



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens' Commission
Commissions Room
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd., 60005
November 20, 2023
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. October 16, 2023 Minutes

IV. REPORTS

- A. Senior Impact Reports
 - A. Chairperson
 - B. Senior Center Manager
 - C. Not for Profit Corporation
 - D. Senior Center Advisory Council
 - E. Legislation
 - F. Age-Friendly Community Certification
 - I. Transportation Report
 - II. Communication Report
 - III. Affordable Housing Report
 - G. Kenneth Hood Senior Service Award

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Announcements/Correspondence

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, emercado@vah.com or (847)368-5793.



**Senior Citizens' Commission
11/20/2023**

Item: Minutes

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

October 16, 2023 Minutes

Type

Minutes

**Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizen's Commission
Commission Room
33 S Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights
Monday, October 16, 2023
7:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Viecegli called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Sue Viecegli, Chairperson

Fred Feldman

Tim Carter

Sharon Adams

Fred Vogt

George Motto

Tem Williams

Steven Raminiak

Also Present:

Tracey Colagrossi,

Liaison

Not Present:

Roberta White

Chairperson Viecegli introduced each commissioner as Mr. Steven Raminiak joined the Senior Citizen's Commission and his first meeting. Commissioner Raminiak introduced himself as an attorney with a primary practice area in Adult Disabled Guardianship. He has been an attorney for the past 18 years. Prior to joining the Senior Citizen's commission, Mr. Raminiak was very active volunteer with a group called Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, which he served his term limit. Mr. Raminiak was looking for other ways to volunteer and found the Commission.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from Monday, September 18, 2023

**CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI PROPOSED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE
MINUTES AS PRESENTED AND CORRECTED. COMMISSIONER**

FELDMAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE, AND COMMISSIONER VOGT SECONDED. ALL APPROVED THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 18, 2023.

IV. REPORTS

Senior Impact Reports

A. Chairperson

Chairperson Viecelli had nothing to report.

B. Senior Center Manager

Liaison Colagrossi reported that Monday, October 16 marks the first day of the AARP Livability Survey intake. There is a table in the Senior Center lobby marked for the Senior Citizens Commission with a laptop and paper copies of the AARP Survey. That is happening at the Senior Center.

The 8 agencies met today as they do every other month to share ideas and report activities in their area of service. The Agencies would like to do a large open house every quarter in 2024. Another item of note is the Village is in very early discussions with Gerry's Café to host a satellite site for their coffee service inside the Senior Center's Café area. Gerry's Café is a small café located in Arlington Heights that employs adults with disabilities to make fresh sandwiches, coffee, smoothies, salads and baked goods. These discussions are in the preliminary stages, which Liaison Colagrossi will keep the Commission informed of any progress.

The commission agreed that it would be a nice asset for people to gather in addition to the Catholic Charities single choice menu.

The Senior Center is hosting an art show featuring art work from the students' taking classes at the center through the Park District. The show takes place on October 18 and runs through November 1. The show is in addition to the work displayed by the Arlington Heights Arts Guild, who has designated space in some hallways, dining rooms and program room 1 of the Senior Center.

The November, December newsletters have been mailed to subscribers and will be available to all tomorrow. Newsletter subscribers can get registered for programs now. All registration or open registration for everyone will start next Tuesday.

The Commission advised to consider advertising for any upcoming open houses on the front cover of the bi-monthly newsletter. Liaison Colagrossi agreed, stating any major event is posted on the front such as last issue highlighted the AARP Livability Community Survey. The current issue informs folks about the importance of having a key tag when they check into the Senior Center. Liaison Colagrossi stated it was for safety, grant writing, and the ability for staff to make good decisions on programs when there are accurate numbers of participants using or not using rooms and programs.

Commissioner Williams asked if the key tag was used twice, and it was clarified that people only use it for checking into a program or a number of programs they are planning on visiting that day. This way staff knows that the individual was in the building and can contact them if there were additional questions.

C. Not for Profit Corporation

The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Board met on October 11. The group is planning a casino night fundraiser to take place on or around April 6, 2024. The casino night would be like a fun event, not like playing for big gambling dollars. They are still looking for a venue and potential event vendor. Liaison Colagrossi will keep the Commission informed as details are confirmed.

The other fundraisers that “Inc” plans are the Live Well Age Well Expo in June and a pickleball tournament in September. Inc wants to diversify the way that they're fundraising to get different dollars in. The commissioners noted that Clearbrook used to have a Casino Night fundraiser in the past and people may be missing that event.

D. Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council is planning their Thanksgiving event featuring the Buffalo Grove Encore Singers will be performing on the 16th of November from 2 to 3:15. The event also accepts food pantry items for Wheeling Township. The following event is the New Year's Eve party with George Holmes and Diva on December 28, from 1:30 to 3 PM.

The Council has had a great year and looking to plan events in 2024. The Hersey High School will bring the Love Bus on Valentine's Day where students perform a variety of skits, cheers, dances and songs.

Chairperson Viecelli asked how many people the Senior Center has on a daily basis. Liaison Colagrossi remarked it is between 400 per day. Statistical numbers can be made available next month.

E. Legislation

Commissioner Feldman reported that the General Assembly was not in session and that the Veto Session takes place on October 24, 25, 26, November 7, 8 and 9. He added there were no items of note that were of relevance to older adults.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

1. Transportation Report

The Commissioners reviewed the August 30, 2023 Transportation Meeting Minutes and made corrections. Commissioner Feldman advised that there were some very minor corrections and will review with Liaison Colagrossi.

Commissioner Feldman reported that Wheeling Township responded to the inquiry for transportation two weeks ago, as they were unable to make the Transportation Meeting on August 30. Commissioner Feldman expressed that the response was comprehensive, but didn't allow for any future thought of collaboration or out of the box thinking to expand or address resident's concerns about services. He added that during the course of the roundtable we heard that there are townships in other counties, in Lake County and McHenry County, who were actually cooperating to give expansive service to seniors and persons with disabilities, rather than just saying like it or lump it. Commissioner Feldman added in accordance with the recommendations coming out of the transportation roundtable, that he would try and sit in on some Wheeling Township board meetings to see what's going on.

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, CMAP, along with PACE, mostly RTA, put together a large report with METRA, that made recommendations to have less borders and more communicative between agencies so there is more access for folks. The transportation agencies will have public hearings soon towards the end of this year and will make us aware to participate.

The commission discussed how to follow-up on the recommendations presented in the summary:

- Commissioners (from Senior Citizen's Commission and the Commission for Citizen's with Disabilities) to attend Pace, Metra, RTA, and township meetings to learn about new programs for affordable and accessible transportation options.
- Communicate with state and federal elected officials to advocate for transportation funding.
- Advocate for transportation service that crosses township borders, expansive hours that includes nights and weekends, is accessible and affordable for all.

The commissioners agreed that it was too important of a topic just to make recommendations without an action plan. The Commission advised Liaison Colagrossi to connect the Liaisons for the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities to coordinate a meeting for action plan.

2. Communications Sub Committee

The AARP Livability Survey is launched as of today. The last status update from AARP a month ago was 8 people have completed the survey. An ad was placed along with an article in the Journal and Topics about the survey. The Village posted a social media article about the survey with the link. An article was posted in the Daily Herald, but hasn't been picked up yet. The Senior Center has a dedicated table with the surveys for folks to complete. The commission is seeking volunteers to assist with recruiting people for the survey.

Liaison Colagrossi reported on the inquiry from Commissioner Adams and the Village's cable television station, that she connected with Avis Meade who was going to get more information about the station. Ms. Meade advised that the content is managed by an outside source. More details will be made available soon.

Commissioner Williams asked if it was possible to have an article about the Senior Center or Age Friendly in the Township Newsletter as it goes to all residents. Liaison Colagrossi said she will look into it

3. Affordable Housing Report

Commissioner Vogt attended the October Housing Commission meeting. There were two items on the agenda that the Housing Commission spent a lot of time on. One is the 115 to 125 West Eastman, which is between Vail and Highland. Originally it was proposed for 150 units. The Homeowners Association in that area with the Historic Arlington Association met with the attorney and the developer on that and they are now down from 150 to 116 units. They spent a lot of time on discussing why they can only provide, why the developers only providing seven affordable units when 10.3 is required. The developer is agreeable to paying the fee by accordance in lieu of providing 10.3. Resident Keith Moens asked about that and tried to get information, the developer would not release his pro forma information and get into why that worked that way, but that's the way our numbers work out, that's what the Village is agreeing to so the Housing Commission recommended approval of that.

Commissioner Vogt asked the commission if it would be fruitful to take a position and or get into a dialogue with the Housing Commission to increase housing density in order to achieve affordable housing, in other words, that are required rather than just allowing a commission or homeowners groups to negotiate down densities and therefore there's fewer affordable units.

Another project discussed was Grace Terrace at 1519 or South Arlington Heights Road. It's an IDHA project, 25 units, people with disabilities and veterans get preference. It's a hundred percent affordable for the first 30 years for those groups. A company called Full Circle Communities is a not-for-profit. They also said they can't provide local preferences to village residents due to public funding that does not allow for it. It's an exception to village ordinances and guidelines to provide the veteran and people with disabilities. The project was approved.

Nora Boyer, Housing Commission Liaison, mentioned that International Plaza may have some movement coming forward in the next couple of months.

Commissioner Motto expressed that the Village should consider a comprehensive housing plan as the current way things are done doesn't seem to be working.

G. Kenneth Hood Award

Commissioner Vogt said that the Kenneth Hood Award was just awarded in September. The Sub Committee will reconvene in February.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- a. No old business was discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. No new business was discussed.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Commissioner Vogt inquired if we would have a quorum for next month, as the meeting is in the same week as Thanksgiving. Commissioner Williams will be out of town, and the rest of the commission plans on attending the meeting on Monday, November 21, 2023.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There were no members of the public in attendance.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO AJOURN. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER ADAMS AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CARTER. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 8:00 PM.