



## Senior Citizens Advisory Board Minutes

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON and MEMBERS PATTARETTU, MOZDEAN, DRUMM (via teleconference and excused until 1:31 p.m.), LEE, and GRAHAM

EXCUSED: MEMBERS WEINSTEIN HALL and GALATI

ALSO PRESENT: GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I; OLGA FLOWERS, Community Program Technician; PAUL MATA, Deputy City Attorney III; and SAMANTHA DINICOLA, YVETT LOZOYA, and NICK CRAWFORD, Deputy City Clerks

### 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](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov); and the Nevada Public Notice website – [notice.nv.gov](http://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 Special Meeting of July 11, 2024

Motion made by Elizabeth Pattarettu to Approve

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

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

### 5. Presentation by Mark Wlaschin, Nevada Secretary of State Deputy for Elections, and Sabrina Hagan-Finks, Language Access and Voter Education Program Officer, regarding voting information and practices for seniors – All Wards

Minutes:

MARK WLASCHIN, Deputy Secretary of State for Elections, appeared on behalf of Nevada SECRETARY OF STATE FRANCISCO AGUILAR, provided information regarding the upcoming election, and introduced

SABRINA HAGAN-FINKS, Language Access and Voter Education Program Officer. MR. WLASCHIN opined that anyone with questions regarding a political candidate should direct those questions to that candidate and noted the election date is November 5th. He advised that military and overseas citizens would get mail ballots sent to them starting the week of September 16th. He stated that the online Effective Absentee System for Elections (EASE) would be available September 20th, which was created for military members, tribal voters, and people with disabilities to be able to vote at [www.nvease.gov](http://www.nvease.gov). Out-of-state voters would have their ballots mailed out from September 16th-26th, depending on the county, and in-state ballots would be sent out from October 6th-22nd. Further, early voting will occur from October 19th- November 1st. He said people could drop off their mail ballots in various drop boxes across the county, with dates and times on the Secretary of State website, and on election day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at in-person voting sites. He confirmed that mail ballots required a signature and someone from the county voting office would reach out if the signature was flagged. MR. WLASCHIN opined it was important for voters to reach out to the voting office via mail, text, e-mail, or in person to validate their flagged signature or their vote would not be accepted, noting the signature curing process could occur up to the 6th day after the election. He suggested visiting [www.nvsos.gov](http://www.nvsos.gov), calling (775)684-5705, or e-mailing [nvelect@sos.nv.gov](mailto:nvelect@sos.nv.gov) for all related details.

MS. HAGAN-FINKS clarified that [www.nvease.gov](http://www.nvease.gov) was available for active duty members as well as their spouses and dependents and Nevada residents out of the country. She said the ballot would have seven statewide questions, noting they avoid legal jargon to make them more understandable and Question 3 was repeated from a previous ballot. She stated they took efforts to translate the ballot questions into different languages, with six languages available at [www.nvsos.gov](http://www.nvsos.gov). She advised that a tele-interpreter hotline was available on the website to answer questions prior to and during the election, which was available in 200 languages and free to constituents.

MR. WLASCHIN noted that SECRETARY AGUILAR had been working with legislative members across the state to find a legislative solution regarding voter registration and election management. He said the solution was live and would enhance transparency and data available to voters. He opined that transparency and security were important to seniors, which was the reason the Secretary wanted them to speak to this Board.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked questions on behalf of MEMBER GALATI, who was not present, regarding the guardianship nomination registration program, steps they took to ensure seniors know about it, and what percentage of seniors in Nevada had used the program. MR. WLASCHIN stated that a different division under the Secretary works with that program, and he offered to get answers and provide them to the Board. The Chair explained that MEMBER GALATI wondered what initiatives they have taken to facilitate and encourage senior voter participation and if they were reaching out to senior living communities. MS. HAGAN-FINKS said they had briefly contacted a few local senior centers, and they received questions on how they would remain non-partisan. She stated they were open and available to have conversations with senior community gatekeepers to determine what would be best, adding they would be willing to hold presentations and provide information to seniors. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON opined they could hold meetings at their senior centers with basic non-partisan information, noting the Members would need to speak with their Council representative, GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, and OLGA FLOWERS, Community Program Technician. MR. WLASCHIN stated they had taken suggestions to increase and expand the scope, noting seniors may not be able to get to senior centers. He said they utilized technology and set up Teams calls with seniors and people with language barriers to provide them with information to ensure their vote was heard. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON expressed gratitude for the information, stating she would look into this option for seniors in the community. MS. HAGAN-FINKS clarified the meetings do not have to be Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., noting they were available at other times as well. The Chair explained she received an email from JOHN PERAZZO, a copy of which was submitted for the record, which provided statistics for senior voters and the importance of getting the information out.

MEMBER LEE asked for information regarding a signature update card he received in the mail. MR. WLASCHIN explained as of 2020 every eligible voter receives a mail ballot, but SECRETARY AGUILAR recognized voter signatures continue to change. To ensure security in mail ballots, they decided to send a postcard to voters to update their signatures, which could be returned by mail or in-person. He said voters that chose not to update their signature would continue to receive a mail ballot.

