



JOINT MEETING
WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD
AND
CITY OF RENO SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Wednesday – June 27, 2018
3:00 P.M. - Washoe County Senior Center
1155 E. 9th Street, Reno NV 89512

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting called to order at 3:01 pm by Dr. Larry Weiss. City of Reno and County of Washoe met a quorum.

Present: **Washoe County Human Services Agency Senior Advisory Board (WCHSASAB):** Dr. Larry Weiss, Stan Dowdy, Margaret Reinhardt, Wayne Alexander, Marsy Kupfersmith, Donna Clontz (phone), Barbara Korosa, Garth Elliott (late 3:37pm)
City of Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (SCAC): Donna Clontz, Stanley Ann Dowdy, Barbara Deavers, Lesley Henderson, Mac Rossi, Vanessa Dixon, Robert Mulvana, Linda Musselman

Absent: **Washoe County Human Services Agency Senior Advisory Board:** None

Excused: **Washoe County Human Services Agency Senior Advisory Board:** Sandra Dexter, Sarah Deardorff, Rick Sorensen
City of Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee: Wendy Boszak

Staff Present: **Washoe County Human Services Agency Senior Advisory Board:** Steve McBride, Abby Badolato, Sandra Vasquez, Leslie Admirand-Deputy District Attorney
City of Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee: Leslie Smith, Dan Massey

Guests: Sheila Leslie

2. **Public Comment** – Gerry Mifsud from the public stated he is from Ward 3 Neighborhood Advisory Board and they street need signs, especially stop signs by Paradise Drive due to people speeding in the area, he is looking at getting signs that show seniors. Donald Abbott, Ward 1 City Council, stated the senior board agenda item will be July 9th at 2pm. Marsy expressed her thanks to Donald Abbott.
3. **Member Announcements** – Donna Clontz stated she has a handout of the City of Reno fee increase for the senior centers (see attachment). The changes came through on the city budget hearing. They did work out something where seniors can get an annual pass for \$50.
4. **Approval of Agenda for June 27, 2018 Meeting (For Possible Action)** – Marsy Kupfersmith motioned for the approval of the agenda for WCHSASAB and Stan Dowdy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously for the WCHSASAB. Linda Musselman motioned for the approval of

the agenda for SCAC and Stan Dowdy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously for the SCAC.

5. **Approval of Minutes from April 4, 2018 Meeting (For Possible Action)** – Margaret Reinhardt motioned for the approval of the minutes for WCHSASAB and Barbara Korosa seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously for the WCHSASAB. Barbara Deavers motioned for the approval of the minutes for SCAC and Mac Rossi seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously for the SCAC.

6. **Presentation: Current statewide and local programs and services for behavioral and cognitive care of older adults and affordable housing needs as it relates to older adult clients with behavioral and cognitive health issues, and discussion on Washoe Behavioral Health Policy Board – Sheila Leslie, Washoe County Behavioral Health Program Coordinator**

Sheila provided a presentation of three new programs for seniors in Washoe County. The MOST (Mobile Outreach Response Team) consists of 5 therapists and a case manager; they pair a mental health therapist with police to assist with people that have a mental health crisis. There have been 270 field contacts with people between 50-70 years old in mental health crisis. They can be called out by EPS to provide crisis intervention and help link services. Police are using them more often; there is more demand than supply. One statistic to take from this is that 70% of the people that the team came in contact with did not have mental health care. The 2nd project is being at the senior center more often, there are increased instances of aggressive seniors and due to this they have more resources for staff to know how to interact in those events. They have noticed more and more seniors are isolated and sometimes don't know how to use medical insurance. The 3rd program in operation is Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), it is for people with severe mental illness and it helps keep them out of hospitals and jails. Sheila stated they have been monitoring affordable housing and the senators had a work session on rehabilitative care for homeless people, it's a complicated scenario but it can facilitate housing for people with mental health issues. Don't have a number of how much it would cost, but may be millions. It would give prospect, but they don't know if the county will match. The handout (see attachment) for NV Affordable Housing Tax Credit Program is for a 4 year pilot program authorizing \$10 million transferrable tax credits; 19 states have programs like this. A committee that studies the needs related to the care of behavioral and cognitive of elder persons recently did a session. They did studies on diagnosis and treatment from doctors, nurses, paramedics about behavioral health concern. The nursing program slots in Nevada are full, there are 10 approved slots to go to another state and study there; they did add a requirement for geriatric training. For caregiver support, the committee supported a bill draft since there are about 147 people on the waitlist; to eliminate the waitlist, the cost would be about \$435,000. Under legal there was a bill draft to address guardianship questions. Connie stated that in rural areas, there is a big push for Adult Daycare and is wondering why they are not looking more into in home care, they need to be more hands on. Sheila stated the community is really focused by dementia but by Nevada statute, it's not a severe mental illness. The 3rd committee that Sheila has not been following is the Senior Citizens Veterans and Adults with Special Needs and their final meeting is July. Connie stated the personal care pay is below minimum wage, Sheila stated as the senior population grows, so does the crisis. The PACE Program is an all-inclusive housing for seniors that is complicated; Nevada does not have this program. Connie stated Renown Senior Care Plus is buying more buildings and it would be good to contact them. Sheila stated senior suicide has alarming statistics and Washoe County leads the state and the state leads the nation. People between 65 and 84 years old have a suicide rate of 34.8 per 100,000 compared to 29.9 in all Nevada. The average is 19%, there could be many factors as to why. For seniors 85 years or older, Washoe County has a suicide rate of 72.3 per 100,000 compared to 44.2 in Nevada and 18.8 nationally. When people go into the hospitals for suicide, they are looking at doing a follow up that is more intense; maybe having people connect with home delivered meals.

