



Senior Citizens Advisory Board Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

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

PRESENT: CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON and MEMBERS WEINSTEIN HALL (via teleconference), PATTARETTU, GALATI, MOZDEAN, DRUMM (via teleconference) LEE, and GRAHAM (excused until 1:02 p.m.)

ALSO PRESENT: GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, REBECCA WOLFSON, Deputy City Attorney, and VANESSA CHAVEZ-HOLMAN, 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. **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 January 4, 2024

Motion made by Yvette Weinstein Hall to Approve

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1

For-Yvette Weinstein Hall, Elizabeth Pattarettu, Deanne O'Rear-Cameron, Vito Galati, Caroline Mozdean, Jennifer Drumm, Charles Lee; Excused-Nicole Graham;

5. Report by Gregory Gray, Management Analyst I, Department of Neighborhood Services, regarding senior issues received by Department of Neighborhood Services – All Wards

Minutes:

GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, reported that a speaker was not scheduled for today's meeting, and JOCELYN BLUITT-FISHER, Community Resources Manager, encouraged the Board to meet regularly so that the work for senior services can continue moving forward. He noted that OLGA FLOWERS, Community Program Technician, was hired as a full-time employee to run the Care Coordination Senior Services program for the Health and Wellness Division. MS. FLOWERS was scheduled to go to several senior and active adult centers throughout the city to engage with the senior population and conduct a survey, a copy of the schedule and survey was submitted for the record and attached as backup. MR. GRAY added that MS. BLUITT-FISHER requested the Board members join MS. FLOWERS at their local senior and active adult centers to help with the

goal to provide further outreach to the community. MS. FLOWERS shared that the majority of the phone calls she had received regarded resources on filing taxes and affordable care givers.

MEMBER MOZDEAN asked for a more elaborate overview of MS. FLOWERS' job duties and tasks. In response to MEMBER MOZDEAN, MS. FLOWERS stated she works in the office on Mondays to return phone calls and emails, and updating available resources; however, Tuesdays through Fridays she engages with seniors at active adult centers. She noted that the survey she was conducting will help get a better understanding of where the needs are highest right now. MEMBER MOZDEAN wondered about MS. FLOWERS' schedule and whether it was flexible. MR. GRAY clarified that MS. FLOWERS is available to the Members when needed, but the schedule is set because those are the days that are coordinated with the staff for the center.

MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL asked MR. GRAY to e-mail her a copy of the schedule and MEMBER GRAHAM requested MS. FLOWERS for her contact information. MR. GRAY said that he will e-mail that to the Members.

MEMBER GALATI questioned if the flier he was handed prior to the meeting, which was submitted for the record and attached as backup, was tied into what MS. FLOWERS does. He wondered if it could be made available at libraries throughout the city. MR. GRAY confirmed the flier was for seniors to call for connections to available resources. He stated that he will drop off fliers to all libraries within city limits.

MEMBER LEE shared that he met MS. FLOWERS at the Doolittle Active Adult Center that morning.

CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON added that it has been a pleasure working with MS. FLOWERS, and she encouraged the Board members to reach out to her for any assistance.

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

Minutes:

Ward 1 – MEMBER GRAHAM attended an informative healthcare summit last month organized by Nevada Senior Services. The summit covered topics such as home-based solutions for enhancing the continuum of care for persons with dementia, improving health outcomes, and reducing caregiver burden. She found the discussions on health-related social needs particularly valuable and noted that the summit provided great resources. MEMBER GRAHAM shared contact information with GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, to reschedule presentations with the summit speakers. Additionally, she expressed her belief that there is a way to bridge the gap between youth and seniors, noting that COUNCILMAN BRIAN KNUDSEN will be leading discussions on potential strategies to achieve this goal. Lastly, the Member mentioned that they have a meeting scheduled with the resident council of Charleston Heights at the end of the month.

Ward 2 – MEMBER GALATI said he enjoyed attending the monthly breakfast meeting held by COUNCILWOMAN VICTORIA SEAMAN. He considered the meetings to be a valuable platform for addressing community concerns, particularly those raised by frequent senior attendees. He highlighted the presence of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officers, City Marshals and Nevada Highway representatives and their ability to address those concerns. Additionally, he often visits local libraries to explore resources available to seniors, and he discovered several beneficial programs. The Member shared one program sponsored by Dignity Health that offers free workshops for senior peer counseling, and he noted there were other programs such as free income tax preparation services and presentations on senior scams. Finally, MEMBER GALATI recalled an incident where he witnessed a senior using a mobility scooter to cross a street without a crosswalk in a poorly lit area. He was concerned for her safety, especially considering speeding vehicles in the vicinity, and he questioned whether the scooter had adequate visibility lights. This prompted him to research mobility scooters and discover that visibility lights are optional. He opined that such lights should be standard on all mobility vehicles and mentioned discussing the matter with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN.

CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON wondered if further information could be provided from the Department of Public Works. MEMBER GALATI said it may be something to look into for the safety and wellbeing of seniors.

Ward 2 – MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL shared that the City of Las Vegas took a strong stand against anti-Semitism, which she commended. She mentioned witnessing several instances of anti-Semitic graffiti in Ward 2 and urged the public to report such incidents to the police and appropriate ward representative. Additionally,

she noted the City's decision to acquire The Animal Foundation, and she highlighted the benefits of pet ownership for seniors. The Member reminded everyone of the upcoming Document Shredding and Medication Disposal event on April 6, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. She also discussed her attendance at a Human Trafficking Prevention event and described it as informative. She encouraged others to attend the next one on March 18, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. On March 17, 2024, there will be the Easter B'egg Hunt and Canine Carnival at Bruce Trent Park that will be featuring pets available for adoption. Lastly, the upcoming Breakfast Buzz with COUNCILWOMAN SEAMAN on April 6, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Community Center, and Art in the Park will be held between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on April 20, 2024.

