



Senior Citizens Advisory Board Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON and MEMBERS WEINSTEIN HALL (via teleconference),
PATTARETTU, GALATI, MOZDEAN and DRUMM (via teleconference)

EXCUSED: MEMBER PERAZZO

ALSO PRESENT: GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, JEFF DOROCAR, Assistant City Attorney, and
CHEYENNE LARANCE, Deputy City Clerk

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations in accordance with the noticing standards as outlined in NRS 241.020: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov; and The Nevada Public Notice Website – notice.nv.gov.

3. Commemoration of Kathleen Bienenstein

Minutes:

GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, recognized MEMBER BIENENSTEIN, who was a passionate member of the Board that always looked out for her fellow seniors and remained cognizant of the senior community.

COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN said MEMBER BIENENSTEIN was his most amazing and famous resident. She approached him shortly before being elected and requested his appointment to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board. They had several conversations about how to be more engaged, specifically with low-income seniors. On multiple occasions, they held Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners, and delivered meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. She was also very passionate about bringing healthcare to seniors in the community that face isolation. MEMBER BIENENSTEIN represented Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and the Councilman spoke about how she always committed her time to helping children and giving back to the community. He said it was a privilege knowing her over the last few years, and she taught him that public servants could and should be better. The City of Las Vegas will commemorate her public service through a park plaque, and he will think of her going forward because she was the epitome of a public servant.

BONNIE SWADLING, wife of MEMBER BIENENSTEIN, said she really enjoyed coming to the meetings and helping seniors. She was honored to be with her for 34 years, and she was a very dynamic woman who helped her through a lot. She thanked the Board and COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON thanked the Councilman and MS. SWADLING for their partnership. They have set an example of how Board members should interact with their Councilperson and work to do more for the

seniors. She recalled her and MEMBER BIENENSTEIN'S conversation at the last meeting, and the Chair was amazed by the connections MEMBER BIENENSTEIN made. She offered her support to MS. SWADLING, and encouraged her to continue attending the meetings.

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCAC read remarks submitted by MEMBER PERAZZO, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup. He has begun to focus on trauma and how to maintain being trauma free. He was looking forward to getting to know MEMBER BIENENSTEIN much better, to learn about her background in Michigan, and how she applied what she learned there to her work on the Board. Upon reflection, her commitment to timeliness seemed to be a major point, and he recalled a few of her witty catchphrases. He does not like death; nevertheless, he was grateful for MEMBER BIENENSTEIN and her priceless presence that she shared.

COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN added that MEMBER BIENENSTEIN tested brakes on icy roads. She was a fascinating, dynamic person to know, and he expressed his gratitude to the Board and MS. SWADLING.

4. **Public Comment:** Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and 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.

5. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of March 3, 2022

Motion made by Yvette Weinstein Hall to Approve

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

For-Yvette Weinstein Hall, Elizabeth Pattarettu, Vito Galati, Deanne O'Rear-Cameron, Caroline Mozdean, Jennifer Drumm; Excused-John Perazzo;

6. Discussion for possible action regarding potential nominees for the Senior Recognition Award – All Wards

Minutes:

MEMBER MOZDEAN said she put out several requests, but did not receive the replies she was hoping for. She did, however, discover a business named 702 PlumbAIR that assisted a senior with serious plumbing problems who had been taken advantage of by two other companies. MICHAEL BEEBE, Operations Manager, proceeded to fix everything at no cost, and she reiterated that this was a substantial amount of damage. She said he went out of his way, and added that this should not happen to any senior.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON had several people in mind, but she wanted to see how a few things played out and wished to table her nominations.

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCAC read remarks submitted by MEMBER PERAZZO, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup. He wished to withdraw his submission for the Valley Hospital Emergency Room unit for the pertinent points that all members expressed. He is considering a City employee, but he is still gathering details from the Human Resources and Parks and Recreation departments. MEMBER PERAZZO resigned himself that NINA TEN had already been recognized, and he provided a response to EVELYN BONNER-DRAPES' story, a copy of which was also submitted and attached as backup.

MEMBER GALATI wondered about the legal repercussions for recognizing organizations and/or companies. Specifically, he feared that an organization or company may mistake the recognition as an endorsement. MR. DOROCAC said if that were to happen, the City would reach out to the company or organization to inform them it was not an endorsement.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked how this item should be handled, and MR. DOROCAC said the Board could act on MEMBER MOZDEAN'S nomination at this meeting, or they could act on it upon MR. BEEBE attending a subsequent meeting. The Chair felt it would be cleaner to act on the nomination at this meeting. MEMBER

MOZDEAN expressed that she wanted to do more research on this matter prior to officially nominating and giving out the award. The Chair and MEMBER GALATI agreed.

GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, said each member should submit a nomination for the Senior Recognition Award, which is what this item is for. Whoever is chosen to receive the award will have their accomplishments read for the record and presented with a certificate. It is at the Board's discretion to vote on the matter today or at a later time. MR. DOROCAC further clarified that this item will be voted upon prior to the individual attending a meeting to receive the award. The item will be kept as-is, and no action was needed.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON reminded the Board to come prepared with background information on their nominations at the next meeting if they plan to submit one.