Barbara Deavers stated that social workers could partner with mental health workers and connect with seniors. Larry Weiss thanked Sheila for bringing to the attention the information. Sheila stated the Washoe County Regional Behavioral Policy Board (see attachment) is in Washoe County and meet every month. When the board's final report is complete, the senior boards should be able to get a copy of the report. Sheila stated she has a survey (see attachment) and would appreciate it if people filled them out; completed surveys can be given to staff. Donna asked when the mental health board meets, it's every 3rd Monday in the central conference room at 9am in building C. Donna also inquired if there is a bill draft for the board, can they have input in it, Sheila said yes, they would like the input.

7. Business:

a. Discussion, update, and possible recommendations for Older American Month 2018 (For Possible Action) – Larry Weiss and Donna Clontz

Donna asked if there is any further feedback of suggestions for next year; there will also be a debrief meeting on July 11th. Barbara Korosa asked if there has been feedback from others, Donna replied yes, the individual boards have already given their feedback. Marsy stated City of Sparks Public Relations helped out immensely, without them seniors would not have known what was going on in Sparks. County did not support too much with promoting Sparks events. Marsy also stated the Washoe Library System was very involved.

b. Discussion, update, and possible recommendations on Stuff-A-Bus for Seniors 2018 (For Possible Action) – Larry Weiss, Donna Clontz, and Chris Ciarlo

Donna asked if board members had comments, there were no comments or recommendations.

c. Discussion and possible action regarding legislation and advocacy for senior issues with policymakers, including identification of issues and dates for future advocacy training and workshops (For Possible Action) – Larry Weiss and Donna Clontz

Donna stated Sheila Leslie gave a good run down of things like affordable housing and bill drafts. Board members who are interested in legislative should be involved to know what is going on in legislation. Connie suggested Senior Coalition because they work very hard to work for BDRs and have testified in affordable housing. They did bring up senior suicide; have had people represent in session of older Americans. Donna stated because Senior Coalition is already working on a plan, then they may look to Connie on how to help with the plan. Connie stated they can start to make a plan in August and in September have it together. The big push will be after the governor announces the budget. There will also be health care listening sessions with Assemblyman Sprinkle. Robert Mulvana stated they should talk about RTC and how they can get people to the legislature.

d. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding age friendly communities sponsored by AARP throughout Washoe County, Reno and Sparks (For Possible Action) – Larry Weiss and Donna Clontz

Larry stated the City of Reno did a proclamation to push forward and that it would be really unique to have Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County do it together. It went through city council on June 6th. Donna stated she has the application forms and needs to get with Lynne Barker because they want to get the application draft within the next 2 weeks so that AARP and World Health Organization can review and approve. Larry stated they also have a survey going on through the summer; there will be help submitting the information. Steve McBride stated he will receive the completed surveys. The survey can also be found online at: tmrpa.org/seniorsurvey.

e. Reports, updates and possible recommendations on advisory board and committee members' shared issues and goals worksheet for Housing, Advocacy, Communication, Data Planning, Transportation, Food, Social and Recreation, Senior Law, Volunteers, Financing and Social and Health Services (For Possible Action)

No reports given. Donna reminded members that they are signed up for categories and if someone wants to give an update, then they have to speak out.

f. Discussion, update, and possible recommendation on the designation of a Washoe County and City of Sparks ex officio member to the Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (For Possible Action)

Donna stated Reno Committee official statute is that each government should have a representative. Abby Badolato will represent the county and they are waiting on Sparks.

8. Washoe County update and discussion of current senior programs, issues, and activities – Amber Howell, Director, Washoe County Human Services Agency

Abby Badolato updated that they were awarded grant funding for the year and received slight increases to daybreak, case management, homemaker, and nutrition. The Senior Ambassador Program has added 5 routes, which is a substantial amount with home delivered meals volunteers. The pet food delivery, fan drive, and Farmers Market are going on. They received 275 Farmers Market booklets and will continue to distribute them until they are gone; they are only available in Reno. Raynell Holtz asked if the coupon books are available in Sparks, Abby replied seniors can only get them at the 9th Street Reno Senior Center. Abby stated they did not get additional staff for Senior Services.

9. City of Reno update and discussion of current senior programs, issues, and activities – Dan Massey, Recreation Manager, Reno Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Dan Massey introduced himself as the new recreation manager. He stated City of Reno has a fee update change and the Reno facilities have information on the fee changes. Farmers Market was completed, they gave out 614 coupon books. The Senior Games start Friday, August 17 and registration has already started. Raynell Holtz asked if there would be card games, Dan replied the card games will have a separate Senior Games event; Taryn Anderson can be reached for more information. Connie asked if the tuition scholarships will stay the same, Dan replied yes. Mac Rossi asked about the fee increases and how much it cost to get outside council to review the fees, Dan stated he does not have that information.

10. Agenda items for the next Joint Board meeting in October 2018 (For Possible Action) –

Legislation following advocacy
Report of legislative candidate forums
RTC inter-city increased trips to legislative session

11. Public Comment – Jane Gruner stated if someone has any interest in developing a piece of legislation then they need find a sponsor for it and now is the time to be doing it.

12. Adjournment (For Possible Action) – Marsy Kupfersmith motioned for adjournment for the WCHSASAB and Garth Elliot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously for the WCHSASAB. Mac Rossi motioned for adjournment for the SCAC and Linda Musselman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously for the SCAC. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.