



Senior Citizens Advisory Board Minutes

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON and MEMBERS PATTARETTU (excused until 1:06 p.m.), PERAZZO, GALATI, MOZDEAN and BIENENSTEIN

EXCUSED: MEMBERS WEINSTEIN HALL and AVILA

ALSO PRESENT: GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, OYAIMA CAMMAN-CALVO, Community Program Technician, VAL STEED, Deputy City Attorney, and JACQUIE MILLER, 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: 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: 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.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of August 1, 2019 and the Senior Living Subcommittee Meeting of August 8, 2019

Minutes:

MEMBER PERAZZO stated that he was not able to approve the minutes for the Senior Living Subcommittee meeting as he did not attend that meeting.

DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED explained that anyone on this Board is free to approve the minutes, even if they did not attend the meeting. The Open Meeting Law requires bodies to approve minutes within a certain time period and if a member finds the minutes are in order, they can vote to approve.

The Board members expressed appreciation for the clarification.

Motion made by John Perazzo to Approve the Final Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 1, 2019

Passed For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

For-Deanne O'Rear-Cameron, John Perazzo, Vito Galati, Caroline Mozdean, Kathleen Bienenstein; Excused-Yvette Weinstein Hall, Elizabeth Pattarettu, Nora Avila;

Motion made by Vito Galati to Approve the Final Minutes of the Senior Living Subcommittee Meeting of August 8, 2019

Passed For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

For-Deanne O'Rear-Cameron, John Perazzo, Vito Galati, Caroline Mozdean, Kathleen Bienenstein; Excused-Yvette Weinstein Hall, Elizabeth Pattarettu, Nora Avila;

5. Discussion for possible action on reports given by Board Members regarding senior issues within their Council Wards and at large – All Wards

Minutes:

Ward 1 - MEMBER BIENENSTEIN reported that she and COUNCILMAN KNUDSEN toured the James Down Towers and Stella Fleming Towers senior housing complexes, and there is a waiting list for both properties. She and the Councilman asked what the biggest issue is at the complexes, and they said it was the mental health of their residents. MEMBER BIENENSTEIN did some research and found that the State of Nevada has a location on Charleston Boulevard that treats mental health and noted that there is no charge for treatment or medication. She had referral slips, which she will provide to the senior housing complexes, and submitted as backup. She stated that the James Down Towers facility has a mini homeowners association, and she informed the head of the homeowners association that the Just One food pantry delivers one box each of perishable and non-perishable items every month to any senior in need.

MEMBER BIENENSTEIN reported that the Real ID law goes into effect on October 1, 2020 and thought it was important to inform seniors that they will need one. She also reported being approached regarding leases as they relate to seniors. She stated that NRS (Nevada Revised Statute) 118A.340 states that a senior is not obligated for the remainder of a lease if a tenant provides 60 days' notice and has to move due to health issues or the death of one of those on the lease. She received an e-mail from the Attorney General regarding seniors receiving re-writes on current leases due to a new law. He wants anyone who experiences this to contact him as a lease cannot be re-written in the middle of the lease period.

MEMBER BIENENSTEIN also informed the Board members that instead of going to an urgent care, Dispatch Medical will come to their home, and they accept any insurance that would be accepted at the urgent care. They are available seven days a week, and appointments can be scheduled. They have nurses and doctors and portable x-rays.

MEMBER GALATI asked how MEMBER BIENENSTEIN found the urgent care, and she replied that they came to a health fair where she resides.

Ward 2 - MEMBER GALATI announced that a guardianship presentation will be given on September 20, 2019 at the Sahara West Library, and hopefully other libraries will have this as well. He reported that he is working on the neighborhood watch and thought this would provide greater communication in the neighborhood and help to identify seniors who may be in need of help. He also thought this could be duplicated and spread to other areas.

MEMBER PERAZZO asked MEMBER GALATI if he had made specific contacts regarding having a neighborhood watch, and MEMBER GALATI replied that he contacted the Spring Valley Police Department. They have a program and once he gets signatures, they will speak to the group. MEMBER PERAZZO asked how MEMBER GALATI contacted the seniors, and MEMBER GALATI replied that he went door to door.