7. Report by Gregory Gray, Management Analyst I, Office of Community Services, regarding senior issues received by the Office of Community Services – All Wards

Minutes:

GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, said the Office of Community Services has been receiving a number of calls from seniors that are concerned about their living circumstances. They are facing rent increases at the time of their lease renewal, which many are struggling with because of their fixed income, and they cannot afford the increases without making significant sacrifices to be able to live and age in place. A number of seniors and their families are also calling about mental cognition and decline, and how to best age in place with services to assist them. He referenced an 88-year-old senior with a mild case of dementia, whose family is moving her to Las Vegas by herself while they move to Texas, and they were looking for services that could be put in place in their stead to assist her. Staff has looked into State resources, but dementia requires a thorough intake process, and it does not always meet the criteria for resources.

8. Report by Board members regarding senior issues and events within their Council wards and at large – All Wards

Minutes:

Ward 2 – MEMBER GALATI said he was approached by COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN, who asked him to visit the nearby senior communities and the Sahara West Library and educate the seniors on the new voting laws, and ensure they are registered and able to vote. He said this is not just about voting, it also gives seniors self-worth and reminds them that they are important to the community. He is struggling to gain access to some of the gated communities, but this is a worthy cause and he will keep trying.

Ward 2 – MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL will be meeting with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN at her meet and greet this Saturday. There are also Movie in the Park events being held at Trent Jones Park. She announced that OLLI at UNLV (The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas) will be holding classes at the Las Ventanas Retirement Community starting May 31st.

Ward 3 – MEMBER DRUMM attended First Tuesday at the Downtown Area Command (DTAC), where a former Sergeant spoke about financial crimes that are happening in the valley. It was recommended that if anybody sees seniors buying large amounts of Visa or Mastercard gift cards, ask them if they are okay and not being scammed. Construction has started at the Golden Rule Senior Apartments, which will be a 60-unit development for low-to-moderate income seniors. The Councilwoman also partnered with a Ward 3 senior community and Touro University to get COVID-19 booster shots to seniors. In conjunction with DTAC, the Office of Community Services and the Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, a Vial of Life event was held at Sunrise Senior Village to help individuals get all of their medical information in one place.

Ward 4 – CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON spoke of the increase in crime throughout Sun City, and she described a recent event of purse snatching. There have been a lot of break-ins during broad daylight around Ward 4, and it is important for everyone to stay alert. She reiterated the importance of being aware of your surroundings, and question things that may seem like a scam. She is working to start a Neighborhood Watch program in her area and will be getting in contact with the local area command. The Chair also spoke of elder abuse, and she reminded the Board members to ask questions and do not assume that everything is okay. The Spotlight Spectacular will be held on June 21st at The Orleans Hotel and Casino, and the Board has been offered a

table. Events such as Movie in the Park and Concerts in the Park are being held in Ward 4, and she encouraged families to bring their seniors along.

MEMBER GALATI said Neighborhood Watch programs are very useful, and signs should be placed where they are visible. MEMBER MOZDEAN asked how someone would start a program in their area, and MEMBER GALATI said it begins with finding out who the Captain is for your precinct, but the most important part is getting individuals to attend the presentation.

Ward 5 – ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCAC read a report provided by MEMBER PERAZZO, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup. He was grateful for the Senior Citizens' City newsletter, but he was surprised not to see any information about upcoming events, such as the art exhibit at the Charleston Heights Art Gallery. When he looked at the City's website, he could only find general information about the facility and options for renting. There was no link for current events, but he was able to find assistance through the help button. The Doolittle Community Garden is getting its paths weeded. The beds scheduled for rebuilding have not yet been started, but the full-time Master Gardener has been helpful. He has signed up for a few webinars, including one on communities of excellence where STEPHANIE NORLING, Executive Director, will share the details of the National Learning Collaborative and how to get involved. There will also be current and former Learning Collaborative participants available to answer questions and talk about their own experiences. Another webinar this summer is being hosted by the United States Census Bureau titled "Your Community by the Numbers: Community Development". The goal is to learn how to use data.census.gov to access the most current and relevant demographic, socioeconomic and housing statistics about your community. During this training, participants will learn about the American Community Survey (ACS) and other Census Bureau programs, geographies and datasets.

Ward 6 – MEMBER MOZDEAN thanked everyone who has been donating to food banks. She reminded those who need food or other assistance to stay in touch with the City and sign up for the City newsletters. Additionally, she announced that funds are available for funeral services for those who have lost family members due to COVID-19. For more information, individuals can visit the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) website or call 844-684-6333.

Ward 6 – MEMBER PATTARETTU said she is seeing more seniors with dementia and Alzheimer's, and many do not have any place to go. Family members are abandoning them and guardianship is very behind.

9. Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board. Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members must refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion must be limited to whether or not such proposed items are within the purview of the Board and 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:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON recognized GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, for receiving the City of Las Vegas Employee of the Year Award. He has made an amazing impact on the Board, and she appreciated his service. MEMBERS GALATI and WEINSTEIN HALL said the award was well deserved.

10. **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, come forward and 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:

None.

11. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON advised the next Senior Citizens Advisory Board meeting would be held on June 2, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cheyenne LaRance, Deputy City Clerk

Gregory Gray, Management Analyst I

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:

The City of Las Vegas website – www.lasvegasnevada.gov

The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor