

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
Virtual Meeting
February 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Hayes; Trustees Baldino, Canty, LaBedz, Padovani, Rosenberg, Scaletta, Schwingbeck and Tinaglia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus, Health and Human Services Director James McCalister and Senior Center Manager Tracy Colagrossi

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Motto, Fred Feldman, Keith Moens, Melissa Cayer

Mayor Hayes called the meeting to order and explained that due to COVID 19 restrictions and guidelines, the meeting is being held virtually.

A. Update on Senior Citizens Age Friendly Initiative

Mayor Hayes thanked the members of the Sr Citizen's Commission for all of their great work. Village Manager Recklaus introduced the initiative. The Sr. Citizens Commission formed a subcommittee to do an overview and assessment of the community using AARP's age friendly community process.

Mr. Feldman, Chairman of the Senior Citizens Commission reviewed the process, survey and methods for obtaining the ten priorities related to the eight domains of livability. Within the top 3 priorities, the commission is recommending that communication and information be pursued further and an action plan established.

Dr. Motto, sub commission Chairman, reviewed the AARP Age Friendly livable community designation update, survey and the 8 domains. Dr. Motto stated that the designation is organized through the World Health Organization and AARP. There are only 9 communities in Illinois with the designation. Dr. Motto stressed it is an ongoing process. Dr. Motto stated that the general tone of the survey is that the respondents were satisfied with their community. Dr. Motto stated that the Senior Citizens Commission is recommending the creation of an action plan to establish a Village operated central source of information such as a 311 call or information center and/or a dedicated website to address the community need with regard to services and facilities available for senior citizens.

James McCalister, Director of the Health and Human Services Department thanked Tracy Colagrossi, Manager of the Senior Center and her team as well as Dr. Motto and Mr. Feldman.

Tracy Colagrossi, announced that the Senior Center has received National Accreditation from the National Institute of Senior Centers. Only a total of 4 Senior Centers in the state and

about 200 Nationwide have received the accreditation status. It is a two-phase process and is in affect for 5 years. Tracey Colagrossi said that the peer review highlighted the need for a separate website for the Senior Center.

Mayor Hayes and Trustees thanked Tracey Colagrossi and staff, Dr. Motto, Fred Feldman and the entire Senior Citizen Commission for their efforts. Discussion ensued regarding Affordable Housing as related to Senior Citizens and aging in place.

The Mayor recognized questions and comments from the audience. Keith Moens stated he supports the efforts of the Senior Citizen Commission and would ask the Board to consider amending the inclusionary housing ordinance to re-include senior independent living units only for the housing requirements. Melissa Cayer stated that access to food was not mentioned at all during the presentation. Dr. Motto stated it is considered a part of the livability. Melissa Cayer said that she thinks it is a reason to appeal the food and beverage 1.25% tax to make it easier for senior citizens to afford food.

Trustee Scaletta stated the affordable housing in place is not specific to senior citizens, it is for all. There is not a program just for seniors. If there was a senior specific program, 95% of the seniors would pay for the other 5%.

B. OTHER BUSINESS – There was no further business.

C. ADJOURNMENT – Trustee Tinaglia moved, and Trustee Baldino seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.