MEMBER BIENENSTEIN asked if he is doing this in other senior areas in his ward, and MEMBER GALATI replied that he is currently working on this in his neighborhood but hopes to duplicate this street by street. He is also exploring the NextDoor app to see if a closed group could be established on the app.

MEMBER MOZDEAN stated that her community uses a private group on NextDoor and would investigate how to do that.

Ward 4 - CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON stated that she is certified in Elder Abuse Awareness, and she shared an experience she had with a relative that was very disheartening because the person would not speak up and was afraid of their own family. She informed the Board members that when referring seniors to agencies, to keep in mind that because of the law, unless the person being abused will speak up nothing will happen. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON showed a letter from her property manager and discussed how they changed the

timeframe for assessing late fees and how it is a huge problem for people on a fixed income due to when they receive their money. She further discussed how the property manager will not be accepting rental payments at the office, so it is forcing people to pay online, and many do not have or know how to use computers.

MEMBER GALATI asked if that was legal and DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED pointed out that that it also indicates that payments can be made through the bank. He added that landlords can set rules and regulations that are outside of the lease, and those rules and regulations can be changed.

MEMBER MOZDEAN asked if other states are doing this and wondered about petitioning the federal government. She did not know how dates seniors receive social security checks were determined. MEMBER BIENENSTEIN said she thought it had something to do with the recipient's birthday and when they applied for benefits, and MEMBER PATTARETTU thought it was based on the first letter of the last name. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON said that she would discuss this issue with the agencies she works with and see if they are receiving calls about this.

GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, reported that he read an article about Senate Bill 151 that indicated it is at the property management company's discretion if they want to provide reasonable accommodations for seniors who are on a fixed income and receive their money on certain dates. He advised the Board members to encourage seniors to talk with their property management company if they are having any issues.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON stated that there are several companies providing mobile urgent care needs and mobile direct primary care. She was concerned that if a mobile provider suggests a patient switch their primary care physician, the patient needs to first make sure it is allowable for their diagnosis and with their insurance. Additionally, she stated that seniors need to be very aware if they are asked to sign anything during a guardianship presentation as it could be difficult to undo something.

MEMBER MOZDEAN wondered if there is a three-day rescission period in Nevada if someone signs something in their home, and MR. STEED said that exists for contracts a salesperson brings to a house, but he did not think it would apply across the board to every possible transaction. MEMBER MOZDEAN shared that she would sign with verbiage 'subject to the approval of our personal attorney' and include the attorney's name. She did not know if that was legal or just a deterrent, and MR. STEED thought it would be viewed in Nevada as it was not signed because it is a conditional signature. If someone did not have the courage to say they did not want something, it would be a graceful way to say no. MEMBER GALATI thought that should be pursued as signing documents is an issue where abuse could occur.

Ward 5 - MEMBER PERAZZO stated that they have a community garden and were notified that the shade structure would be removed. One of the gardeners asked if the removal could be delayed, and the person they spoke with indicated it could. However, that person was not in a position to make that decision, and the shade structure was removed and the beds are getting scorched. MEMBER PERAZZO said it is difficult to work in the garden in the sun during the day and felt it was a breach of contract as they paid rent for the beds and the shade was removed without notice. It was explained that a wind gust damaged the structure and it was deemed unrepairable and was not up to code, but he felt the decision was made for the seniors without including them. The participating gardeners at the Doolittle Community Center had a meeting with two master gardeners, and it was the best community building event they have had this year. There are 50 beds in the garden, and they all have access to water and soaker hoses.

MEMBER PERAZZO also shared an experience he had on a bus with a vulnerable person who exchanged words with a high school student who then got his big brother and the situation escalated. He said that Code Enforcement came by, but after the situation settled down, the high school student continued mocking and being disrespectful to the vulnerable person. MEMBER PERAZZO felt that abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of older persons or vulnerable persons needs to be understood and accepted as policy of State. He said that the Attorney General has a booklet on the statutes with specific things to look for, and he wished to make a motion to recommend that the booklet be reviewed by City departments to see how these could be applicable when working with the public.

