



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens' Commission
Virtual Meeting

April 19, 2021
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. **In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this Senior Citizens' Commission meeting is being held virtually, which permits the public to fully participate via their computers or using their phones.**

**To participate in the virtual meetings, please follow these instructions: <https://bit.ly/3wr7Vea>
Individuals who wish to comment or ask a question on an item on the Agenda may either participate virtually or send an email to the Village at tcolagrossi@vah.com. Please limit emails to 200 words or less. To be shared at the meeting, the email must be received by 3:00 p.m. on **April 19, 2021**.**

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from March 22, 2021

IV. REPORTS

- A. Senior Impacts Reports
1. Chairperson
 2. Senior Center Manager
 3. Not for Profit Corporation
 4. Senior Center Advisory Council
 5. Legislation
 6. Age Friendly Community Certification
 7. Kenneth Hood Senior Service Award

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Announcements/Correspondence
- B. Citizens To Be Heard

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services, such as an American Sign Language interpreter or written materials in accessible formats, should contact David Robb, Disability Services Coordinator, at 33 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, (847)368-5793 (Voice), (847)368-5980 (Fax) or drobb@vah.com.



Senior Citizens' Commission
4/19/2021

Item: Minutes from March 22, 2021

Department: Health and Human Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
Minutes from March 22, 2021	Minutes

Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens' Commission
Commissioners Room and Virtual
33 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, 60005
March 22, 2021
7:00 PM

I.CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Feldman called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II.ROLL CALL

Present

Fred Feldman,
Chairman
Nancy Frenk
Susan Viecegli
George Motto, M.D.
Tim Carter
Sharon Adams

Also Present

Tracey Colagrossi,
Commission Liaison
Keith Moens
Melissa Cayer

Absent

George Weber
Maureen Seleski
Dottie Hardy
Tem Williams

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from January 11, 2021

CHAIRPERSON FELDMAN PROPOSED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. COMMISSIONER ADAMS MOTIONED SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOTO, MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 11, 2021 MEETING.

ALL CONCURRED AND THE MOTION CARRIED. Chairperson Feldman summarized that the minutes were approved.

IV.REPORTS

A. Senior Impacts Reports

a. Chairperson

Chairperson Feldman had nothing to report.

b. Senior Center Manager

Tenant Agencies:

The Senior Center hosted their first vaccine clinic on Friday, March 19. The Senior Center staff had been gathering names of older adults who called requesting help in finding a vaccine as they did not have computer access. Village Health Nurse Sternberg acquired 203 vaccines from CCPH. 185 vaccines were given with assistance of the Health and Human Services staff, Police and Fire Departments, and the Arlington Heights Nurses Club. The remainder of the vaccines were designated for home bound residents. April 9 will be the clinic and the second shot. Another clinic is being planned in conjunction with Age Options, Catholic Charities and Hanul Family services for a Saturday in April.

The Senior Center and the tenant agencies are working on an accreditation celebration as well as celebrating Older Americans month. Each agency is planning a day in May where we highlight their services.

We are still operating in the Restore Illinois Phase Four recommendations, with capacity limits for in person programs and virtual programs.

Program Coordinator, Karie Van Grinsven, will be retiring on May 7. Karie has been instrumental to the success of the Senior Center and will be greatly missed.

AARP Tax Aide Program decided to extend their service dates to align with the IRS' new deadline.

The Request for Proposal for the Space Utilization, Modernization and Program Design was awarded to BKV design firm.

c. Not for Profit Corporation

The INC Board is working on an outdoor expo event "Live Well, Age Well Expo" on Wednesday, June 23. A rain date of Thursday, June 24 is planned. The Commission would like to have a booth to promote the Age Friendly Initiative in Arlington Heights.

d. Senior Center Advisory Council

The Advisory Council met in March and will be planning an outdoor concert day on Wednesday, May 26. The concert will be an ongoing or rolling event so we will be able to accommodate patrons in an outdoor setting.

Longtime council member, Pat Carberry tendered her resignation. We are grateful for all that Pat has contributed in her time on the council.

e. Legislation

Chairperson Feldman reported he is presently following 51 bills in the General Assembly that relate to issues affecting older adults. 19 of which have bearing to the senior citizens or residents of Arlington Heights. Eight of the bills are relating to the Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze or Homestead Exemption. Under the current law; you must be over the age of 65 and make no more than \$65,000 total household income. The bills are all seeking to change the qualifying income to increase to \$75,000 or \$85,000. Three bills dictating mandatory dementia training for physicians, police, fire and protective services employees. Two bills seeking six million dollars to the Illinois Department on Aging for the Family Caregiver Act. Finally there are thirteen shell bills as placeholders for use at a later date. The session ends in the second or third week in May, so it is active right now. Chairperson Feldman will keep an eye on the bills and alert the Commission if there is anything of significance.

f. Age Friendly Community Certification

Commissioner Motto summarized the events since the Commission last met in January. Commissioner Motto and Chairperson Feldman presented the Age Friendly Initiative and updates to the Board of Trustees in a Committee of the Whole on February 15. Chairperson Feldman, Commissioners Motto and Viecegli met with Liaison Senior Center Manager Colagrossi to propose sub committees to address the three focus areas: Transportation, Housing, and Central Source of Information. Manager Colagrossi will send out a schedule to for the sub groups to create action plans addressing their area of focus. Commissioner Motto express the need for the Senior Citizens' Commission to reach out to the other commissions in the Village work together.

Commissioner Motto summarized that he was asked to draft a letter on behalf of the Commissioners to address the Affordable Housing Ordinance and the concerns of the commission in regard to the elimination of affordable senior housing as it pertains to Senior Living Communities from the ordinance. Commissioner Motto read the letter. Commissioner Frenk requested clarification from the Board's perspective on the ordinance. Commissioner Motto stated the Board voted on the ordinance 5 to 4, and believes that the Board should revisit to amend it.

Chairperson Feldman called upon resident Keith Moens. Mr. Moens urged the Commission to vote to submit the letter to the Board regarding amending the Housing Ordinance.

COMMISSIONER CARTER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AND SEND THE LETTER TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. COMMISSIONER VIECELLI SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION PASSED.

Chairperson Feldman directed Senior Center Manager Colagrossi to send the letter to the Board of Trustees.

g. Kenneth Hood Senior Service Award

Chairperson Feldman reiterated that the Kenneth Hood Senior Service Award is postponed until the meeting restrictions are lifted.

V.OLD BUSINESS

- a. No old business was discussed.

VI.NEW BUSINESS

- a. No new business was discussed.

VII.OTHER BUSINESS

A. Announcements/Correspondence

There was no additional correspondence or announcements.

B. Citizens to Be Heard

Melissa Cayer stated she understood that the Senior Center had a technology pro and suggested to offer workshops to teach people how to pay utility bills online. Melissa was at the Arlington Economic Alliance Meeting which highlighted hospital services. The hospital said that over the past year they had to provide services without the use of volunteers. She added that most of those volunteers are possibly senior citizens and suggested that perhaps these volunteers would be interested in local government meetings. Also school district 25, announced they complimented the food service workers for continuing to serve students with Covid relief funds. Ms. Cayer stated this was a large sum of money, with the labor involved would effect the pensions which would come out of residents pockets. She added that free meal programs are a lot of costs for younger people.

VIII.ADJOURNMENT

AT 8:05 PM, COMMISSIONER ADAMS MADE A MOTION TO ADJORN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FRENK. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MEETING CONCLUDED.

MEMO

To: President and Board of Trustees, Village of Arlington Heights
From: Arlington Heights Senior Citizens' Commission
Re: Village Inclusionary Housing Ordinance exempting Senior Residential Communities from its guidelines
Date: March 23, 2021

At its meeting on January 11, 2021, the Senior Citizens' Commission discussed and adopted the Senior Citizens' Commission Age-Friendly Initiative Sub-Committee's update on its findings and recommendations as a result of the AARP Age-Friendly Community survey which was completed in late 2019. The survey of seniors identified the top three areas of concern which needed focus and actions:

- Affordable Housing
- Affordable Transportation
- Centralized Information and Communication System.
- In the discussion of an action plan to address the area of Senior Affordable Housing it was noted that, although the Village did adopt an Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, Senior Residential Communities were excluded. Review of the VAH Inclusionary Housing Ordinance development process revealed that on initial drafts of the ordinance, senior residential communities had been included (only the Independent Living components) but excluded from the final draft which the Board of Trustees adopted as an ordinance on August 3, 2020.

The Senior Citizens' Commission is dismayed and concerned by the exclusion of Senior Residential Housing from the ordinance as Senior Affordable Housing is now one of its main focuses of action. Seniors in the Village, consisting 19% of its current population, clearly indicated that affordable housing is their top concern for aging within the Village not only for current seniors but those aging into the senior population.

In view of the above, the Senior Citizens' Commission respectfully requests that as a positive step in increasing affordable housing for Seniors that discussion toward amending the Inclusion Housing Ordinance to include Senior Residential Communities specifically independent living units, be undertaken.