

SENIOR SERVICES COMMISSION
Minutes
Regular Meeting
May 13, 2014

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

A. ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: K. Brainard, A. Esparza, R. Fischer, N. Kobashigawa, A. Madrid, N. Rowe, A. Sweetland, D. Thibeault, L. Villareal Yu

Commissioners absent: None

Staff Present: G. Barnes, Interim Recreation Supervisor
A. Gonzales, Administrative Assistant
R. Tilford, Assistant City Attorney
M. Vasquez, Administrative Technician
D. Zuniga, Program Coordinator

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Thibeault moved approval of April 8, 2014 minutes. Commissioner Fischer seconded. AYES: Brainard, Esparza, Fischer, Kobashigawa, Madrid, Rowe, Sweetland, Thibeault and Yu. NOS: none. ABSENT: none. ABSTAIN: none.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

D. CEREMONIAL CALENDAR

Claudia Valencia, Colonia Senior Center director, introduced and recognized Rachel Santiago for her years of assistance at the Colonia Senior Center. Rachel's work through Project Ayuda has ended, but she plans to continue at the Center as an RSVP volunteer. Commissioner Madrid shared comments, after which Valencia and Commissioner Sweetland presented Rachel with flowers. Valencia also recognized Yolanda Hernandez (not present) for her service at Colonia.

Chair Rowe and Commissioner Esparza left the meeting at 9:13 am.

E. PRESENTATION

Commissioner Thibeault gave a presentation on the Ombudsmen Program. He explained that "Ombudsman" would be an inappropriate title for a Senior Advocate role he is interested in creating because of the responsibilities that are implied from that term.

Commissioner Sweetland spoke about her recent visit to the St. John's Regional Medical Center's Senior Wellness Program. She shared information on the center's programs, as well as information on how City contributions to the center are used.

F. OLD BUSINESS

Greg Barnes reviewed the current status of the CDBG grant application. He stated that the topic is expected to be at City Council at a later meeting, and that an allotment for Senior Services had been suggested. He added that staff are currently considering how best to utilize the proposed funds.

Commissioner Madrid asked about the joint meeting between the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission and the Homelessness Commission. Barnes stated that Senior Services did not have any information to provide, but that the Senior Services Commission will be notified as soon as a meeting date is determined.

G. NEW BUSINESS

Barnes spoke about the status of the Wilson Park restroom. He explained the Parks and Facilities Division had applied for a grant to fund park enhancements, which include the relocation of the restroom. Barnes added he had communicated additional park improvement suggestions to Michael Henderson, Maintenance Services Manager, and expects to have a response in June.

Commissioner Madrid asked about the status of the Senior Dance proposal. Barnes provided clarification and asked the Commission for further input. Commissioner Sweetland proposed the topic be agendaized at the next Commission meeting for greater discussion.

Barnes gave an update on the Colonia Senior Center's relocation to the Palm Vista Public Housing Facility at 801 South "C" Street. He stated Colonia is scheduled to close on May 29, 2014 and recommended the Commission host a meeting at the new center once it is open. Commissioner Sweetland shared concerns from the Senior Wellness Program regarding staying in contact with relocated seniors.

Diego Zuniga informed the Commission about upcoming Senior Legends Games and new developments in the MyStory program. Lastly, he spoke about the upcoming senior camping excursion. Barnes provided additional details.

H. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION BUSINESS

Barnes gave an update on the Wilson Center Rose Garden, which included information about current programming at the site and possible ways to better utilize the facility.

No report was provided on the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging subcommittee.

Commissioner Brainard provided an update from the by-laws committee, stating the committee recommends against including Special Populations as part of this Commission.

I. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commissioner Madrid expressed interest in the Commission's inclusion in the Oxnard Holiday Parade.

Commissioner Thibeault suggested a Senior Center Subcommittee be formalized during the next Commission meeting. He also asked that he be included as part of that committee, since he will not be present during that meeting.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Thibeault and seconded by Commissioner Sweetland. AYES: Brainard, Fischer, Kobashigawa, Madrid, Sweetland, Thibeault and Yu. NOS: none. ABSENT: Esparza, Rowe. ABSTAIN: none.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.