MR. STEED clarified that MEMBER PERAZZO would be making a recommendation to the City Council to inform the City departments of the literature. MEMBER PERAZZO confirmed for CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON that the

motion would be to educate City staff. MR. STEED thought that MR. GRAY could prepare a letter to the City Council regarding the Board's recommendation. He confirmed for CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON that if they were comfortable, they could vote on this recommendation at this meeting, or it could be addressed as a separate item on a future agenda.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON thought the sooner the better in heightening awareness and bringing elder abuse to light. MR. GRAY thought it best to first become familiar with the information. MEMBER PERAZZO asked MR. GRAY if the Attorney General's booklet could be made available for their next meeting, and MR. GRAY replied in the affirmative.

MEMBER PERAZZO stated that he approved 100 postcards for his neighbors on the NextDoor app, and he spoke with JENNIFER DAVIES, Sr. Public Information Officer, and his Facebook is fixed so he can post now. He said that he and his spouse are trying to be violence free in conversation in their home and guarantee peace for each other and their tenant. He posted a video about fearlessness and how it warps thinking and is a fundamental need.

MEMBER PERAZZO shared a personal experience he had previously when taking care of his father. He thought about what he would have liked to receive from his neighborhood and he thought instead of a visit or a call he would like a friendly letter. He revisited statistics regarding where seniors are located in Ward 5 and showed a map and discussed the area where they live. He used election data, which includes registered voters' birth year and made a histogram of those in the precinct who are 60 years or older; this information was submitted as backup. He also noted that there were two people who were over 90, and he sent a letter to them, a sample of which was submitted as backup.

MEMBER PERAZZO stated that Udacity has a free business start-up class, and he shared the canvas they recommend. He filled out an example relating to this Board and submitted it as backup. He also found an article where in Japan they were building community through foreign exchange but limiting themselves to 30 minutes a day, teaching people how to do that and helping them help others. He submitted that for the record as well.

Lastly, MR. PERAZZO submitted a flyer with safety tips he received from the Las Vegas Fire & Rescue Neighborhood College.

Ward 6 - MEMBER MOZDEAN felt she was out of her element and inquired about where to gather information. She wanted to be more helpful and wondered if any of the Board members would allow her to shadow them. She met with people in her homeowners association and immediate surrounding area, and knows she needs to go beyond her neighborhood to be more effective. She does not know what to do or where to go, but she would like to be more assistive to the community and the board. She mentioned a plan to meet with MEMBER PATTARETTU but was concerned about the Open Meeting Law.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON said that she would be more than willing to have MEMBER MOZDEAN shadow her, and that most of what she has learned is because she has been doing this for 10 years. She felt they needed clarification regarding the Open Meeting Law and how many people could be together at an event. MR. STEED explained that he would be hesitant to share thoughts with anyone who is on the same subcommittee if it has to do with business before the board. However, if with someone else who is on this Board but not on the same subcommittee, or with four members who do not share membership on the same subcommittee, it is ok. When more than four of the Board members or more than one of the subcommittee members are together, it becomes a majority of that body. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON stated that she is on the Board and both subcommittees. She thought it would be great for everyone to attend events, and MR. STEED stated that they can co-exist in the same place, but they cannot discuss Board or subcommittee business.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON commented that MEMBER MOZDEAN was doing a good job and said that she will gain experience by attending events and not necessarily just senior events. The Chair added that when she is out in the community, she explains to people what she does and if they have any problems, they usually tell her about it.

MEMBER MOZDEAN stated that she will attend the Fire and Rescue meeting on September 9th and will meet with COUNCILWOMAN FIORE as well.

MR. GRAY stated that COUNCILWOMAN FIORE has a meeting on September 20th and suggested that MEMBER MOZDEAN speak with CHANCE BONAVENTURA, Special Assistant to Council. MR. GRAY also informed MEMBER MOZDEAN that Ward 6 is one of his assigned areas, and they are talking about holding a meeting at the YMCA and holding outreach events as well.

MEMBER GALATI stated that he started with a broad picture and found out what his area covers. He also advised to consider what the area is about as there may not be many concerns in an affluent area. He said there are two channels that are very informative about what is going on in the area as well. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON thought the two greatest resources are MR. GRAY and the Councilperson's liaisons.

MEMBER PATTARETTU reported that there is a small need for transportation in Ward 6 as some people moved to the area because they liked it, but they gave up their drivers' licenses. She spoke with a Senior Pastor at her church regarding community services that are available for elders. She stated that the Dream Center in the southwest part of the city serves food on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the last Saturday of the month is a farmer's market.

MEMBER PATTARETTU spoke with a social worker she works with at UMC (University Medical Center) who works with seniors. The social worker indicated that placement, guardianship and abuse issues are coming to her, and she would like to come to one of the Board meetings to see how she might be able to help. MEMBER PATTARETTU stated that she is also working in the psychiatric unit.

She also had the opportunity to meet JOHN ROBERTSON, who works for a non-profit organization that provides medical and behavioral health clinics and transportation. He is a member of her church and is involved with the food pantry. She announced that MR. ROBERTSON was in attendance at this meeting to see what this Board is about.

MEMBER PATTARETTU encouraged the Board members to be prepared to attend meetings for Medicare open enrollment events.

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, stated that the Board members provided great information when reporting. He requested that they be mindful of the Senior Living and Senior Outreach Subcommittees moving forward and have the subcommittees address issues and report to the Board at large. That allows for streamlining of information being provided at the regular Senior Citizens Advisory Board meeting and the ability to build a report to share with the Councilpeople. Staff is also working with DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCAL regarding streamlining strategies for this Board and the Subcommittees in order to gather information and report on it accordingly.

MR. GRAY stated that the common senior issues he is dealing with remain the same including home repairs, services referrals, rental assistance and elder abuse. Staff is trying to address those and line up services.

MR. GRAY also announced that staff is looking to get a senior services page on the City's website to address particular issues seniors are facing, provide the ability to listen to prior meetings and inform people which Board member serves each area.

7. **Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** 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:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON stated that they would like to have MEMBER PERAZZO'S recommendation for education regarding the Attorney General's booklet on the section of law about abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of older persons and vulnerable persons on a future agenda.

MEMBER MOZDEAN suggested preparation of a list of speakers they would be interested in having present at future meetings.

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, 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:

JOHN ROBERTSON stated that he represents Silver State Medical, and he works with home health care that has 24 agencies in town. He sees that seniors have needs, and they offer a federally subsidized program for the clinic that operates on a sliding fee schedule. If someone has no money, they will not be turned away. They have two practitioners who are both women. MR. ROBERTSON said that he also works with the International Church of Las Vegas, and what they are doing at the Dream Center is awesome. In each of the last two years, they have given away a million pounds of food. He noted that they are working with Three Square, and they are doing such a good job that Three Square is giving the church one of their trucks when it is retired. MR. ROBERTSON offered a tour of their facility. He is interested in what this board does and would like to be more involved. He said that he sits on the FACT (Family and Child Treatment) Board. MR. ROBERTSON also discussed the possibility of developing housing downtown, and CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON announced that Veterans Village just opened another facility as well. She thought that additional housing was necessary and would like MR. ROBERTSON to attend a future meeting.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked how to get in contact with MR. ROBERTSON, and he indicated that he would like to come to another meeting and bring information with him. MEMBER PATTARETTU submitted the Silver State Health brochure as backup.

9. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON announced upcoming meetings as follows: the Senior Citizens Advisory Board on October 3rd, the Senior Outreach Subcommittee on September 12th and the Senior Living Subcommittee on October 10th.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jacquie Miller, Deputy City Clerk

Gregory Gray, Community Program Technician

THIS MEETING WAS 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