



MINUTES OF THE WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

November 6, 2024

Washoe County Senior Center, Reno, Nevada 89512
Game Room
&
Zoom Webinar

<https://zoom.us/j/92347908306?pwd=K2k5UGdYSEVXVGNuRGFPZ3pub2kwQT09>

1. **Call To Order [Non-Action Item]** - Meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Chair- Pam Roberts.
2. **Roll Call [Non-Action Item]** – There was a quorum present via in person and through Zoom meeting.

WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT

Martha Lavin (3:10pm)	Pamela Roberts
Thuy Tran	Mary Ann McCauley
Adolfo Correa	Mac Rossi
Denise Myer	Patricia Gallimore
Charles Mark Neumann	

ABSENT (EXCUSED*)

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Pamela Mann
Abby Badolato
Herb Kaplan
Sandra Vasquez

EX-OFFICIO PRESENT

Michael Clark
Donald Abbott

ADVISOR PRESENT

Sue Meuschke
Connie McMullen (4:08pm)
Dr. Larry Weiss
Donna Clontz

3. **Public Comment [Non-Action Item]** –

Mark states the Sun Valley craft event scheduled for November 16 is looking for vendors.

4. **Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on October 2, 2024 [For Possible Action]** **Advisory Board members may identify any additions or corrections to the draft minutes as transcribed.**

Attachment: [WCHSASAB](#)

Motion to approve the minutes after amendments to fix the wording for item 7 was made by Charles Mark Neumann and seconded by Mac Rossi. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Presentation of Master Plan Goal 10: Legal Services [Non-Action Item] – Wes Duncan, Sparks City Attorney Office; Michelle Bays & Zach Young, Washoe County District Attorney’s Office; Robin Tejada, Social Services Chief & Shannon Walker, Manager 2, Division of Aging and Disability Services (45 min)

Sue reports they have been working on updating the Master Plan and they will have presenters regarding Legal Services to help them navigate this important issue. Wes Duncan, Sparks City Attorney launched a Fraud Prevention program on September 2023 in Sparks. At the events, he talks about what most recent scams that are going on, freezing credit, and accessing accounts. They are trying to arm the community with information. Scammers are getting more sophisticated, and it is important to be vigilant and do the research. The best way to protect oneself is to be informed with information. In Nevada, people have lost over \$80 million due to scams. It’s important for all entities to arm people with information. Almost never, do scammers get caught.

Mac asked if they were to get a text and click on the link, is it over? Mr. Duncan replied that not necessarily, most of the time only if someone puts in the information that it is asking for. It’s always about resources, give a copy of the presentation and share it with others to have information on how to avoid scams. If something looks fraudulent, do the research, be proactive, don’t call the phone number on the source. Pam Mann stated they can also put out information and distribute it.

Robin Tejada and Shannon Walker, from Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) presents on their mission and services, including Adult Protective Services. When they get a report for elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, and isolation, they meet with the senior wherever they are. They talk about the report they received. The help that is given is consent given, meaning the senior needs to be willing to receive services. They receive over 1600 reports in a 12-month period of time, 2067 allegations of which 780 were substantiated and investigated. Self-neglect is not a crime, but it is a focus of concern. ADSD has Adult Protective Services under their umbrella and they will do outreach. They have published in a publication that goes to over 60,000 people; in south Nevada they did a bus wrap for advertising, it was part of a grant. In Nevada, they get a lot of reports from mandated reporters. Some cases are difficult because the person doesn’t want the help, but it is obvious they need it, and therefore there are meetings that take place to discuss what can be worked out. Also, representative payee services are lacking in the community; Washoe County does provide this service, but there is a waitlist. She recommends looking into fundraising to help with the funding.

