

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

October 4, 2018

1:00 PM

ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ORDER PRESENTED; 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. BACKUP MATERIAL FOR THIS AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED FROM LUANN D. HOLMES, CITY CLERK, AT THE CITY CLERKS OFFICE AT 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR OR ON THE CITY'S WEBPAGE AT www.lasvegasnevada.gov.

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON and MEMBERS WEINSTEIN HALL, PERAZZO, BOWERS and AVILA

EXCUSED: MEMBERS PATTARETTU and MARSHALL

ALSO PRESENT: GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, YOLANDA WIBOWO, Intern, Office of Community Services, VAL STEED, Chief Deputy City Attorney, and DEBRA A. OUTLAND, Deputy City Clerk

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, 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 Regular Meeting of September 6, 2018](#)

Motion made by YVETTE WEINSTEIN HALL to Approve as corrected

Passed For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

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YVETTE WEINSTEIN HALL, JOHN PERAZZO, DEANNE O'REAR-CAMERON, JOHN M. BOWERS, NORA AVILA; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-ELIZABETH PATTARETTU, ROBERT MARSHALL

Minutes:

MEMBER PERAZZO pointed out a correction on the spelling of CARMEN BATES name on Page 3 of the September 6, 2018 meeting minutes.

5. [Discussion for possible action on reports given by Board Members regarding senior issues within their respective Council Wards and at large All Wards](#)

Ward 2 MEMBER BOWERS attended Coffee with the Councilman on September 27th and after speaking with Council staff, he became aware of a great facility in Ward 2 called the Veterans Memorial Leisure Center. He was told the word Leisure will be taken out of the name and removed from the side of the building. A number of senior activities are housed at this facility, but he also learned that it has limited hours on the weekend, closing at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and closed all day on Sunday. He pointed out these are peak hours, and it did not make sense to him to close it on the weekends when there is a higher demand. He mentioned this to the Councilman who explained it was a budget issue. MEMBER BOWERS thought extending the centers hours seemed like a good investment that would not be a big ticket item. He asked that this recommendation be considered as a future agenda item. CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON responded this topic would be revisited under Item 7. MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL hoped MEMBER BOWERS was successful, but feared he was fighting an uphill battle.

MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL brought up the epidemic of seniors filing bankruptcy; some who are forced to do so by their children. As a bankruptcy trustee for the past 20 years, she has some expertise in this area, and trends show an increase amongst seniors. Some have legitimate health issues which cause them to file, but a lot of it has to do with being isolated and using their credit cards in the middle of the night and children who do not want to be stuck with their parents debts. She indicated she was going to contact the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada to request they speak to this Board about this issue. She also mentioned a large program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Law School relating to these issues. She expressed concern and stated she would try to arrange someone to come and speak to the Board as soon as possible.

MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL asked staff if they were hearing these same things. GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, stated not to his knowledge but agreed isolation, loneliness and abusive children tend to be the trend when it comes to those particular issues and this needs to be addressed. In addition to having someone come speak to the Board, he hoped they could hold an event. MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL pointed out the students at UNLV put on events, but getting those publicized and getting seniors there is another issue. She wondered if a presentation could be made at the Fifth Street School and asked staff to explore this. MEMBER PERAZZO noted this issue was in the national news a couple of months ago.

Ward 3 MEMBER AVILA reported staff provided her with a list of all of the community centers, and she plans to visit them every Thursday to introduce herself. She announced COUNCILMAN COFFIN was holding a Wake Up One Nation Rally on November 3rd from noon to 4:00 p.m. at Gary Reese Freedom Park. She distributed the flyer for this event which was submitted for the record and is attached.

Ward 4 CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON stated she attended and sought out seniors at the National Night Out event which went very well. She introduced herself so people know their Ward has someone working with senior issues. She also attended the Sun City Health Fair which had a great turnout. With regard to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board questionnaire/survey mentioned at previous meetings, what she heard the most was that the seniors would like to be able to take the form with them so they have time to fill it out and then submit it on their own. The questionnaire has vital questions that the Board would like feedback on. She thought the form could be placed on Facebook or a website in the future. CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON informed MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL that COUNCILMAN ANTHONYS liaison created the questionnaire, and the form was distributed at a prior meeting.

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MR. GRAY noted there has been discussion about creating a senior page on the website, but staff wants to get their ducks in a row prior to launching. He also talked to the Office of Communications about the Facebook pages; staff is looking to take those down. The suggestion was rather than make a web page, which is hard to monitor and administer, to create a group for seniors so they can join and have discussions amongst themselves and help each other out.

The Chair stated she is working with the YMCA on AOA (Active Older Adults) events. They told her they could use a greater presence of the Board at the YMCA; the Chair indicated she would be making more appearances at other events as her schedule permits.

She noted she will be attending Coffee with the Councilman on October 8th which helps in learning about what is happening in the ward and what is affecting the seniors.

CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON distributed a flyer for the Spotlight Spectacular, which is attached, and noted that a table has been reserved next to hers. She asked the members to encourage their Councilmembers to attend. Visibility is helpful and shows support even if it is for a quick meet and greet. She stated COUNCILMAN ANTHONY was going to try to stop by. Normally 2,000 to 3,000 people attend, and they will see that the Board is there for their needs. She and MR. GRAY will be in attendance, and she suggested any members going to plan on getting there early. She also encouraged the members to introduce themselves to the vendors and to pick up their information to become familiar with the various businesses that serve the seniors.

She distributed and submitted for the record information on some other events throughout the city including Walk to End Alzheimers on October 27th at Town Square. She noted the members do not have to walk, they can just be there for support.

Additionally, she attended a conference on October 3rd and was surprised to learn that Nevada now has the third largest Alzheimers population. There are resources available, but there needs to be more as well as a better understanding of the diagnosis. She also provided information on the Cleveland Clinic programs and caregiver services that are available.

With regard to the discussion on senior bankruptcies, the Chair noted there was a senior law attorney at an event she attended who went over a lot of newer programs. She would like for that attorney to come and speak to the Board as well. She thought staff should also reach out to the Senior Law Project. With rents increasing due to the market, it is becoming a big problem and will need to be addressed at some point, which she voiced to COUNCILMAN ANTHONY.

In response to the comment made earlier by MR. GRAY, she thought holding an event regarding bankruptcies was a good idea and doing so at several locations would be beneficial.

WARD 5 MEMBER PERAZZO distributed and submitted for the record a copy of the feedback loop he updated based on comments received after last months meeting. He referenced a conference at the W. Edwards Deming Institute about the new economics and a system of profound knowledge which he found very beneficial in his work and in relation to seniors. He also submitted a card containing a QR code which takes one to the City of Las Vegas pdf file of the Beyond the Neon magazine.

MEMBER PERAZZO pointed out the overlapping topics in the survey instrument the Mayor sends out every year and the questionnaire brought to the Board by CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON and explained his idea of integrating them.

He also reported he went to the Nevada Public Lands Economic and Business Forum where he met ANDREW LINGENFELTER, Manager of Constituent Services, Office of SENATOR DEAN HELLER. MR. LINGENFELTER expressed interest in sending their Medicare person to a future Senior Citizens Advisory Board meeting. Since he handed out his card which has the number for the Department of Parks and Recreation on it, he asked if a caller could be easily transferred to the Office of Community Services; MR. GRAY confirmed.

MEMBER PERAZZO stated he would be attending the Spotlight Spectacular, and when he meets with COUNCILMAN CREAR on October 9th, he will mention this event.

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While at the Age Well Expo, he wondered if there was an easy way to determine if someone lived in the city. Taking into consideration the City's motto of Building Community to Make Life Better he would like to ask individuals what their idea was on that or how the City could help them to do that. He was not satisfied with the question he asked last month about how the City was measuring this goal, and he did not believe the community survey measured that at all. Each department has their own niche and builds community in their own way. He thought it should be widely asked and widely disseminated and used as a lead question.

MEMBER PERAZZO noted each member has a particular background they bring to their ward; i.e., financial, education, gaming, business, bankruptcy, etc. He referenced the number of restricted and nonrestricted gaming locations in Las Vegas and asked about a quick and easy way to identify those in the City's jurisdiction.

On October 13th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza in Lorenzi Park, the Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living will be sponsoring the 27th Annual Disability Awareness Day. There will be 60 vendors and usually 350 participants with entertainment, a program for speakers and a free lunch. He will not be able to attend but posted it on his Facebook page and has received several positive responses.

He also announced there will be a campout in the Las Vegas Roots Community Garden from 5:00 p.m. October 19th to 8:00 a.m. October 20th. COUNCILMAN CREAR plans to attend from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

MEMBER PERAZZO also reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation that he was contacted by someone on Facebook to buy apartments. He wondered if this was happening frequently where people are buying apartments with overseas funds and raising the rental rates. He did not know what could be done about it, but wanted to report it to this Board.

MR. GRAY commented there have been a number of issues with seniors purchasing timeshare properties and apartment complexes that are not fully developed. The best strategy to address this issue is to bring awareness to the community. CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON stated she knows people that can help with this. She agreed that one of the problems in the senior communities is that a lot of out-of-state companies are coming in that are used to doing things the way it is done in their state, but Nevada is unique. When a community is identified as a senior community that means there will be activities and different features. These out-of-state companies are trying to take these features away but still charge a premium price for being in a senior community. While the City wants out-of-state companies coming to Las Vegas to invest and do business, the seniors still need to be safeguarded, and she agreed that awareness is key.

