was terminated. Due to them being a different entity, they now have a different name. They have been onsite since May 5th and were fully staffed as of July. Some of the things they do is housing, wills and trusts, consumer protection, simple probate and public benefits. They do not take criminal cases, but sometimes they will take personal or medical malpractices cases. They have focal cases, but they help in a broad spectrum; their main focus is to help seniors. The main office, Washoe Legal Services, takes cases for divorce, immigration, adult guardianship representation, and they also have a child advocacy program. Washoe Legal Services also has an onsite self-help clinic for people that represent themselves. James also reported that they had about 250 people in their office since July 1st and most of them were represented; some people were just looking for information. Marsy asked if the service is free and if the requirements for people to receive services are that they need to be over 60 years old and be a Washoe County resident. James replied yes, but they do not have strict income guidelines. They are also planning on doing an outreach event to let people know what they do. As for classes, they may continue to do them later, but they would prefer to use their resources for services when they are needed. James stated Nevada Legal Services still offers classes through their program. Currently Washoe Legal Services is planning to redo communication materials and pamphlets. Larry asked if someone drops into the office, are they put in a waitlist; James replied that it depends on the situation. If the client has a non-emergency situation then they are put on a waitlist. Connie asked if the senior center people need housing, would they go to him; James replied yes, but they are only able to help with legal housing matters.

8. *Presentation regarding Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAHMHS) campus – Amber Howell

Amber stated they started looking into opportunities in the community to help the situation with the homeless shelter. The current capacity for the men's shelter is 128, women's shelter is 50, overflow is 150, and family is 102. Amber stated the Community Assistance Center (CAC) campus playground was not ideal because children were exposed to people fighting, yelling, and bad situations. The studies that were reviewed showed the common thread that led people to

be at the homeless shelter was cost of housing and or lack or loss of income. The Crossroads program treats similar clients as CAC. It was found that the shelter does not bill Medicaid, it was not required but it could have also been due to the task being too overwhelming to achieve. Drug use at the shelter is getting worst. The MOST team responds 2-3 times per day to the CAC. The CAC service levels have low numbers for seniors because seniors tend not to go there because of the environment. It was found that physical and mental health from when people are in the CAC to when they leave does not change or get better; this is looked as an opportunity to do something. It was also found that about 55% of the people that are at the CAC have an income and about 74% are Medicaid or Medicare eligible. The stay is between 60 to 90 days and only 33% of the people have a place to go when the time is up. HSA started looking at the buildings in the NNAMHS campus to see how they could be used. The Homeless Shelter Learning Center could be used for families and daycare. The Enliven building could be used to expand Daybreak, by doing this with Daybreak, they could triple Daybreak clients. Amber stated they are working with the Sandoval administration and they are working to get the lease. On September 25, the lease will come up to be voted on at the county commissioners meeting. There is also a study being paid by City of Reno that is currently being done about homelessness and it will be completed in December. The NNAHMHS campus also has a commercial kitchen and this could be a possibility to use for the nutrition program. There are also the three building that were donated and they will be used to expand the women's Crossroads program, it will be open by November 1st. This is the first attempt to help homelessness. Larry asked how much of the plans will also be for seniors. Amber stated the money used for the new plan is tied to seniors, women, and children.

9. *Update on Senior Services Division – Amber Howell

No update.

10. *Update on Senior Nutrition Program- Amber Howell

Amber stated they are hoping within 18 months they will be able to use the kitchen at the NNAMHS campus.

11. *Report on Master Plan Crosswalk for Nutritional Issues – Amber Howell

Report has been given.

12. *Report on details for clinical issues and housing issues that overlap the Master Plan Crosswalk – Amber Howell

Steve stated report was given.

13. *Update report on Homemaker Services Program

Amber stated they are hoping to enhance the program by enhancing the Daybreak program and seeing some cost savings. They are also starting to hire for the program since they were approved for 100 more slots.

14. *Spreadsheet report stating origination of senior grants received – Amber Howell

Amber stated the report will be sent out to the board members. The report will show continued increase and will show per grant and per year the increases of grants. HSA applied for an RTC grant and they were awarded 3 vans for transportation.

15. *Report of where volunteers are needed for senior services – Amber Howell

Abby stated Meals on Wheels takes volunteers for packing and driving. They are also in need of a birthday Friday organizer for the Reno senior center and volunteers at Incline Village.

16. *Statistical report of items received for Stuff-A-Bus 2018 – Amber Howell

Steve stated the report was provided (see attachment). Larry asked if items are being given out, Abby stated they are being distributed when seniors are in need of them.

17. Discussion and possible recommendations for Older America Month and Stuff-A-Bus

Steve stated there was a meeting last week to see if it got the desired results. They will continue to meet to see how it can be done better.

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

Donald stated they are looking for applications.

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

a. Application from James Doyle

b. Application from Karen Watters

Larry stated the need of applicants is for District 2. Donna suggested contacting the applicants to invite them to the next meeting.

Motion to invite James Doyle from District 2 to the next meeting was made by Donna Clontz and seconded by Marsy Kupfersmith. Motion passed unanimously.

The application for Karen Watters will be kept on file.

20. Update, report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding age friendly communities sponsored by AARP throughout the county and cities (For Possible Action)

Donna stated Reno was certified July 11th as an age friendly community and their first community outreach meeting will be October 2nd. The drivers of this will be the community and they will have a facilitator.

Marsy Kupfersmith left the meeting at 4:50pm.

21. 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)

No report, no quorum present. Meeting ended at 4:50pm.

22. Discussion and possible recommendation for promoting automatic deduction donations from Washoe County employees to Senior Services (For Possible Action) – Larry Weiss

No discussion, no quorum present. Meeting ended at 4:50pm.

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

No quorum present, meeting ended at 4:50pm.

24. *Public comment –

No quorum present, meeting ended at 4:50pm.

25. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

No quorum present, meeting ended at 4:50pm.