

Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens Commission
Commissions Room-33 S Arlington Heights Road, A.H. 60005
November 18, 2024
7 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Viecelli called the meeting to order at 7 PM. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Sue Viecelli, Chair
Sharon Adams
Tim Carter
Corinne Drew
Fred Feldman
George Motto
Steve Raminiak
Fred Vogt
Ellyn Zimmerman

Also Present:

Tracey Colagrossi, Liaison

Not Present:

Gary Wood

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 21, 2024

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO MOVE THE MINUTES. COMMISSIONER VOGT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ADAMS. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2024, WERE APPROVED.

IV. REPORTS

A. Chairperson

Chairperson Viecelli provided the packet of information that was given to the chairpersons of each commission at a meeting conducted by the Village Manager and Lawyer.

The commissioners discussed the differences of regulatory, working and advisory commissions within the organizational chart in relation to communication with the Village Board. The Senior Citizens Commission is an advisory board.

The purpose of this meeting was to get all of the commissions onto the same page and to provide new commissioners with an orientation to the village. Chairperson Viecelli noted that there will be an upcoming session training for liaisons.

The commission discussed the difference between advisory and advocacy. The Senior Citizens Commission is an advisory group and can conduct listening sessions under the Age-Friendly initiative. Commissioner Motto stated that he is scheduled to have a meeting with the Village Manager as a private citizen and advocate for affordable housing.

The commissioners discussed the documents presented by Chairperson Viecegli created more confusion and lacked clarity. They requested more information on when additional meetings would be discussed, when would a standardized work plan be discussed, and how can these questions be communicated. The commissioners directed the liaison to ask the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services.

B. Liaison

Liaison Colagrossi reported that the administration has approved the launch of a Facebook page for the Senior Center effective January 1, 2025. Manager Colagrossi wrote a proposal featuring different three different scenarios for the Communications Subcommittee to review and recommend. Senior Center staff, Manager Colagrossi and Coordinator Adelpia will be in charge of the Facebook content.

Northern Illinois University Center for Governmental Studies has completed the report and has scheduled an action planning session later in the week. The report and action plan will be made available to the commission for review once approved. Included within the long-range goals is the remodeling of the Senior Center.

The Health and Human Services Department presented its part of the 2025 budget which also included the remodeling of the Senior Center as part of the long-range planning. As a reminder, the Commission will be included as advisory on the project. The retirement of bonds will be available in 2030 and aligns within this time frame.

C. Non-for-Profit Corporation

The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Foundation is partnering with the agencies in 2025 is a Senior Center Showcase or Roadshow encompassing four locations in the Village featuring programming, music, food, and the like to show aging in Arlington Heights and the gem of the center. Locations will be Lake Arlington, the Moorings, the History Museum, and the Bowling Alley. Their next meeting is scheduled for December 11.

D. Senior Center Advisory Council

The Advisory Council held their first ever Halloween party with rave reviews. A lot of people danced and enjoyed the various party games coordinated by staff. Upcoming is the New Years Eve on New Years Eve. George Holmes will entertain the crowd along with snacks and a countdown to the new year.

Commissioner Motto commented that he attended the Halloween event and plans on attending the New Years Eve party. He added that he has been attending the

Advisory Council meetings and finds the patrons very engaging and thoughtful about the Age-Friendly topics that are discussed at the commission meetings.

E. Legislation

Commissioner Feldman reported that November 19 began the second of the two-day veto sessions. None of the legislation that he has been monitoring has moved out. Therefore, any legislation will need to be refiled in the spring with a new session of the General assembly. Commissioner Feldman has been connected with a list of legislation through Senator Mark Walker's office. He will connect with the office again to obtain another comprehensive list for the whole session and report back in December.

The Commissioners inquired if any drivers license legislation was being approved. Commissioner Feldman advised that they enacted the 8-year drivers license, however, the Secretary of State needs to develop rules and regulations for the creation and implementation by January 1, 2027. So, the standing rules apply if you are between ages 81 and 86, needs to renew every 2 years and after 87, needs to renew annually.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

Commissioner Motto reported on the lates in the Village's Age-Friendly cycle. Liaison Colagrossi checked with AARP official William Ambruster, and advised we are on target for our progress report due in September 2025. The commission will need to revisit topics on listening sessions with the public.

1. Transportation/Affordable Housing Report

Commissioner Raminiak reported on the subcommittee meeting held this month was a discussion to hold a listening session to discuss livability, affordability for older adults in Arlington Heights that may include applications for subsidies.

The Housing Commission continues to work on recommendations for the trust from the housing ordinance.

Commissioner Feldman reported that the memo that was sent to the Village Manager regarding the request to write elected officials about the gaps in service for older adults and disabled individuals in Arlington Heights. Commissioner Feldman will draft a template letter with bullet points for individuals to follow and send.

Commissioner Feldman added that he attended the virtual Pace Board of Trustees meeting. He noted that their consultant reported on the strategic plan "Revision", which is a comprehensive study to revamp the entire structure of Pace. Most notably, there is no plans to revamp ADA paratransit service.

2. Communications

Chairperson Viecegli reported the subcommittee met before the regular meeting. The subcommittee reviewed the three proposals for the launch of the Senior Center Facebook page and provided a recommendation. Liaison Colagrossi will submit the proposal to the administration this week.

G. Kenneth Hood Award

Nothing to report.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Viecegli remarked that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 16 at 7 pm.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJORN.
COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED
BY COMMISSIONER RAMINIAK. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:15 PM.**