



MINUTES OF THE WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

June 1, 2016

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

- 1. Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by Chairman Dr. Larry Weiss
- 2. Roll Call** – Dr. Larry Weiss asked for the roll call; Diana Carter took the roll. There was a quorum present.

WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT:

PRESENT

Dr. Larry Weiss
Dennis Chin
Wayne Alexander
Connie McMullen
Donna Clontz, At-Large
Marsy Kupfersmith,
Alternate

Jeanne Herman, BCC

ABSENT

Victoria Edmondson

EXCUSED ABSENCE

Gary Whitfield

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Leslie Williams Ken Retterath
Diana E. Carter Amber Howell

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Stan Dowdy, City of Reno Victoria Maltman,
Senior Citizens Advisory nominated for WCSS
Committee Advisory Board

- 3. *Public Comment** – No public comment
- 4. *Member Items** – No member items

5. Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on June 1, 2016.

Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Dennis Chin and seconded by Wayne Alexander. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of the Minutes from the Advisory Board Meeting on May 4, 2016.

Corrections made to the minutes - #12 the phrase should read "training caregivers on how to care for their care recipients", not caregivers; and #13 "Connie reported", not Donna. Motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Dennis Chin and seconded by Donna Clontz. Motion passed unanimously.

7. *Strategic Plan and Budget update

Leslie Williams stated that there were no updates on the strategic plan. Amber Howell spoke on the budget; the revised budget included an additional \$150,000 for senior meals and reclassification of several positions, including another reclass to fill a position to assist in reducing the wait list for home delivered meals. We are also looking at kitchen space and storage. The VOCA (Victims of Crimes) grant is looking promising, about \$1 million to the Social services Department. This would be used for a nutrition coordinator and seed money for mental health services for seniors. People would be identified when they come in for services and it can be recorded in Avatar. A person of crime/victim would need to be a crime victim or in the at risk population. The grant would allow for prevention of victimization. Clients would need to be at risk; the grant would not cover home repair and yard clean up. There may be home modification grants that are available for these cases. Clients would be covered if they were a victim of fraud due to scams regarding home repair. Public awareness of the program would need to be pushed because client would need to self-report.

Leslie Williams added that the NSIP (Nutrition Supplement Incentive Program) has been increased from ADSD (Aging and Disability Services) from \$160,000 to \$243,000 for the next year due to the increase in meals being served.

8. Discussion and assignment of Advisory Board liaisons to Senior Services programs and initiatives

Leslie Williams stated that the Advisory board has discussed having liaisons from the board to key program areas so there is an awareness of the programs and would be able to bring back information to share with the Board. She listed the programs and initiatives as: Strategic Plan, Nutrition, Caregiver and Respite Support, Data Center, Mental Health, Regional Collaboration, and Senior Center Meetings. Members can choose areas they are interested in. Liaisons can be chosen now or the board can discuss the programs now and look at choosing them next month. Some of the groups are holding meetings now. The following board members made their choices now: Marsy Kupfersmith – Regionals Collaboration, Donna Clontz – Data Center and Caregiver and Respite Support, Larry Weiss – Data Center and Strategic Plan. The other board members would like to wait until the next meeting to choose. There was a motion to accept the report on who has chosen to serve as liaisons and carryover the discussion and assignments to August made by Connie McMullen and seconded by Dennis Chin. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussion and possible action to recommend removal of Victoria Edmondson, representing District 5, from the Senior Services Advisory Board for non-attendance as allowed under Section 1.1 of the Bylaws of the Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board.

Dr. Larry Weiss stated that he heard from Victoria Edmondson today, June 1, and she told him she is “in very bad straits” and that she was anticipating attending the meeting, but has not shown up yet. He thinks that there is a combination of problems. Denis Chin asked about holding off until August; Donna Clontz asked if there was a letter sent to her explaining the situation and Leslie Williams stated that the letter was sent registered and received. Dr. Weiss received her response which did not meet the requested response time. Dennis asked if a delay would improve the situation; Dr. Weiss stated that this has been going on since December (5 months). She has not attended since then. Connie asked about making her an Emeritus member; she would not have to attend or vote, but would be advisory to the Board. Connie made a motion to send a letter to the County Commissioners to drop her from the Board so another vacancy can be added to the list and to make Victoria Edmondson an advisor to the Board, sending her a letter to that effect. The motion was seconded by Wayne Alexander. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Review and discussion of applications received for Advisory Board vacancies. Possible nominations or recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for one (1) vacancy in District 2, two (2) vacancies in District 3, one (1) vacancy in District 5, a possible second vacancy in District 5 and one (1) vacancy for an Alternate Member.

After some discussion of how many vacancies exist with the decision of the previous agenda item #9, and the receipt and number of applications, the Board decided to reschedule this item to a Special Meeting at 1:30 pm on July 6, prior to the Joint Meeting, and all vacancies are to be listed. The motion was made by Marsy Kupfersmith and seconded by Connie McMullen. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board requested all agendas and packets be printed and available at the board meetings for all board members for future meetings.