MEMBER MOZDEAN asked if signatures for mail-in ballots were reviewed by a human or a computer. MR. WLASCHIN stated there is a machine that scans the signature to compare it to what is on the record when a mail ballot is returned, noting the machine is a required standard practice. He added that the machine rejected around 70 percent of the processed ballots in 2020. Rejected ballots are reviewed by a bi-partisan board that compares the two signatures. The Member questioned if there was a similar process for in-person voting. MR. WLASCHIN clarified that the in-person voting process includes a signature poll pad where the signature is compared to the voter record. If the signature on the screen is not clear or does not match, people are offered to present identification, confirm personal information, or sign an affidavit.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON wondered if there were resources available for seniors to receive information and records on judges. MR. WLASCHIN explained the Office of Secretary of State does not provide information on the candidates, as it is not a requirement in Nevada. He empathized with wanting the information and agreed it was important, but said there were no resources he could provide.

MEMBER MOZDEAN stated she had received an article from AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) in the mail, a copy of which was submitted for the record, regarding common election scams to avoid. It included robocalls, donation scams, and fake surveys, petitions, and polls, and she wondered if they had something more official. MR. WLASCHIN said their website they has a myths versus facts spreadsheet that is updated regularly, and he asked to take a copy of the article. He opined it resonated closely with what SECRETARY AGUILAR stresses, adding that outreach and education was vital and providing information across different mediums would make them better off. The Member expressed gratitude for the speakers, noting they gave her confidence with the information provided.

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON asked if a voter was allowed to vote for only a certain candidate if they do not feel comfortable voting in all categories. MR. WLASCHIN defined an undervote as when the voter only wishes to vote for one candidate, which was legal and would still be counted. The Chair thanked MR. WLASCHIN and MS. HAGAN-FINKS for their time.

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

Minutes:

GREGORY GRAY, Management Analyst I, reported that JOCELYN BLUITT FISHER, Community Resources Manager, praised CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON and MEMBERS MOZDEAN, PATTARETTU, GRAHAM and LEE for their outstanding efforts within the community, noting what they do within the community helps drive the work for the Care Coordination Program. MR. GRAY and the Chair congratulated MEMBERS GRAHAM and DRUMM for their reappointment to the Board.

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

Minutes:

Ward 1 – MEMBER GRAHAM encouraged seniors to attend shows at the Charleston Heights Arts Center, opining they were reasonably priced and there were great upcoming shows.

Ward 3 – MEMBER DRUMM reported that COUNCILWOMAN OLIVIA DIAZ voted for \$22 million to go towards affordable-living apartments and renovations for 116 low-cost senior apartments in Ward 3. She attended First Tuesday at her local area command center and encouraged everyone to attend the National Night Out for Las Vegas.

Ward 4 – CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON said she received numerous calls for assistance with housing and utilities, and she encouraged seniors to call NV Energy to get information regarding assistance, events and payment arrangements. She agreed with MEMBER DRUMM that the new housing was great news, expressing concern regarding senior isolation. She advocated for people to check on their elderly neighbors and help them with information they may need. She advised she received calls regarding seniors with cognitive challenges and reminded everyone to be mindful of the red flags, adding not to ignore them with your own family members. She said people should contact the Members and the Health and Wellness Team for assistance. The Chair encouraged seniors to attend First Tuesdays at their local area command centers for safety concerns, noting

there would be no meeting in November due to the election. She opined that the Members should help spread the word about the First Tuesday meetings in order to achieve higher attendance. MEMBER MOZDEAN advised her local First Tuesday had been virtual, noting the last in-person meeting with K-9's had very high attendance. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON said there was an upcoming Town Hall Meeting and wanted everyone to sign up for Ward Newsletters.

Ward 5 – MEMBER LEE stated that Doolittle Senior Center would host a Stop the Falls event on September 10th from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He explained open enrollment was approaching for Medicare, opining seniors should have information on the difference between regular Medicare and the Advantage Plan. CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON said open enrollment would begin on October 17th until the beginning of December, noting not all plans are the same, and she encouraged seniors to ensure their doctor was included in the plan they select. She advised there are informational events during this time, and she would bring details to the Board as she learns about them.

Ward 6 – MEMBER MOZDEAN reported there would be a combination Wards 4 and 6 Town Hall meeting on September 26th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Northwest Area Command Center. She summarized the meeting would bring law enforcement and the community together. She said there would be a document-shredding event on September 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Knickerbocker Park for Wards 4 and 6. She advised that the 9/11 Memorial Event hosted by the Las Vegas Ten-13 Club would be held on September 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Bruce Trent Park, noting it was the 23rd anniversary. The Member stated there was an event the following Saturday at Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs to work on the raised vegetable beds and putout flags in honor for the victims of 9/11.

Ward 6 – MEMBER PATTARETTU said she volunteered at Helping Hands of Nevada in the food pantry, noting they are able to assist with minor home repairs and provide Ring cameras, if still available. She stated she convinced her neighbor to join the Centennial Hills Active Adult Center, stating they were enjoying it.

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

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON advised she set up speakers from the Ombudsman Office to speak at a future meeting, as she believed it was important for everyone to understand what they do. She said she also scheduled an advocate attorney for seniors from the Governor's Office to speak.

MEMBER LEE suggested they discuss voter education and Medicare enrollment in the upcoming months.

The Chair added she would like to gain Members' perspectives on Bill Drafts as they arise, as she was elected Chair for the Legislative and Policy Subcommittee for the Nevada Commission on Aging.

9. **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.

10. **Adjournment**

Minutes:

CHAIR O'REAR-CAMERON advised that the next Board meeting would be held on October 3, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Samantha DiNicola  
Samantha DiNicola, Deputy City Clerk

Greg Gray (for Greg)  
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](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov)

The Nevada Public Notice website – [notice.nv.gov](http://notice.nv.gov)

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor