

MINUTES
Senior Services Commission
4/8/25

A. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 9:10 a.m. a regular meeting was convened at the Oxnard Joslyn Lawn Bowls Clubhouse, 350 North C Street, Oxnard, CA 93030.

Commissioners present: La Rita Montgomery, Linda Calderon, Gloria Postel and Alice Sweetland.

Commissioners absent: Gloria Massey-Chinea

Staff members present: Marisue Eastlake, Recreation Supervisor; Jorge Cruz; Recreation Coordinator; and Robert Dennis, Recreation Coordinator.

Chairperson Alice Sweetland presided and called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. SUBJECT: Minutes of the meeting of February 11, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of prior meeting minutes.

ACTION: Commissioner Postel moved to approve the minutes with the noted corrections; Commissioner Calderon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Gloria Massey-Chinea joined the meeting remotely via Zoom at 9:13 a.m. Chair Sweetland called for a motion to approve Commissioner Massey-Chinea's remote participation. Commissioner Montgomery moved to approve; Commissioner Postel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

D. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

SUBJECT: Report by Chair Sweetland on Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (VCAAA) Advisory Committee business.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission receive and file the report.

DISCUSSION: Chair Sweetland provided an update on the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging and the Senior Nutrition Program. She noted that Senior Nutrition coupons will be accepted at local farmers markets, and the Legacy Award will be distributed in June.

E. COMMISSION BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Time

RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission discuss changing the monthly meeting time to begin at a later hour.

DISCUSSION: Commissioners discussed support for a later meeting time.

ACTION: Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to move the Senior Services Commission meetings to the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Calderon seconded the motion. Marisue Eastlake conducted a roll call vote, and the motion carried 5-0.

F. AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. SUBJECT: Ad-Hoc Committee Report on Technology Education Goal
RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission receive and file the report on the progress of the Cyber Senior program. Members: Commissioners Gloria Massey-Chinea and Gloria Postel.
DISCUSSION: Commissioners Massey-Chinea and Postel discussed future Cyber Seniors sessions. Marisue Eastlake shared updates on recent changes in administrative leadership, along with new resources and the upcoming class schedule in May at both the Wilson and South Oxnard Senior Centers. The commissioners also emphasized the importance of conducting post-class survey evaluations to assess program effectiveness.
ACTION: Report was received.
- a. SUBJECT: Ad-Hoc Committee Report on Center Signage and Accessibility Goal
RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission receive and file the report on draft signage for Senior Services facilities at the South Oxnard Center. Members: Commissioner Linda Calderon and Gloria Postel.
DISCUSSION: Commissioners Calderon and Postel discussed the lack of signage at both the Wilson and South Oxnard Senior Centers, and the potential for placing matching signage at both locations. Marisue Eastlake provided an update on the ongoing search for signage companies and the current status of the signage efforts at both centers.
ACTION: Report was received.
- b. SUBJECT: Ad-Hoc Committee Report on Creation of Senior Housing List Goal
RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission receive and discuss standardized questions for gathering housing information. Commissioner Gloria Postel and Chair Alice Sweetland.
DISCUSSION: Commissioner Postel reported no current action on this item at this time.
ACTION: Report was received.
- c. SUBJECT: Ad-Hoc Committee Report on Monthly Health Presentation Goal
RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission receive a report on monthly health presentation speakers and the evaluation form selected. Goal Members: Commissioner Linda Calderon and LaRita Montgomery
DISCUSSION: Commissioner Montgomery emphasized the importance of providing more focused presentations for seniors on the topics of elder abuse and neglect.
ACTION: Report was received.
- e. SUBJECT: Ad-Hoc Committee Report on Developing an Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission receive a report and provide input on items to be included in the Commission's 2025 Annual Report to the City Council. Submitted by: Commissioner Gloria Massey-Chinea. and Chair Alice Sweetland.

DISCUSSION: Chair Sweetland shared updates on the 2025 Senior Services Commission Report, expressing appreciation for Commissioner Massey-Chinea's contributions. She provided an overview of the report's content. Commissioner Montgomery moved to approve the 2025 Annual Report, with Commissioner Postel seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Report was received.

Commissioner Massey-Chinea concluded her remote attendance at 10:16 a.m. due to technical difficulties.

G. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

1. SUBJECT: Report from Staff on Senior Services Programs and Events for March and April.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Senior Services Commission receive and file the report.

Jorge Cruz reported that in March, 1,735 home-delivered meals and 2,107 congregate meals were served. He highlighted several upcoming Senior Services events, including AARP Tax Preparation at the South Oxnard Center on 4/15/25; evening yoga classes beginning 4/9/25; Pickleball at the Colonia Gym every Monday and Wednesday; World Art Day celebrations at all senior centers on 4/15/25; an Art Gallery event at PAL on 4/24/25; and Senior Cinema Day, held every third Thursday of the month.

Robert Dennis provided updates on RSVP programs. He reported that a recent TCMBB training welcomed 14 new instructors who have begun their training. Additionally, he highlighted two upcoming events: World Tai Chi Day on 4/26/25 at Leisure Village and the RSVP Annual Appreciation Luncheon on 4/29/25 at the Courtyard Marriott.

Marisue Eastlake announced that all Senior Services Commission members whose terms had expired were officially approved by the Oxnard City Council on 4/7/25. She also provided updates on the Wilson Center, including improvements funded through ARPA and the status of the upcoming renovations.

H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Calderon spoke about the recent City Commission meeting and the official appointment of the Senior Services Commission members.

Chair Sweetland will be honored for her community work by CPRS during the City Council meeting on 4/29/25.

I. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Chair Sweetland requested to have SOC Director Vivien Sandoval share what's happening at her center when the commission meets there in May.

J. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:22 a.m., Commissioner Postel moved to adjourn and Commissioner Montgomery seconded. The motion passed unanimously.


Marisue Eastlake, Secretary


Alice Sweetland, Chairperson