It took a lot of calls and emails, but the Chair reported that the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) has made their presence in Sun City. Meeting with them helped provide a clearer picture as to why they do not go to certain areas, and she thought having them come speak to this Board was a must. The RTC has a survey addressing future service, and it is important for this to get out to the seniors. She noted she found the website confusing, and asked if it could be streamlined so the seniors could submit their input. MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL asked where the RTC was going especially in Wards 3 and 5. CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON responded they go where requested which is one of the reasons she wants them to come and speak to the Board. Sun City wants people to be able to age in place, but many are moving because of the lack of transportation. It is difficult using the bus system because one must plan ahead and the bus makes many stops. MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL asked if the RTC was advertising that they are available in Sun City. The Chair confirmed stating Sun City puts that information out. They have their own calendar so seniors need to get on the list to receive that, and the best way to do that is through their ward.

MR. GRAY confirmed for MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL that he could arrange to have the RTC come to speak to the Board. He stated there is an abundance of information and resources that are available, but the common trend is that no one knows about them. Getting the information and disseminating it to the public to raise awareness will help. MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL asked how the City was going to do that. MR. GRAY stated he is working on compiling and understanding all of the information. CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON commented meeting with the RTC was very helpful, but the only reason she had the opportunity to do so was because COUNCILMAN ANTHONY set it up. The RTC is going out into the community to educate, but they need to hear from those that would like them to come. She indicated she would provide MR. GRAY with the contact information the Councilman used.

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MEMBER PERAZZO stated he is a regular RTC bus rider and noted motorized chairs have gotten larger.

CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON mentioned Medicare open enrollment started this month. There are a lot of different companies that will be out in the ward and at the senior centers doing their Medicare presentations, and she suggested the members attend to learn about the changes this year.

6. [Report by Gregory Gray, Community Program Technician, Office of Community Services, regarding senior issues directed to the Office of Community Services All Wards](#)

Minutes:

GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, reported he is working with the Office of Communications to implement the Facebook page and group previously mentioned, and he would keep the Board informed as to the progress.

Senior housing is still an issue and many seniors are facing at-risk homelessness. One barrier is the person themselves by being resistant to moving because they like where they are and do not want to leave. Additionally, seniors are very picky. Basically, it comes down to affordability, income and HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) guidelines. Due to the criteria to get into affordable housing, it is almost impossible to find a place to live, and even some of the affordable places staff is finding are not up to par from the seniors perspective. Even though this is a temporary measure, they are still resistant and think they deserve and can find something better. They do deserve better, but staff is working with what they have. He stated YOLANDA WIBOWO, Community Services Intern, has been working with him on this issue. The seniors concern is the condition of the place when it should be that they may find themselves homeless if they do not find a place to live. There are a lot of wants and needs and not a lot of compromise.

MR. GRAY mentioned one constituent in particular that he has not heard from in several days. The Sr. Management Analyst with Homeless Services reached out to this individual to discuss her options as her Social Security does not cover one months rent. These are the barriers staff is facing, and it is starting to become more common. MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL mentioned the national trend of entitlement, and until that changes, it will be difficult and she commiserates with staff.

CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON noted part of the problem is the long waiting lists. She particularly noted the Ovation and Pine properties which are part of Nevada HAND. In speaking with the Director at Nevada HAND, she learned they are attempting to build more. There are several in Henderson, but more are needed in Las Vegas.

MR. GRAY discovered through the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority that there are a lot of senior properties where the waiting list is closed. He described the way the list works is that a senior will get a number which has to get to zero before they are selected. The constituent he mentioned earlier thought he could magically get her in a home when in reality, she has to wait like everyone else.

The Chair stated the people at Elder HelpLv, a nonprofit foundation, are excellent at finding emergency housing. They just held their fundraiser at the Smiths Center and also do events at the senior properties the City has. There will be one in November regarding adopting a senior, and she encouraged the members to attend. She thought this organization could present to the Board as well.

MR. GRAY stated staff is hoping to work with Code Enforcement to hold a senior-oriented cleanup event. They receive a lot of calls regarding seniors having issues with maintaining their yard or moving bulk items. He will keep the Board apprised of this as well.

The Chair expressed excitement about the senior cleanup event because the Ward 4 Council Office receives a lot of calls regarding this issue. There are organizations that have been vetted that will send people out, but there are not enough to help everyone. These seniors are trying to age in place, but there are certain things they can no longer do, such as washing windows and pulling weeds.