Ward 3 – MEMBER DRUMM stated that she was not able to attend the January Board meeting, but she attended the Senior Luncheon at the East Las Vegas Community Center with COUNCILWOMAN OLIVIA DIAZ in December. The Member and the Councilwoman have attended the First Tuesday events and several pop-up visits through their ward. She highlighted the recent concerns with safety for seniors.

Ward 4 – CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON mentioned several pressing issues affecting seniors, including rising utility costs and fluctuating rent rates based on arbitrary criteria like square footage and occupancy. She expressed concern over additional fees imposed by some banks for paper statements, which disproportionately affect older adults who may not be accustomed to online banking. Furthermore, she highlighted the challenge of reaching isolated seniors who are in need of services but may not seek them out at their local senior centers. The Chair emphasized the importance of prioritizing outreach to these individuals. Additionally, she mentioned the availability of resources for cognitive challenges and caregiver support, as well as concerns about security and safety, particularly for veterans who may not be accessing available services. She shared a personal anecdote about a young woman with mental health issues entering neighbors' backyards, underscoring the need for community support and resources. CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON also discussed her participation in various resource fairs, including the Sun City resource fair and the First Tuesday event, where she learned about new resources and services available to seniors. She listed the following upcoming events: First Tuesday at the Northwest Area Command on April 6, 2024, the Document Shredding and Medication Disposal event from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on April 13, 2024 at Desert Shores Community Center, and a neighborhood meeting for the Summerlin Parkway Trail Project from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on March 6, 2024 at the Veterans Memorial Community Center.

Ward 5 – MEMBER LEE raised concerns about striping issues and problems with the main entrance doors at the Doolittle Active Adult Center, which he had previously e-mailed MR. GRAY about. MR. GRAY explained that there was an initial approval for federal funding to change the entryway doors to face inward rather than outward. It was later found that federal requirements could not be met due to their strictness. After meeting with a designer, it was confirmed there were not accessibility issues, and the total cost of the cosmetic upgrade was estimated to be \$1.5 million, which federal funding would not cover. As a result, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department would need to allocate funds from their budget to address the issue through raising funds or reallocating resources.

CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON asked if there was another way the door could be changed so that the potential danger would be mitigated. MR. GRAY stated that the door is ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant and there had not been any report of anyone getting hurt. He reiterated that any changes that they want to make to the entrance need to be discussed with the Director of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department.

Ward 6 – MEMBER MOZDEAN commended the Chair for her comprehensive review of recent issues, noting that these concerns are citywide and affect all wards. She emphasized the growing problem of food insufficiency, and suggested expanding the Document Shredding and Medication Disposal event to include the disposal of old electronics. Additionally, she echoed MEMBER WEINSTEIN HALL'S mention of pet adoptions and highlighted that bunny adoptions are available at Floyd Lamb Park. MEMBER MOZDEAN attended the Love for All Pickleball event in Ward 4, and she discussed efforts to improve tax assistance appointments for seniors, expressing optimism for future enhancements. She reminded everyone of the following upcoming events: that Floyd Lamb Park Farmers Market is starting up again and will resume every second and fourth Sunday of every month between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Bocaditos with Brune will be held at the Centennial Hills YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on March 14, 2024. Animaniacs In Concert at the Centennial Hills Park Amphitheater will be begin at 7:00 p.m. on March 16, 2024. Lastly, she encouraged participation in the various egg hunts organized by ward representatives across the city.

MEMBER GALATI raised concern about seniors facing difficulties affording the maintenance of a pet, and he inquired about available programs to assist with pet-related expenses. CHAIR O'REAR CAMERON mentioned a nonprofit organization in the city that aids seniors with pet food and other pet-related costs, and she offered to provide that information. MEMBER MOZDEAN supplemented this by mentioning that several veterinarians offer services at reduced rates for seniors.

Ward 6 – MEMBER PATTARETTU attended a Human Trafficking Prevention event and found it very informative, particularly in providing parents with information on keeping their children safe. She expressed concern about Indian senior citizens in the city not participating in available events or classes. MEMBER PATTARETTU said she discussed this issue with COUNCILWOMAN NANCY BRUNE to explore ways to provide more resources to these seniors.

7. Discussion for possible action regarding next steps and future meeting topics of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board – All Wards

Minutes:

GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, summarized the topics and concerns brought up by the Members in Item 6 as follows: digital divide with seniors in technology, senior and youth mentorships, isolation, security and safety concerns, affordable caregivers and PCAs (Personal Care Assistants), homelessness, consent awareness, food and nutrition, and pet care.

MEMBER MOZDEAN shared that she had heard comments regarding the condition of YMCA's (Young Men's Christian Associations) locker rooms and showers, and she asked where her questions and concerns could be referred. MR. GRAY informed the Member that the YMCA is their own entity and they may need to discuss any issues with their superiors.

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:

None.

9. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

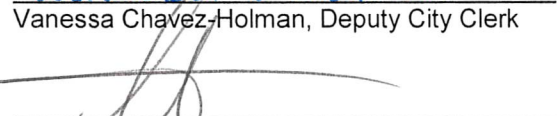
CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON advised that the next Board meeting would be held on April 4, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Vanessa Chavez-Holman, 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