

SENIOR SERVICES COMMISSION

Minutes

Regular Meeting

May 10, 2011

The Senior Services Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rowe at 9:02 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Commissioners present P. Davis, A. Esparza, R. Fischer, N. Kobashigawa, N. Rowe, D. Thibeault, and L. Villareal Yu

Commissioners absent: none

Staff present: Julie Doi, Deputy City Attorney
Marisue Eastlake, RSVP Director
Caroline Gambala, Office Manager

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from the April 12, 2011 meeting was moved by Vice Chair Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Thibeault, and unanimously approved.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

D. PRESENTATION

Commissioner Davis gave a report on his visit to Commission grantee Gold Coast Caregivers.

E. NEW BUSINESS

Eastlake gave an update on the newest Senior Services programs, including the new Italian class and a free Internet class at Wilson, the Senior Prom coming on June 24 and the upcoming rummage sale on July 9. At SOC a Coupon Clippers Club is starting as is a Zumba exercise class.

Eastlake explained the 20% financial cut of federal funding being experienced by RSVP, and the potential elimination of the program in the federal 2012 budget. She reviewed some of the impacts of the RSVP program within the city. Chair Rowe suggested the Commission approve a letter of support at its next Commission meeting.

Commissioners Thibeault, Kobashigawa and Villareal Yu reported they had met to discuss developing a survey instrument designed to determine the wants and needs of Oxnard seniors. Commissioner Thibeault said there had been a difference in approach and philosophy so the committee was returning to the Commission for more input. He suggested one person should develop the survey. Commissioner Kobashigawa referred to the minutes of April 12, 2011, which stated that Senior Center directors would be asked for input, but Chair Rowe said the intent was to show the directors the survey draft after it had been developed. It was decided that Commissioner Thibeault will develop the survey to present to the Commission. Eastlake will call Burbank to get feedback on their recent experience with implementing a citywide senior survey.

Commissioners discussed the report they want to make to the City Council. As part of that discussion, they reviewed goals brought to them earlier in the year by Commissioner Thibeault. These goals are as follows:

1. A new state-of-the-art senior center;
2. Elevating Senior Services to department level;
3. Conducting a citywide survey to determine senior needs and wants;
4. An upgrade of the Wilson Senior Center sound system;
5. Upgrading the Wilson Senior Center kitchen;
6. Converting the Wilson Senior Center library into a media room;
7. Buying a van to conduct short excursions;
8. Buying computers for all three senior centers;
9. Hiring a Senior Services Supervisor;
10. Installing a four-way stop at Palm and C Street for safety reasons;
11. Converting the horseshoe pits and shuffleboard behind the Wilson Senior Center into garden plots; and
12. Buying two new pool tables.

Chair Rowe moved the Commission adopt the list of goals and Commissioner Davis seconded. Motion was passed.

F. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioners reported no change in status or progress made on goals discussed with City Management since the last meeting.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION BUSINESS

Chair Rowe reported the AAA Advisory Council was dark in April.

H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Kobashigawa requested a future presentation regarding emergency preparedness at the senior centers, with an emphasis on safety and fire drills.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Thibeault, second by Commissioner Kobashigawa to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.