



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

September 4, 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 3:00 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	Mac Rossi
Thuy Tran	Jane Baudelaire
Adolfo Correa	Pamela Roberts
Denise Myer	Mary Ann McCauley
Charles Mark Neumann	Patricia Gallimore

ABSENT (EXCUSED*)

*Mavis Kay Bonzer

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Abby Badolato
Cara Paoli
James Smith
Herb Kaplan
Sandra Vasquez

EX-OFFICIO PRESENT

Michael Clark
Donald Abbott

ADVISOR PRESENT

Sue Meuschke
Connie McMullen
Dr. Larry Weiss
Donna Clontz

3. Public Comment [Non-Action Item] –

Louis Welborn, states that the Neil Rd center used to draw a few hundred people every other Sunday for dancing before COVID and now it's only about 50 people and those are only people who are dancing and not people just coming out to socialize. They used to have a lot of people attend just to watch the dancing and socialize, that is not the case anymore. He is asking for help to get things going again.

Steve Hughes, states Reno Town Mall handicapped parking was eliminated by the music and stage during Senior Fest. This is institutional disregard for handicapped parking. He is wondering who made this decision and has jurisdiction for handicapped parking.

Mike Clark, Commissioner of District 2, suggested to attend Reno City Council meeting and make public comment about the concern. Commissioner Clark also agrees handicapped parking is important. Commissioner Clark took his grandkids to the Arboretum and unfortunately all the bathrooms were locked up. The same thing happened at Senior Fest yesterday where the bathrooms weren't working. Additionally, at Labor Fest, there was no toilet paper in the Idlewild Park bathrooms. There is also no urinal at the new pool in the men's restroom.

Molly Rose Lewis from Jacky Rosen's office, used the closed toilets at the Senior Fest on 9/3. The USPS services (in general) is NOT moving to California but staying in Reno. If anyone needs copies of the Senior Resource guide, please let her know. Molly will be on maternity leave October, November and December and the staff from Jacky Rosen's office will be short during that time.

Molly Rose Lewis, Office of US Senator Jacky Rosen -
775-560-1824 - mollyrose_lewis@rosen.senate.gov

Connie McMullen stated the handicapped parking issue at the senior event won't happen again and the toilet facility issue has been an ongoing issue and they will work on alternative options for bathrooms next year.

Mac Rossi, thinks it strange to move a painted rock from Las Vegas for \$450,000.

Mark Neumann, 9/3 Senior Fest was very well attended event and seemed like everyone was very well enthused.

4. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on August 7, 2024 [For Possible Action] Advisory Board members may identify any additions or corrections to the draft minutes as transcribed.

Attachment: [8-07-2024-Advisory-Board-Minutes-DRAFT.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Charles Mark Neumann and seconded by Dennis Myers. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Presentation of Master Plan Goal 8 Neighborhood Service and Social Supports [Non-Action Item] – Presentation from Amy DeWitt Smith, Executive Director of Neighbor Network of Northern NV (N4), Donna Clontz, AARP NV Lead Volunteer Age Friendly (45 min)

Attachment: [9-04-24 Aging in Community N4 Info.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Amy reports (see attachment). Charles states 53% of the homeless community are seniors. In Washoe County, the senior population is very spread out and Amy is suggesting programs be piloted in the areas where the senior populations are higher, such as Pyramid Lake, Washoe Valley, Downtown, Caughlin Ranch and North Lake Tahoe. She also suggested looking at the goals that can be worked together and should consider asset-based community development along with human centered design. It would be good to look at communities in Washoe County and others that are working, Amy is happy to return and talk more in depth about solutions and ideas. Recommends we start thinking about aging in community vs. aging in place. Look at how to develop an asset based community plan. It would be good to know where housing and transportation goals are heading because they would tie in with this goal. Pam explained that the Master Plan that was created 10 years ago has not been looked at

and they have taken it upon themselves to work on it. Any recommendations to the Master Plan can be directed to Abby Badolato (ABadolato@washoecounty.gov).

Mary Ann stated the goals need to be measurable so they can actually work.

Donna states Amy was a large part of the Age friendly plan. It started as a City of Reno plan and there has been interest and input from Sparks and Washoe County. It was put together by about 100 community members and it turned out to be a community that did the asset based community development process and used input from resources all over the County. One of the ideas is to age in community, not only age in place. Amy has offered to help us set-up a project to do community-based asset planning project. Donna relayed that it may be a good idea to use a CAB or NAB for the project. In 2018, Housing and Transportation were the main focuses and they are still working on it; another piece was communication and that also was very important during COVID. Northern Nevada Health is working on programs too, it may be good to tap into their information to come up with things they can do and extend on. Donna explained they created Neighborhood Elders Together (NET), there was a set date and time to meet and seniors would meet up to get together and network/socialize. There is also the Connection Project, where a facilitator starts a conversation and connections start to happen. There is one happening at the Sparks Library once a month.

6. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding appointing a new Advisory Board member for District 4 and Alternate seat (30 mins) [For Possible Action]

- a) Application from Anita Moore (District 2)
Attachment: [9-04-24 Anita Moore RDTD App D2.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
Application was withdrawn by applicant.
- b) Application from Benecia Price (District 4)
Attachment: [9-04-24 Benecia Price RDTD App D4.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
Benecia stated she has information from the program they wanted to start in the Spanish Springs library. It's important to get different groups together and active. She's been a Washoe County resident since 2005 and was in mortgage banking and business. She like to organize things and be involved.
- c) Application from Connie Silveira (District 1)
Attachment: [9-04-24 Connie Silveira RDTD App D1.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 Connie Silveira Resume D1 Redacted.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
Application was withdrawn by applicant.
- d) Application from Craig Bronzan (District 5)
Attachment: [9-04-24 Craig Bronzan Resume D5 Redacted.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
Craig introduced himself, he has worked in the Parks and Rec department and one thing that caught his attention is having measurable goals. He has experience is making this happen. He is in the Sierra Canyon neighborhood and he found out that they have neighbors that never leave their home, which is a concern. He would like to help and serve in any capacity.
Mac stated he knows Craig from the Parks and Rec department and he would recommend him.
Donna Clontz also commented he would be a good addition to the Board.
- e) Application from Edward Lamb (District 4)
Attachment: [9-04-24 Edward Lamb RDTD App D4.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
Edward introduced himself, his background is in finance, including being a controller and chief financial officer. He is interested in the position and would like to be considered for the position.

