



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

May 14, 2025

Washoe County, 1001 E. 9th Street Reno, NV
Building A, County Commission Chambers
&

Zoom Webinar

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

1. Call To Order [Non-Action Item] - Meeting was called to order at 3:04 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
Denise Myer
C. Mark Neumann
Adolfo Correa
Edward Lamb
JoEllen Keil

Pamela Roberts
Mary Ann McCauley
Mac Rossi
Patricia Gallimore
Benecia Price
Craig Bronzan

ABSENT (EXCUSED*)

* Thuy Tran
* C. Mark Neumann
* Mary Ann
McCauley

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Cara Paoli
Abby Badolato
Herb Kaplan
Chris Lopez

EX-OFFICIO PRESENT

Donald Abbott
Commissioner Mike
Clark

ADVISOR PRESENT

Connie McMullen
Dr. Larry Weiss
Donna Clontz

3. Public Comment [Non-Action Item] –

Donna Clontz, asked the Board for assistance to protect Senior programs that may be cut due to budget cuts such as Social Security, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Medicaid, and the Food Bank. Donna has been contacting national representatives, Nevada Congressman, and Nevada Senators to help address these issues. She asked the board to get involved.

Commissioner Mike Clark informed that the Sparks Senior Center would be closed in the future to replace the flooring. He expressed concerns for where the Sparks seniors would receive services during the Sparks Senior Center renovation.

4. Approval of the Minutes from the Advisory Board Meeting on April 2, 2025 [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 was made by Mac Rossi and seconded by Denise Meyer. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Presentation from Circle of Life Hospice about the free Hospice House [Non-Action Item] - Chaz Blackburn (10 min).

Chaplain Chaz Blackburn talked about the Circle of Life Hospice Foundation Guesthouse established in 2002 to help families during end of life. The facility provides 24/7 caregiving, is non-profit, and completely free. Chaz thanked Board member, Dr. Larry Weis, for donating land for the facility. As of April 11th 2025, they have helped 53 guests, mentioning for every person they service, they turn away 4-6 people from service. The average length of stay for guests is 12 days. They service a variety of clients with the average age being 75 years of age, 18% being veterans, and clients referred from the Cares Campus, ADSD (Aging & Disability Services Division), and APS (Adult Protective Services). Chaz stated they are looking for a larger location to triple the capacity of clients they are able to serve at a time. They recently hosted a GALA and raised \$65,000 displaying support from the community. For more information or any patient referrals, visit colhospice.com/foundation.

6. Update on Older Americans Month, including the Senior Center grand re-opening, and Stuff-A-Bus. [Non-Action Item] Abby Badolato – (10 min)

Abby mentioned the Senior Center grand reopening Friday, May 16th with a Senior breakfast, the OnMed Care Station ribbon cutting, and the Nevada Arts Council art unveiling all occurring on opening day. May 23rd is the Stuff-A-Bus event at the Target in Sparks, which is a collaboration with KOLO Cares, RTC, City of Sparks, and Target to help provide items for seniors.

The Older Americans Month had great feedback as the location changed last minute to the National Automobile Museum hosting around 400 visitors.

Mac Rossi demoed the OnMed Station and was impressed he could speak to a live healthcare worker from Florida via video.

7. Update on the May Senior Volunteer Fair. [For Possible Action] – Denise Myer; Sue Meuschke (10 min)

Denise stated the Senior Volunteer Fair had about 21 vendors. The next fair is scheduled to be in October.

Donna Clontz was able to recruit two volunteers and mentioned vendors from AARP, Assistance League, Automobile Museum, and the Humane Society.

8. Report on the current draft and progress of the Master Plan [Non-Action Item] – Mary Ann McCauley; Sue Meuschke (15 min)

No one present.

9. Introduction to Senior Coalition. [Non-Action Item] – Connie McMullen (10 min)

Senior Coalition started in 1997 as a nonprofit that meets on the 1st Friday of the month and consists of about 30 businesses and members. Membership costs are \$25 for individuals & \$75 for an organization. The organization then uses the dues to grant out the money for events such as the Alzheimer's Association walk, Senior Fest, and Senior Day at Legislature. They also meet with legislators focusing on bills that affect seniors, and meeting with administrators of agencies such as Aging & Disability Services. They recently had a meeting with Catherine Cortez Masto as a guest speaker giving an update on Social Security and Medicare. If anyone is interested or have any questions, contact renotigertiger@yahoo.com.

10. 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 (15 min)

Cara praised the re-opening of the Senior Center allowing activities to occur back to the center. She mentioned that the Sparks Senior Center would be closed to redo the flooring due to a manufacturer error. They are already in talks with Sparks Parks & Rec across the Sparks Senior Center to temporarily relocate during the construction. There would be enough space for lunch and activities. There is also a backup location at the Savior Lutheran Church next door. The construction is projected to take 2 weeks long beginning June 30th. Donald Abbott offered to assist with finding a location in Sparks.

Donna Clontz asked about any updates on loss of funding or any services. Cara stated they are monitoring the situation closely and are developing back-up plans, areas they could subsidize, and prioritizing programs if funding does stop. Cara mentioned that she has reached out to Aging & Disability Services Division expressing concern for Seniors if funding was cut and requested assistance from the public to reach out to the Federal government to voice their concerns as well. Cara offered to share the letter she wrote and the contact information of the agencies & politicians to send their letters to.

Edward Lamb congratulated Senior Services on their successful venue location change for the Older Americans Information Fair.

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

Donald mentioned that City of Sparks has consolidated the Sparks Citizen Advisory Committee, Sparks Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee, and Sparks Equity Inclusionary Advisory Committee into one group named the Sparks Citizens Advisory Committee comprised of 7 board members. If anyone is interested in applying to become a board member, visit the City of Sparks website online.

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

Izabella stated the Reno Boards and Commissions are on a 90 day pause so the Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee doesn't have any meetings at the moment. For Older Americans month City of Reno is holding ice cream socials on 5/15 at Dorothy McKlinden Park and 5/20 at Neil Road Rec Center. There is a Scam Jam Fraud Prevention class in partnership with AARP on 5/29 at the McKinley Arts Center. Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee is looking to hold meetings in August.

13. Update on Northern Nevada Legal Services [Non-Action Item] – Sarah Molleck, Northern Nevada Legal Aid Supervising Attorney (5 min)

No one present for Northern Nevada Legal Services.

14. 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)

Benecia Price provided a list of drugs that recently had cost reductions due to the government negotiating, she plans to attach that handout on the next meeting.

Donna Clontz has been working with Benecia Price with Age Friendly and is asking to follow up on the program quarterly.

Adolfo Correa mentioned classes for Seniors to help with finances, social security, life tips, and other topics.

15. Public comment [Non-Action Item]

Connie McMullen discussed bill she is tracking, AB 338, with a fiscal note of \$500,000 to create a portal for ADSD to learn to find a caregiver that has state programs.

16. ADJOURNMENT [Non-Action Item]

Meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m. by Chair - Pam Roberts.