



Senior Living Subcommittee of the 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 from the meeting until 1:06 p.m.) and GALATI

ALSO PRESENT: GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, JEFF DOROCAR, Deputy City Attorney, and JACQUIE MILLER, Sr. 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. Report by Lidia McKenzie-White, Code Enforcement Technician, regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Program and code enforcement issues concerning seniors – All Wards

Minutes:

LIDIA McKENZIE-WHITE, Code Enforcement Technician, reported that they are putting together a Neighborhood Assistance Program committee to assist seniors with issues such as cleaning their yards. This will be mainly for people who are unable to do so due to issues such as disability or lack of funds. Many of the seniors have been cited several times for numerous violations, and this is to try to help the seniors rather than continue citing them. MS. McKENZIE-WHITE said that typical violations include weeds, parking in yards and green pools. She distributed and submitted as backup a flyer describing what Code Enforcement is with a list of questions regarding common problems people have as well as a flyer for residential vehicle guidelines. She also announced that there are forms online to apply to volunteer to help.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked if staff was reaching out to the community at large for volunteers, and MS. McKENZIE-WHITE replied in the affirmative and confirmed that the Subcommittee members could help get the word out.

GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, confirmed with MS. McKENZIE-WHITE that this only applies to seniors who have been cited by Code Enforcement. MR. GRAY informed the Subcommittee members that seniors need to contact his office if they need help so staff can see about helping them prior to being cited; if they are cited, staff will try to get the Neighborhood Assistance Program to help them.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON thought the main thing to do is get volunteers because staff knows who needs help based on who has been cited, and MS. McKENZIE-WHITE replied in the affirmative.

MEMBER GALATI inquired if there are areas that are more prone to citations since some areas have HOAs that stay on top of maintenance issues. He was thinking how he could apply this to his ward and thought he could give flyers to people in charge at the food pantries so they are also aware of this program. MR. GRAY asked MS. McKENZIE-WHITE if there was a flyer for the Neighborhood Assistance Program, and she indicated there was not, but the link was on the Nextdoor app.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked how it works when seniors are living in an apartment or have an HOA, and MS. McKENZIE-WHITE explained that HOAs supersede what the City can do. However, if items are outside in the public right of way, the City may be able to assist if the streets are not private streets. MR. GRAY added that is a common issue they face when it comes to people being concerned about their neighborhood. He explained that some HOAs are very active in making sure issues are addressed and citations are issued, however, they do receive calls from people whose HOAs do not do that.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked what happens if there is a continual issue in an HOA or apartment and a private street situation, and MS. McKENZIE-WHITE explained that sometimes the Code Enforcement officers will investigate and if it is something they can help with, they will. If they cannot help, they will provide a referral.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked if the majority of citations are from neighborhoods that do not have HOAs, and MS. McKENZIE-WHITE replied in the affirmative. She also confirmed for the Chair that if violations are brought to their attention and the HOA does not respond, they can reach out to Code Enforcement.

MEMBER GALATI pointed out that an issue such as a collapsed fence is a sign that there is a need for some help. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked about situations where the HOA has already done their own citations and are getting nowhere. MS. McKENZIE-WHITE replied that sometimes the HOA will reach out to the City for assistance, and she also confirmed that the Board could inform the HOAs that there is assistance available if necessary.

See Item 5 for related discussion.

5. Discussion for possible action regarding Subcommittee Members' recommendations to address code enforcement issues affecting seniors – All Wards

Minutes:

DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY JEFF DOROCACK stated that this item is for the members to discuss recommendations to make to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board. He advised the members to not feel obligated to make a motion on this item as they were able to get answers to questions they asked LIDIA McKENZIE-WHITE, Code Enforcement Technician, during her presentation under Item 4. He said that discussion under that item included interaction between the Board members and HOAs (Homeowners Associations) and senior groups and directing them to the Neighborhood Assistance program. He noted that there is no formal recommendation that needs to be made, but it is an action the members could take on their own.

NOTE: No formal action was taken on this item.

6. **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 Subcommittee 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 she would like to know how they could help independent living senior communities regarding abuse concerns that are reported to Adult Protective Services, but are not being followed up on. She wondered if they could figure out what laws may be hindering them.

GREGORY GRAY, Community Program Technician, reported that he is currently working with one of their vistas to research programs and resources that are available to seniors. He thought they could discuss that once there is a better idea of what the City offers and what is available to seniors in the community.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON submitted as backup an article regarding how eviction rates were reduced in the states that expanded Medicaid. She said potential evictions are a big problem, and she wondered if they could discuss how to attract additional senior living facilities.

MR. GRAY replied that staff discussed this recently with NALANI AKI, Community Services Administrator, and reported that senior housing is full and wait listed for the next three to five years, so staff is trying to determine the resources available to help seniors find housing as well as some potential solutions to the housing problem. They are also looking to develop a senior page on the City's website.

MEMBER GALATI thought the upcoming census might be a good opportunity to identify low income senior citizens and those in need. MR. GRAY indicated that staff uses previous census data to determine trends from 2010 to 2017 regarding the rise in the senior population, senior poverty and senior homelessness, and that data is used to support staff's findings regarding senior services.

CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON stated that there was a new law where HOAs (Homeowners Associations) can no longer restrict pet owners from moving into homes, and an attorney on the news said it would help the elderly with isolation issues as pets are the only family some seniors have. She would like to have discussions about small issues that would help seniors age in place instead of having to leave their homes, and MR. GRAY replied that when that type of information is available it should be disseminated to the senior community through various types of media including the senior newsletter and the City's website.

7. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee. No subject may be acted upon by the Subcommittee 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.

8. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON announced upcoming meetings as follows: the Senior Citizens Advisory Board meeting on November 7th and the Senior Living Subcommittee on December 12th.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jacquie Miller, Sr. 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