- f) Application from Joellen Keil (District 5)

Attachment: [9-04-24 Joellen Keil RDTD App D5.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 JoEllen Keil Resume D5.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 JoEllen Keil Ltr D5.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Pam stated JoEllen was on Zoom, but does not see her on the screen, she still gives her credit for being able to attend at the beginning of the meeting and went over her attached application materials.

- g) Application from Leslie Callaway (District 4)

Attachment: [9-04-24 Leslie Callaway RDTD App D4.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 Leslie Callaway Resume D4_Redacted.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 Leslie Callaway Ltr D4.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Pam asked if there had been contact with Leslie, Sandra replied she has not been able to make contact.

- h) Application from Randa Loehrer (District 4)

Attachment: [9-04-24 Randa Loehrer RDTD App D4.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 Randa Loehrer Resume D4_Redacted.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 Randa Loehrer Ltr D4_Redacted.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Application was withdrawn by applicant.

Pam stated Benecia's background and interest falls in line with aging in community. Mark stated Edward and Benecia have been attending meetings throughout Washoe County.

Motion to recommend both Edward Lamb and Benecia Price to the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners for the District 4 position and let them decide on who to appoint was made by Mark Neumann and seconded by Adolfo Correa. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Clark stated that it was good to see all the applications and that Connie Silveira spoke to him and requested to withdraw her application.

Motion to recommend Craig Bronzan and JoEllen Keil to the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners for the open alternate position and let them decide who to appoint was made by Mark Neumann and seconded by Adolfo Correa. Motion passed unanimously.

Jane stated there are some seats that are going to be terming out and it may be good to let applicants know seats may soon be opening up.

7. Update from Washoe County Senior Services [Non-Action Item] – Cara Paoli, Human Services Division Director, Adult and Senior Services (5 min)

Attachment: [9-04-24 Activities for WCSr Ctrs.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 HSA Monthly Data.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 Reno Senior Survey Report.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)
[9-04-24 Sparks Senior Survey Report.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Cara reports that Bill Sero, the activities coordinator, has been working on getting activities going and there are a lot of great activities coming up at the Center, see attachment. Today there was restorative boxing, and it was exciting to see. Floor replacement will be happening in October after hours and weekends. The kitchen remodel date is to be determined. They are also doing signage at satellite sites to advertise the centers. There are also two Masters of Social Work students that started working at the Center last week and they are being trained in the PEARLS model, where they will work with people that have depression symptoms. Also, the attached HSA

Monthly Data sheet has transposed numbers, the 'Congregate unduplicated clients' should be 1,380 and 'Congregate Meals Served' should be 15,912.

Pam asked regarding the homemaker program, the waitlist is long, and the program seems to be at max capacity, which seems to be that there is not much chance of the waitlist number going down. Abby will look closer to the numbers to see if they are receiving more homemaker applications.

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

Donald reported they received the \$11,900 AARP community challenge grant for Go Bags and they will be stuffing them on 9/25 at 8:30am. Everyone is welcome to come and help, they are hoping to get about 50 seniors to help. Their meeting went great and they are doing good things, just like the Board is.

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

Izabella not present at time of item report. Item tabled.

10. Discussion of the Age Friendly Survey results and next steps [For Possible Action] -Abby Badolato and Donna Clontz (5 min)

Attachment: [9-04-24 Sparks Go-Bag Stuffing Event.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Abby states they were able to put the data together and Sparks has their own data sheet, will forward to Donald Abbott, see attachment. Donna stated other places working on age friendly does not work on all 8 domains, some choose just one. It may be good to have a community meeting. Pam states affordable housing, transportation and social isolation may be the 3 topics they choose. Mary Ann suggested to look at what they have worked on and do a dual analysis.

Motions to accept the survey results and move forward with the Master Plan development was made by Mary Ann McCulley and seconded by Denise Myer. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Presentation from Northern Nevada Legal Services [Non-Action Item] -Jennifer Richards, Esq. Supervising Attorney (10 min)

Attachment: [9-04-24 Nevada Senior Legal Center Report.pdf \(washoecounty.gov\)](#)

Jennifer reported on legal aid, see attachment. They have opened 456 cases up to date. A new Welfare Eligibility worker will be at the center every week to help people complete applications for assistance. A good report is they uncovered a landlord who had been using temporary restraining orders to keep the senior renter's deposit and belongings. They were able to overturn this and help the seniors get their belongings back and overturn the eviction. Jennifer's report will be emailed out the board.

Pam thanked Jennifer for all they do.

12. 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)

Mark reports Sun Valley senior free swim was very successful this year and is contemplating expanding the hours next year.

Mac Rossi reported Sanford Center for Aging and Health closed their doors this month due to lack of funds.

Donna Clontz reports that she has an article in this month's Senior Spectrum magazine.

13. Public comment [Non-Action Item] –

Public comment [Non-Action Item]

No public comment.

14. Adjournment [Non-Action Item]

Meeting adjourned at 4:59 pm.