MEMBER PERAZZO stated he sent a note to CARMEN BATES, former Chair, about the administrative privileges of the Facebook page. He also started an unofficial fan page of Lorenzi Park prior to the remodel which has gotten about 2,000

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likes. There was a good response to COUNCILMAN CREARS movie in the park, and many were networked through the Lorenzi Park Facebook page. He tried a group for Ward 5 seniors, but was unsure how to work it or promote it. He did however, advertise the unofficial page of the Doolittle Senior Center and got one new like and about 1,500 views. He thought that was fairly good exposure. There are 10 garden beds at the Doolittle Senior Center still available for someone to claim. He thought of suggesting to COUNCILMAN CREAR a gardening event in the winter when it is easier to grow greens, requires less watering, and there are fewer bugs.

7. [DISCUSSION REGARDING TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS BY THE BOARD. COMMENTS MADE DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS SHALL REFER SOLELY TO PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANY DISCUSSION SHALL BE LIMITED TO WHETHER OR NOT SUCH PROPOSED ITEMS ARE WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE BOARD AND/OR WHETHER SUCH PROPOSED ITEMS SHALL BE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA. NO DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SUBSTANCE OF ANY SUCH PROPOSED TOPIC SHALL OCCUR AND NO ACTION SHALL BE TAKEN.](#)

Minutes:

MEMBER BOWERS recommended placing an item on an upcoming agenda to expand the hours at the Veterans Memorial Center on Saturday and Sunday to match those on Friday so that it would be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on those days. He thought weekends were an important time because of loneliness and having someplace to go. Once open, he thought programs would sprout up in those slots. He did not know the associated costs, but the facility and staff are already in place.

In looking at MEMBER PERAZZOS feedback loop and the directional flow, MEMBER BOWERS asked if anything has actually gone from this Board to the City Council in 2018. CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON responded it has not. MEMBER BOWERS thought his recommendation regarding expanding the centers hours could possibly be the first item to go from this Board to the Council as he would like to see something accomplished during this calendar year.

CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON agreed asking if this would be under the Boards purview. CHIEF DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED advised the Board that a vote and motion to recommend to the Council the hours be expanded as MEMBER BOWERS suggested was appropriate. The Chair asked that this be placed on an upcoming agenda; MR. GRAY acknowledged. MR. STEED indicated he would assist staff with creating that agenda item.

MEMBER BOWERS asked if it was appropriate for him to contact APRIL DI GIOVANNI, Administrative Secretary, Department of Parks and Recreation, to see what kind of budget considerations would be involved in expanding the hours and days in order to get a realistic sense of what the Board is asking for from the Council. MR. GRAY did not see a problem with him contacting MS. DI GIOVANNI. MEMBER PERAZZO offered to work with MEMBER BOWERS on this.

MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL requested representatives from the Senior Law Project and Legal Aide and/or the University of Nevada, Las Vegas give presentations to the Board regarding financial, housing and legal issues.

Because housing issues came up repeatedly, CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON asked what this Board could present or do to help. Since affordable housing is part of the Office of Community Services, MR. GRAY indicated he would take that question back to his Director to discuss it and report back to the Board.

The Chair asked that the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) also be invited as a presenter and to allow enough time for questions. She suggested the members talk to their Councilmembers prior to then to find out how they might want to help and how the senior centers could get involved in getting RTC to the centers.

MR. GRAY stated it has come to his attention from CASSANDRA LEWIS, Principal Community Program Specialist, Doolittle Senior Center, that DEACON ANTHROM L. GREEN is turning 100 on October 27th. Initially, it was MS. LEWIS wish to have either COUNCILMAN CREAR or COUNCILMAN SEROKA recognize DEACON GREEN in front of City Council, but the number of ceremonial items on the Council agenda is limited. As such, MR. GRAY hoped this

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Board would be interested in taking this item on which would involve the Senior Citizens Advisory Board finding and recognizing seniors in their wards. He would like to bring DEACON GREEN to the next Board meeting to be recognized for turning 100 and thriving in Las Vegas. The members agreed that this was a wonderful idea. CHAIR OREAR-CAMERON mentioned in the past the Board did something with Senior Citizen of the Year and thought this could be a way to go in that direction. MR. GRAY informed MEMBER BOWERS the recipient would receive a Certificate of Recognition. He indicated they could discuss logistics another time regarding how often this could be done.

See Item 5 for related discussion.

8. [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:

YOLANDA WIBOWO introduced herself at the request of MEMBER PERAZZO. GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, indicated MS. WIBOWO is an Intern in the Office of Community Services and was sitting in for KELLE NASH, Sr. Management Analyst. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON welcomed MS. WIBOWO.

9. [ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON announced the next Board meeting would be on November 1, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Debra A. Outland, Deputy City Clerk

Gregory Gray, Community Program Technician

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of persons with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with disabilities or impairments. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 702-229-6311 and advise of your need at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Dial 7-1-1 for Relay Nevada.

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