Shauna Brennan from Northern Nevada Legal Services she is taking Jennifer Richard’s place. There are power of attorney issues and they are looking at informing about the limits to power of attorney. They have a list of several things they are looking and working at: including hospice practices, they may have aggressive sales tactics and somehow about 75% of them have clients that miraculously don’t die, but they still get the money. In some cases preventing HOAs from pushing out seniors from their home to make sure that people are able to age in place. They are seeing a lot of 30-day eviction notices and lastly, they are looking at reducing financial abuse and using Representative Payee. Shauna states they have an attorney to advocate for the rights of older persons and persons with a physical disability, intellectual disability, or related condition. Pam stated eviction is a pathway to homelessness. They are short on affordable housing and ARPA money is coming in in the next 8 years. If someone is over 60 years old, they have a longer time frame before being evicted. The Joy House is through Washoe County and is a resource in this type of situation.

6. Discussion and possible recommendations regarding Board vacancies for District 4 and vacancy for District 1 [For Possible Action] – (10 mins)

a) Application from Benecia Price (District 4)

Attachment: [11-06-24 Benecia Price RDTD App D4.pdf](#)

b) Application from Edward Lamb (District 4)

Attachment: [11-06-24 Edward Lamb RDTD App D4.pdf](#)

c) Application from Patricia Gallimore (District 1)

Attachment: [11-06-24 Gallimore Appt rdtD D1.pdf](#)

Recommendations are scheduled for the Board of County Commissioners meeting on the 19th. Motion to recommend Patricia Gallimore to District 1 seat from the Alternate seat was made by Charles Mark Neumann and seconded by Thuy Tran. Motion passed unanimously. Motion to recommend Benecia Price and Edward Lamb each to District 4 seats was made by Charles Mark Neumann and seconded by Denise Myers. Patricia stated when she joined the Board, she was not related to anyone in Washoe County, but now she is.

7. Report, discussion and possible recommendation regarding next steps on Washoe Age Friendly [For Possible Action] – Pamela Roberts and Donna Clontz (10 min)

Item tabled.

8. Updates, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding Washoe County Senior Services budget (wishlist) [For Possible Action] – Pamela Mann, Human Services Division Director

Pam Mann states they are working on budget requests. They met with the state to ask about resource needs and there is still opportunities for people to help. Such as, if someone likes to do something like music, they can provide their volunteer services and do things that don't necessarily require money.

Mark asked if Reno and Sparks senior centers have an understanding, and they reply was yes. Mary Ann stated they are putting together the Master Plan and is inquiring where is the money. Pam stated that if something shows a sustained need, they may get it after a few years. They have grant writers and there is a grant coordinator in Washoe County; they try to maximize funding sources, even in percentage wise. They are currently working on the nutrition bid.

9. Updates from Washoe County Senior Services [Non-Action Item] – Cara Paoli, Human Services Division Director, Adult and Senior Services; Abby Badolato, Human Services Agency Senior Services Coordinator (5 min)

Attachment: [11-06-24 SAB Monthly Data.pdf](#)

Abby states the remodel is going good. They are monitoring who attends, they have found that a lot of seniors don't have an ID. They have fall activities going on and they will be closed mid January for 6-8 weeks. They are working on how the congregate meals will work. Also, homemaker is going good and Sun Valley will also be getting new flooring and will be closed for 2 weeks.

10. Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee regarding their current activities [Non-Action Item] – Donald Abbott, Sparks City Council Ward 1 (5 min)

Donald reports that their next meeting will be November 20 at 9am and they will have the Good Shepards Clothing.

11. Update on Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee regarding their current activities [Non-Action Item] – Izabella Baumann, City of Reno Activities Coordinator (5 min)

Not present to report.

12. Review yearly report from Northern Nevada Legal Services [Non-Action Item] – Pamela Roberts (10 min)

No report yet.

13. Advisory Board Members' announcements, reports and updates to include requests for information or topics for future agendas [Non-Action Item]. (No discussion among Advisory Board Members will take place on this item.) (5 min)

Pam stated she will be bringing a Thank You card for Jane and Kay. They also need to see about the Alternate seat.

Charles Mark commented the floor looks great and it looks bigger.

Sue stated they are looking at some volunteer events and they are also hoping to have a draft of the matrix ready.

January 2025 meeting schedule

Donna announced Paradise Park will be having bocce ball and people are invited to go play and attend their party.

14. Public comment [Non-Action Item] –

No comments.

15. Adjournment [Non-Action Item]

Meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm.