

**CITY OF WIXOM
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION MEETING
COMMUNITY CENTER
49015 PONTIAC TRAIL
TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018**

Approved 9-11-2018

Chairman Korleski called this meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission to order at 10:00 a.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

COMMISSION: Jean Korleski (Chairman), Anna Contreras, Shirley Pfeffer, Connie Salvati, Joan Roberts and Larry Grant

ABSENT: Connie Salvati (Excused)

STAFF: Susan Stevens (Senior Coordinator), Steve Brown (City Manager) and Sheryl Lucas (Administrative Assistant to City Manager)

PUBLIC: None

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

A quorum of the Senior Citizen Commission was present for this meeting.

CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None.

APPROVAL OF MAY 8, 2018 SENIOR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MOTION and seconded by Commissioners Contreras and Roberts to approve the May 8, 2018 Senior Commission Meeting Minutes.

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments made by the public.

TABLED MOTIONS:

There were no tabled motions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Chairman Korleski asked about the status of the racks which previously held the literature for the senior trips which was located in the Senior lounge but which disappeared during the recent renovations. She also inquired about the whereabouts of the racks which were utilized for the lending library. Ms. Stevens noted that she has ordered another rack. However, there will not be a rack to replace the one for the books. The rack is gone and they will not be replacing it. She will see if she can find a cabinet to house the books. Chairman Korleski noted that the books should be at eye level in order to accommodate seniors with disabilities and for whom crouching would be challenging. Ms. Stevens said that she heard that the books got out of hand and that they should be minimized. Chairman Korleski noted that there should be a set number of books. Ms. Smith suggested restricting it to 20-25 books and then transitioning out the older books by donating them to the library. Commissioner Grant said that 20-25 books is pretty minimal. Chairman Korleski agreed and suggested having at least 30. Ms. Stevens said that she will discuss this with Ms. Magee and Andrea. She noted that the goal following the lounge's remodeling is to maintain a cleaner look. Chairman Korleski suggested having a list of the books. Ms. Stevens said that there should be a checkout list and they should be culled on a monthly basis.

Chairman Korleski asked about the rack for the senior trip literature. Ms. Stevens said that she will organize it. Chairman Korleski noted that the binder style of organizing is not great. Ms. Stevens said that she will delve into the binders, make an assessment and let them know.

Commissioner Pfeffer asked what happened to the navy bulletin board which was off to the side. Ms. Lucas indicated that it was taken down during the remodeling and there are no plans to replace it. They want to make it look cleaner. Commissioner Pfeffer noted that it contained information such as by-laws, events, the behavior policy, information on upcoming events and pictures of recent events. Ms. Stevens noted that the racks will be for events. She will find a spot for the by-laws. Commissioner Pfeffer noted that she would like to have the senior lounge look welcoming. Chairman Korleski agreed and said that it looks too sterile. New members have communicated this to her. Commissioner Pfeffer noted that the bulletin board showed pictures of different events and parties. Chairman Korleski noted that the one that was there previously was tasteful. Ms. Stevens asked where it was located. City Manager Brown asked what the seniors use the TV for and whether they could not use it for screening slides and

pictures. Ms. Stevens said that way it could be displayed electronically. She has previously used a running ticker or a PowerPoint. She can do that with Google Chrome. She would like to have that on the TV.

Commissioner Pfeffer noted that there used to be a small Ronald McDonald house which holds donated pop-tops which earned credits for things like dialysis. Commissioner Contreras noted that it was placed across the street in the City offices. Commissioner Pfeffer noted that the other one went to Richardson.

Commissioner Pfeffer noted that there used to be a plaque that said 'Senior Lounge' in front of the hallway. It is now gone. Commissioner Contreras noted that some seniors cannot locate the senior center. Commissioner Pfeffer noted that the senior memorial plaque was in the lounge. Chairman Korleski was told that she would be given the most current names to be added to the plaque. Her neighbor does the engraving for free. Commissioner Pfeffer noted that it used to be in the cupboard.

Chairman Korleski noted that the Commissioners decided to donate the monies from the upcoming auction to hospice. She researched neighboring hospices. The closest ones geographically are located in Commerce, Livonia, West Bloomfield, Farmington Hills, Novi and Ann Arbor. Do the Commissioners have a preference for one of those? Commissioner Grant suggested Commerce or Novi. He also requested that Chairman Korleski confirm that each of those have an in-house hospice. City Manager Brown asked when the auction is. Chairman Korleski said that it is scheduled for July 26th. It is a potluck and will be a Chinese auction. The Commissioners will sell the tickets. She advised Ms. Stevens that she will need a couple long tables. She advised Ms. Stevens to be on the lookout for any gift cards donated for the auction sent by local businesses to Chairman Korleski's attention. Chairman Korleski noted that she has already secured two tickets to Lena's, five cards for 4 free oil changes each from Tuffy's, a \$10 gift card from Wixom Station and gift certificates from Futuristic Car Wash. She has not heard back from Alex's, Volare, Dave & Amy's or Woody's. Commissioner Roberts noted that she changed her mind about approaching The Drafting Table for a donation since she feels like they are already donating quite a bit. Chairman Korleski suggested perhaps The Drafting Table could do something small like \$10. She will approach them during an upcoming business meeting she has there. Commissioner Grant noted that he has not approached the businesses he was assigned yet but will start on that soon. Ms. Stevens asked how many attendees

are expected at the auction. Commissioner Roberts said that it should be pretty well attended, probably 45 people but less than 60. Ms. Lucas confirmed with Ms. Stevens that she has a signup sheet for this event.

Chairman Korleski showed the Commissioners an article she clipped out about senior bullying. She noted that there are classes which can be offered for free. Ms. Stevens said that she is aware of those classes. They have had some success but while it has decreased the amount of animosity in some cases, it has increased it in others. It is not always successful. Chairman Korleski said that the topic of bullying has been brought to her attention by others. Commissioner Grant asked whether there has been any bullying. Chairman Korleski said there has been some. Ms. Stevens asked for examples. Commissioner Contreras mentioned that one of the seniors lashed out at other seniors for sitting at her table. Chairman Korleski noted that there is a senior who is displaying odd behaviors; i.e., taking their teeth out and putting them on the table. Commissioner Grant noted that this individual is very opinionated and strong-willed. Ms. Stevens reiterated that she has sat in on these classes directed at everyone from pre-schoolers through seniors. She is not a proponent since those that need to hear the message most are not receptive. In her prior position at the community house, she found that not addressing the bullying directly but addressing other issues which drive the bullying improves the situation more. She prefers to stress kindness and respect. It is not about ownership. She would rather highlight the positive rather than the negative. Chairman Korleski agreed that is a more positive approach and she would love to see it implemented here. Ms. Stevens noted that you can host speakers on that issue and model those behaviors. They can also teach about sharing space and how to do that. She will look into that.

Ms. Stevens noted that her observation is that there are two distinct groups: 1) seniors and 2) active adults. The latter does not come in on a daily basis. The active adults need more trips. She saw a nice variety of trips which were previously offered so she knows there is demand. The seniors are coming in for exercise classes. Those people would like to go on trips. She is putting together some programming ideas that she will bring back to the Senior Commissioners. She noted their trips are seasonally themed and that winter programming looks different. She would like to add theatre, wine tasting and architectural tours that would still be possible for seniors with canes. Chairman Korleski would prefer the term 'active adults' rather than 'senior center'. Ms. Stevens agreed and noted

that there is a very large active adult community. She would like to see the class attendances go up. She mentioned a watercolor teacher she would like to utilize. Ms. Stevens loves the arts. She noted there is a place in Milford called the AR Workshop which would be a small trip. Ms. Lucas noted there is one in Wixom called Painting With a Twist.

Commissioner Pfeiffer noted that Senior Citizen's Day is on August 21st. In the past, they have gone out to Kensington, played putt-putt and had lunch afterwards. It is on Tuesday so it would not interfere with any other currently scheduled events. Do the Commissioners have any idea what they would like to do this year? Ms. Stevens noted that Kensington is no longer doing the boat for seniors and are in the process of changing that program. Next year they will be doing a different kind of program. However, this year they can go to the park and pay the senior fee. She can arrange for box lunches if they wish. They can create their own senior trip and arrange for a group rate. Ms. Stevens asked whether the seniors have previously programmed Senior Citizen's Day activities. Chairman Korleski said that the Senior Coordinator has always done that. Ms. Stevens has been asking seniors for feedback on places they like to visit. She asked whether the seniors want to have a lunch on Senior Citizen's Day. Chairman Korleski said that it usually includes a lunch. City Manager Brown asked whether the seniors have ever done anything with the Historical Society. He noted that they do presentations on the City's history. Chairman Korleski that that might be a good winter event. Commissioner Grant noted that one of the seniors is a member of the Historical Society.

Commissioner Pfeiffer suggested putting out fliers on the tables in the senior center to remind seniors of the upcoming auction. Ms. Stevens said it will be advertised on the TV. Commissioner Pfeiffer asked how soon that will be done. Ms. Stevens said that she will inquire.

Commissioner Pfeiffer noted that last year there was a poster board where travel tickets went into a slot by the bulletin board instead of an envelope. They also had tickets for sale on the day of the event. Chairman Korleski said that she is worried about the advance work. Ms. Stevens noted that she has done silent auctions for 15 years and they did signup on the day of the auction for the sake of fairness. She will send out an advance list of the prize donors' names.

Commissioner Grant noted that Ron Moore said that he was going to donate a ride along with the police. Ms. Stevens said that she would follow up with Mr. Moore.

Chairman Korleski asked Ms. Stevens whether she secured tickets for the State Fair. Ms. Stevens said that she has not yet done that but noted that Ms. McMahan reserved 20 tickets but she will likely double that amount.

Commissioner Pfeffer confirmed with Ms. Stevens that the dry erase board will be replaced with the TV. She asked whether the TV can display events of the week. Ms. Stevens can customize however the seniors like. Commissioner Pfeffer asked about the bulletin board. Ms. Stevens said that she will check with Ms. Magee.

Commissioner Pfeffer noted that euchre will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursdays. Ms. Stevens asked whether the City provides lunch. She will use the euchre money for a vegetable tray. Commissioner Grant stated that he is not interested in doing pinochle for July and August; however, he will resume facilitating it in September with euchre. Even months it is pinochle and odd months it is euchre.

Commissioner Pfeffer noted that Ms. Magee had discussed revising the behavior policy. She had a run in with a senior which was witnessed by Ms. Magee who calmed her down. Ms. Stevens said that she reviewed the behavior policy and has discussed it with City Manager Brown. They are in the process of revising it. The new policy will be publicly posted and it will be included in the senior newsletter. Commissioner Roberts asked how it is possible to apply a behavior policy to seniors who are not mentally stable. Commissioner Pfeffer agreed and noted that she heard of a senior being dropped off last week who knew who dropped them off but not when they would be picked up. Commissioner Grant took this individual home. Ms. Stevens said that she is aware of this situation and that individual will have family contact numbers in their purse going forward. She has also spoken to that person's adult children. She is in the process of updating the emergency contact information for all of the seniors as well as their medical information including their use of medications and any relevant health changes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Senior Coordinator Report – Receive and File

Chairman Korleski noted that the membership went up by 101 people because dues were due. Ms. Stevens noted that she received 25 new members over the last couple days. Chairman Korleski noted that the total membership should be about 400. She suggested offering more trips and events in order to attract more members.

2. Senior Coordinator Introduction/Programming Review 2018/19

Chairman Korleski welcomed Ms. Stevens. City Manager Brown said the City is pleased to have her with them. Commissioner Roberts said that she loves Ms. Stevens' ideas. Chairman Korleski reiterated that she would like to see the Senior Center renamed the Active Adult Center. Ms. Stevens said that she likes that idea. Commissioner Roberts thinks that the term 'senior center' turns people off. Commissioner Grant noted that the senior center is open to people 50 and older.

INFORMATION:

1. Senior Activity Fund Statement

Chairman Korleski noted that they do not have the Senior Activity Fund Statement but that they will receive it later.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Chairman Korleski noted that the next Senior Commission meeting will be September 11, 2018.

STAFF COMMENTS:

City Manager Steve Brown mentioned that the City likes to communicate with its residents via email. He encouraged the seniors to sign up for that. Commissioner Grant noted that he signed up a while ago but is no longer receiving emails. City Manager Brown noted that the City is asking residents to report power outages to the City so that those reportages can be coordinated. DTE is experiencing issues and the City is attempting to map those incidences including which

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residents were affected, the dates of outages and any appliance damage/loss. Ms. Lucas noted that some residents have experienced this 28 times one year's time.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Fisher

Recording Secretary