11. Senior Services / Integration Update

Amber Howell stated that the code changes have gone to the DA’s office and will then go to the Board of County Commissioners. There will be an eight page spread in the Reno News and Review showing all services available from the Human Services Agency once the integration is complete. The insert will also be available at county offices and on the website. There will be staff assigned specifically to answer and assist the public when they contact the department.

12. *Senior Services Program Updates

Leslie Williams stated that the programs are continuing to grow. There is a significant waitlist for the Homemaker Program. We are anticipating a slight increase in funding from ADSD for this program. We should be hearing about our grant awards for FY17 soon. Amber Howell stated that the Sun Valley Senior Center had a record number of attendees recently.

13. *Legislative Update

Connie McMullen stated that nothing was going on with bills in the legislature. Two ballot measures have qualified for the November ballot at this point: medical marijuana and the one on firearms. The one with the oxygen still needs signatures.

14. *Senior Issues Forum Update

Donna Clontz stated there was no report this month; work will start after the primaries.

15. *Commission on Aging Update

Connie McMullen reported that the Strategic Plan Subcommittee met last Thursday. Met with Social Entrepreneurs to get the plan updated; they are on track to get it updated. There's a section on Ohlmstead. There was a resignation letter from Jane Gruner, for August 12, 2016. Jill Bernstein will be the Acting or the Administrator.

16. *Presentation on Veteran's Administration

Lisa Howard, VA Medical Center Director, and Dr. Ivan Correa, Chief of Geriatrics and Extended Care, gave a presentation on the VA Sierra Nevada Health Care facilities and programs. A Visitor Guide was handed out (see attached). There is a new dental clinic going in near the Atlantis, an eye clinic is now off Kietzke, and they are in the design phase for major construction on Kirman Avenue. Construction will start in FY17, with a new kitchen, new phlebotomy lab, and more. The Specialty Clinic opened this year. The building phase should take about 4.5 years and they are buying nearby property for parking until the parking structure is built. They will be recruiting for more necessary staff (always looking). They will be breaking up the 60 community living beds into more of a home-like feel. Dennis Chin asked about lag time between calling for an appointment and getting in; Lisa stated that the local facility does not have an issue. She stated that the entire community is suffering from a lack of staffing in the emergency rooms. Dennis Chin mentioned retired medical personnel volunteers providing medical care in rural New York; Dr. Correa mentioned a program locally called Home Based for AmeriCare, where primary care goes to the client's home. Donna Clontz asked about demographics and Lisa replied that they have over 34,000 individual veterans that have received care at one of their sites, including some areas of eastern California and northern Nevada. All ages, all wars, and more women and being seen. Amber Howell asked about qualifications for the community living program. Lisa replied that it is for long and short term stay. The short term is for rehabilitation for anyone who has qualified for services; depending on their service they may have a co-pay. Larry Weiss asked about geriatric services, which is not on the map. Dr. Correa stated that the services are there, but there is not a specific location at the facility. There is non-institutionalization care – they pay for adult daycare off site, respite for the caregiver, home health home aide, PT and OT, home hospice, in hospital hospice. There are mechanisms in place to be in contact with patients and their caregivers that have to be diverted to another hospital. There are legislative thresholds, service related, income levels that determine whether or not a veteran is qualified to receive services.

17. *Update on Senior Housing Issues

Amber Howell spoke about the Crossroads Program; it's up to 150 beds in three sites. The average age is now about 28 down from about 40. There are a couple of beds designated at TADS, emergency housing for seniors (2 beds); however we were unable to assist 4 seniors due to lack of facilities. There is a building on the NAMS campus that would be 16 beds for TADS only, once the contract is signed. The other sites will be altered for different age groups. Additional funding is being sought along with the existing LITF funding. There is no real average time for the clients' stay at Crossroads; their time is due to their circumstances.

18. *Agenda items for the next Board meeting.

Marsy Kupfersmith stated the DA Chris Hicks and Michelle Bays will be at the July 6 Joint Meeting.

Donna Clontz stated that the RTC Planning Meeting will be on June 2 at the Discovery Museum

Dennis Chin asked for someone to talk to the Board at a future meeting about medical marijuana
Dennis Chin asked about developing a healthy living / wellness seminar for seniors by the county
Dennis Chin asked about a presentation from the Sanford Center for Aging Geriatric Specialty

Clinic

Stan Dowdy mentioned the State Contractors Board doing a presentation on seniors being taken advantage of by the Travelers regarding yardwork/home improvements.

19. *Public comment.

Vicki Maltman stated that the VFW will be holding a Flag Day Celebration on June 14.

20. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Dennis Chin and seconded by Wayne Alexander. Vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm.