

City of Las Vegas

SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD
CITY HALL, 495 S. MAIN STREET
CITY CLERKS 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

MINUTES

MAY 3, 2012

1:00 PM

ITEMS MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ORDER PRESENTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON. TWO OR MORE AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION MAY BE COMBINED; AND ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA MAY BE REMOVED OR RELATED DISCUSSION MAY BE DELAYED AT ANY TIME.

DUPLICATE AUDIO CDs MAY BE AVAILABLE AT A COST OF \$5.00 EACH THROUGH THE CITY CLERKS OFFICE.

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR EVANS called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR EVANS and MEMBERS MOORE, DREWREY, HEISE, HENKIN and ZORN

EXCUSED: MEMBERS GOLDSTEIN and BROWN

Also Present: MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and DEPUTY CITY CLERK GABRIELA PORTILLO-BRENNER

2. [ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW](#)

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: - This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall Plaza, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor, Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive

3. [PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

None.

4. [For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Special Meeting of March 6, 2012](#)

Motion made by MICKEY LEE MOORE to Approve

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 2

MARY ELLEN HEISE, BETTY EVANS, MICKEY LEE MOORE, FRAN DREWREY, MEL HENKIN, JEAN ZORN; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, PATTI BROWN)

Minutes:

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MEMBER HEISE confirmed with CHAIR EVANS that the first two votes were taken during the first ten minutes of the 3/6/2012 meeting, because she was ten minutes late.

5. [Presentation by Cassandra Cotton from Nathan Adelson Hospice](#)

Minutes:

CASSANDRA COTTON, Nathan Adelson Hospice, thanked CHAIR EVANS, MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and DAVID KAREL for putting her in contact with various people in the community. She proceeded and spoke about the concept of an advance directive and the importance of completing a form well in advance, no matter the age, because even young people have health issues. It is important for families to know the wishes of their loved ones before they fall ill enough to not be able to make their own decisions, and to avoid traumatic experiences to families, like in the case of Terri Schiavo's family, who went through a legal battle over long-term life support.

CHAIR EVANS showed a copy of a document entitled Five Wishes, and MS. COTTON explained that on the Nevada website there are advance directives legal in this state. Because advance directives differ from state to state and who can speak for an ill family member, MS. COTTON recommended providing advance directives to family members from all states.

After CHAIR EVANS read the Five Wishes, MS. COTTON commented that with all the advances in medical technology, it is important for health care officials to not have to make medical decisions for ill persons that cannot make their own decisions. She urged all those present to revisit this regularly and to become familiar with the living will lockbox on the Secretary of State's website. The lockbox can be accessed by health care officials.

MEMBER MOORE clarified with MS. COTTON that a trust is different from advance directives, and that it is not necessary to have the advance directives form notarized.

MEMBER ZORN asked if hospice is paid for by insurance. MS. COTTON replied that Medicare pays fully for people that do not have insurance. But Nathan Adelson Hospice has contracts with many insurance companies.

MS. COTTON informed MEMBER HEISE that the Buffalo Drive Nathan Adelson Hospice facility was moved to the Mountain View Medical building because it was expanded, and it is nicer than the old facility. She noted that hospice is not a place, but rather a philosophy. People are only brought to hospice when absolutely necessary, because it is important to provide ill ones as much care as possible in the comfort of their home, where they can be surrounded by loved ones, whether it be family or pets.

CHAIR EVANS asked how the board could assist in disseminating this information to the community. MS. COTTON said that by word of mouth, inviting hospice representatives to speak at senior events and inviting people to tour the hospice campus so that they can become familiar with it and not be afraid of it.

6. [Discussion for possible action on selection of Senior of the Quarter - Ward 3](#)

Motion made by MARY ELLEN HEISE to Approve the selection of Taka Ogata

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 2

MARY ELLEN HEISE, BETTY EVANS, MICKEY LEE MOORE, FRAN DREWREY, MEL HENKIN, JEAN ZORN; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, PATTI BROWN)

Minutes:

CHAIR EVANS announced that MEMBER DREWREY nominated TAKA OGATA. MEMBER DREWREY asked if the Senior of the Quarter could be presented at a City Council after July, because she would not be able to attend any of the Council meetings in July. MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, indicated that it was too late to change it, and this is the only nomination she received. MEMBER HEISE indicated that she had a recommendation but did not write it up because she did not think it was necessary since a nomination had already been made.

MEMBER DREWREY spoke about the hands-on attitude MS. OGATA has, and said she is disappointed that she will not be present for the July Council meeting.

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MS. CASTILLO-COUCH commented that now that the board meets every two months, she needs nominations well in advance in order to prepare and submit the documentation for the City Council meeting.

7. [Report on Jude 22 status of funds and/or food drives](#)

Minutes:

MEMBER HENKIN reported that he will find out within three weeks whether a grant from the Bingo Hall of Fame will be received. The state has indicated it will make its yearly allocation for next year, but it will not be sufficient. The building has been sold and can be occupied until June 2013. But if another building is rented, it will probably be at a higher rental cost, and utilities will not be included. Operations may have to cease due to unaffordable costs. The current rent is \$262.80 a month and utilities are free. Another concern is moving too far, because two-thirds of the seniors do not have a vehicle. The relocation sites that have been explored are too far from the current location.

MEMBER HENKIN stated there are approximately 750 clients, compared to the previous 1,500. Contact has been made with the state about clients getting food from other organizations that might give food for more than 15 days, because Jude 22 only gives food for 10-15 days.

8. [Report on the March 29, 2012 Stella Fleming Resident Council Elections](#)

Minutes:

MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, indicated that she responded to concerns made to one of the Councilmembers. There was an issue with resident council members being elected and trained and then resigning. She noted that the money the council receives has to be put in the bank. A meeting has been scheduled for 5/7/2012, at which time the oath will be administered to the new crew, and then they can receive training on how to manage and control the meetings in accordance with the parliamentary process. It might be necessary to have MEMBER BROWN teach them how to play bingo, because the resident council has to be registered with the Secretary of State.

MEMBER HEISE suggested to CHAIR EVANS to invite MAYOR GOODMAN to provide bingo training, because she demonstrated during her campaign that she is excellent at it. This would bring some excitement to the facility.

MEMBER MOORE requested at least one month's notice to prepare for training on conducting a meeting.

9. [Report of Nevada Healthcare Decision Day on April 19, 2012](#)

Minutes:

MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, stated that in partnership with the Senior Law Project, a healthcare presentation was made that was well appreciated and enjoyed by approximately 1,500 attendees. She listed some of the healthcare organizations and the Senior Law Project representatives that were present to assist with advance directives. A couple representatives suggested organizing some fun activities at these types of events to attract more attendance and to engage the attendees more.

10. [Discussion for possible action regarding workshops at senior housing complexes](#)

Minutes:

No action was taken. Direction was given by CHAIR EVANS to come back with information to address this issue.

MEMBER HEISE stated that she discussed with MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and CHAIR EVANS the difficulty of obtaining quality personal care assistance and felt it was necessary to raise awareness about the numerous agencies sending out incompetent personal care assistants (PCA's). She suggested creating a forum to ensure people are getting adequate services from the PCA's.

MS. CASTILLO-COUCH suggested that MEMBER HEISE put together an outline of what she would like presented, perhaps even a PowerPoint presentation, to the agency that oversees this type of care so that it can come up with a plan for requirements needed.

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MEMBER HEISE commented that the agencies contracted employ unskilled people that do not even speak English because they cannot pay them well. These people cannot be expected to provide quality care. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH recommended DAVE KAREL look into this issue and work with MEMBER HEISE to put together an outline. Perhaps MR. KAREL could contact ASSEMBLYWOMAN KATHY McCLAIN, who is a strong advocate for seniors, to guide the board in this matter.

CHAIR EVANS also suggested MR. KAREL contact The Resource Spotlight, and he indicated he would contact MS. McCLAIN and would do research to see whether this issue falls under business industry.

MEMBER MOORE regarded what MEMBER HEISE described as abuse.

MEMBER HEISE spoke about the training required of PCA's and through the Community Home-Based Initiatives Program.

CHAIR EVANS directed that MEMBER HEISE work with her and MR. KAREL as a team to research and address this issue and that information be provided at the next meeting. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH requested the information be provided to her ten days before the 7/12/2012 meeting to give her time to prepare it for the agenda.

MEMBER ZORN discussed with MEMBER HEISE that MEMBER HEISE was provided a list of approximately 20 people by the State of Nevada. She interviewed the people and narrowed the list to three people. She later found out that the State of Nevada deals with agencies to provide the service, but it does not pay well. She has brought this issue to Carson City, but the problem has not ceased and unqualified caregivers are still being provided.

11. [CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD. NO SUBJECT MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE BOARD UNLESS THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR EVANS welcomed EDWARD JOST, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services.

DAVID KAREL commented that the HealthCare Decision Day event, in which he has participated for many years, was not as well attended this year as in the past. He felt it is important to provide the Five Wishes information relative to advance directives to the communities, rather than at one specific location. Therefore, he suggested coming up with a plan to bring it as a service in the community. MEMBER ZORN said maybe it could be presented at senior homes meetings. CHAIR EVANS suggested a workshop. MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, stated the information is already being provided through the Senior Law Project in the community and the Housing Authority. She suggested figuring out the best way to expand outreach and partnering with various agencies to accomplish it.

MEMBER HEISE commended MS. CASTILLO-COUCH on the Faith Leader forum and the Dialogue with Faith Leaders pamphlet. CHAIR EVANS and MEMBER DREWREY agreed that MS. CASTILLO-COUCH did a fabulous job.

12. [ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Gabriela Portillo-Brenner, Deputy City Clerk

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Maria Castillo-Couch, Neighborhood Services Specialist

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of disabled persons. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 229-6311 and advise of your need at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. The Citys TDD number is 386-9108.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor
Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue
City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive