



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens' Commission
Commissions Room
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd., 60005
April 17, 2023
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from March 20, 2023

IV. REPORTS

- A. Senior Impacts 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
 - a. 211-Metro Call Center
 - III. Affordable Housing Report
 - G. 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 Erin Mercado, at 33 S. Arlington Heights Road,
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, emercado@vah.com or (847)368-5793.



Senior Citizens' Commission
4/17/2023

Item: Minutes

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
Minutes from March 20, 2023	Minutes

**Meeting Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizen's Commission
Village Hall Commission Room
Monday, March 20, 2023
7:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Viecegli called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. All present rose and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Sue Viecegli, Chairperson
Tim Carter
Fred Feldman
George Motto
Fred Vogt
Tem Williams
Roberta White

Also Present:

Tracey Colagrossi, Staff Liaison

Not Present:

Sharon Adams

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from February 27, 2023

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

COMMISSIONER WHITE MOTIONED TO APPROVE AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOTTO. ALL APPROVED THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2023.

IV. REPORTS

Senior Impact Reports

A. Chairperson
No Report

B. Senior Center Manager
Manager Colagrossi reported that she submitted a grant for the AARP Community Challenge Grants: Capacity Building for a \$2,500 Community Garden. The grant encompasses three raised bed planters in the grass area alongside the sidewalk that leads to the best parking lot. Sharon Swanson and Tracey consulted

with the Village's Forestry Department for size, structure, and other materials that would be helpful for the project. There are three existing movable gardens on the patio. However, they are minimal, and the yield needs to be more significant to donate to the local food pantries, which is the goal of this project. The project has an intergenerational component to have art students from high schools collaborate with patron artists to create murals on the sides of each planter. To address diversity, staff will contact Latinx and Asian social service agencies to consult on what plants to grow and engage the Arlington Heights Garden Club to consult on planting and maintenance of the garden, which a self-directed volunteer team will then run. Commissioner Williams inquired about the purpose of having raised beds. Manager Colagrossi replied that it was to ensure equity in accessing and gardening for everyone wanting to participate in the project. A raised bed is more accessible than a garden plot in the ground. A concern was a limited yield on the produce; however, proper rotation of crops will enable a higher product with consultation from the garden club. The decision from AARP will be made in May 2023. Manager Colagrossi advised that there is a fast turnaround on creating the garden once the funding has been announced.

A Volunteer Fair occurs on Wednesday, April 19, from 3 to 5 pm. All of the partner/tenant agencies will be present, as well as the Commission to advise on open volunteer positions in the Senior Center. Hands-On Suburban Chicago will conduct a Volunteer Exploration session between 3 and 4 pm to help participants discover the right volunteer opportunities for themselves. After the workshop, they can explore various options with the agencies. Commissioners are invited to participate in the event to promote volunteering in Age-Friendly or the Commissioner. Bring Bookmarks and Flyers.

The Senior Olympics is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, with Hersey High School Service Over Self Club and Senior Center Patrons to compete in various skills and have lunch. Additionally, the Senior Center has the Senior Health and Fitness Day scheduled for Wednesday, May 31.

Chairperson Viecegli remarked that Manager Colagrossi should have a report of the number of participants in the center last

year and what we have so far this year. Manager Colagrossi stated she would get the final data for the next meeting.

- C. Non-For-Profit Corporation
Manager Colagrossi reported nothing new, as the Arlington Heights Senior Center, INC. Board met in February. They will meet again in April. The Live Well, Age Well Expo celebrates Independence on Thursday, June 29, from 11 am to 1 pm. Vendors can participate with a paid sponsorship, and the non-profits will be placed in the outer hallways. Volunteers will be needed for the booth, and we will take names later.
- D. Senior Center Advisory Council
Manager Colagrossi reported that the next Advisory Council event is on Thursday, April 6, at 1 pm. It is a Fusion cultural event highlighting Italy and China. Entertainment and food from both countries will be featured. Space is available if there is interest in participating.
- E. Legislation
Commissioner Feldman stated that legislation specific to older adults are few and far between. He has checked on the Illinois General Assembly website and contacted Senator Anne Gillespie's and Representative Mary Beth Canty's offices to see if they tracked legislation affecting older adults. They needed to have lists of their own and contacted Age Options. Age Options has a comprehensive list that is not senior citizen specific but encompasses caregivers, medical insurance, grandparents raising grandchildren, nursing home care, etc. Commissioner Feldman will contact the Legislative Reference Bureau. Manager Colagrossi noted that AARP Illinois might help find legislation and will share the contact information with Commissioner Feldman.

Chairperson Veicelli noted that she received notice that \$38.7 million was to improve housing accessibility and stability for vulnerable Illinoisians. <https://www.illinois.gov/news/press-release.26210.html> Commissioner Feldman pointed out that he will look into how the funds will be distributed in the state. In closing, Commissioner Feldman noted that he found two news articles on how the legislature has been ineffectual this session. The agenda will be set by the end of this month.

Commissioner Williams alerted the Commission about the Civil Liability for Doxing Act, HB 2954. (Provides that an individual engages in the act of doxing when that individual intentionally publishes another person's personally identifiable information without the consent of the person whose information is posted) [https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocTypeID=HB&DocNum=2954&GAID=17&SessionID=112&LegID=148100)

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- F. Age-Friendly Community Certification
Age-Friendly Chairperson Commissioner Motto reported that the work is ongoing and being updated within the Action Plan created for the Age-Friendly Report. The plan needs to be updated to include 2023-24 Goals.

- I. Transportation Report
Commissioner Feldman reported that he and Manager Colagrossi attended the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities on March 14 to listen to concerns about service gaps in transportation. The Commission was very interested in suspending the Pace bus route 696. Initial conversations with Pace and the Senior Citizen's Commission regarding the bus status is the lack of drivers. The CCD noted that this had been an issue even before the pandemic, and other lack of offerings for individuals using assisted devices such as wheelchairs make it impossible to get to jobs.

The Commissioner reported that the discussion led to an idea to have a Transportation Summit inviting all transportation providers, local government agencies, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Northwest Municipal agencies, local church leaders, and elected officials held jointly with the Senior Citizen's Commission and the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities. The group is targeting August for the Summit.

- II. Communications Report
Chairperson Veicelli noted that the Communications Sub-Committee met last week and determined what could be updated in the Age-Friendly Action Plan. Manager Colagrossi will have that to the Commission by the next meeting.

The AARP Survey was reviewed from the 2019 distribution and noted that we should change or add. Manager Colagrossi will add the changes to the survey for review by the Commission. Commissioner Vogt pointed out that it would be helpful if it could be site-specific for Arlington Heights. The initial forms of the surveys could stay the same due to the longitudinal scope of the data. AARP to submit a further study and discuss the changes. Commissioner Motto is out of the state and will join the call when scheduled. AARP IT staff needs to discuss the changes.

III. Housing Report

Commissioner Vogt reported on the Housing Commissions meeting held on March 15. The agenda was voted 5/0 to approve an affordable housing project at 4 N Douglas. The project includes six affordable housing units of 64 units in total. Units integrated on floors 2 through 5, and smaller of the one and 2-bed units built simultaneously as the rest of the project. The project's developer and finance person said they were pleased to work with the Village, for the percentage is more agreeable than other municipalities.

Commissioner Vogt added to the report that the project on Crescent Place is progressing under construction—no other news on International Plaza or the project on Northpoint. A group home rehab budget of \$11,000 was discussed (Clearbrook, Glenkirk, Shelter Inc.), and they didn't act on the request from 2022, which will be on their agenda next month.

Commissioner Motto expressed that this is a good step forward, but to address the more significant concerns about the housing crisis as a whole. He asked if the other departments work to a plan or have a goal in mind rather than look at each project as it comes. Chairperson Viecegli remarked that having Senior Citizen's Commission representation at these meetings was imperative.

G. Kenneth Hood Senior Service Award

Commissioner Vogt reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28. At that time, the Committee will review the mailing list and letter before sending it out on April 15. The

nominations are due on June 1 but may be extended to July 1 if there need to be more admissions. The Committee will report to the Commission on a recommendation for the award at their July meeting then a formal announcement will be on July 31, Kenneth Hood's Birthday.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Chairperson Veicelli noted we needed to provide feedback to the Village Manager by April 30 for ideas for the Strategic Plan. Manager Colagrossi pointed out that last month's discussion was to have the Village (including commissions) view policies, programs, and decisions through an Age-Friendly lens.

Chairperson Veicelli stated that a focus on affordable housing exclusively for older adults should be considered in addition to the inclusionary housing ordinance. Commissioner Carter said to expand the supply of affordable.

Commissioner Vogt brought additional ideas for the Commission to consider.

1. Commence the recommended renovations at the Senior Center before 2030. OR ... Evaluate its relocation to a more centrally located area of the Village.
2. Communications- getting the message out there on senior services. An ongoing need.
3. Arlington Park redevelopment... any opportunity for the Village to obtain public land (open space, etc., fire station, Police substation) and possible relocation of the Senior Center?
4. Senior affordable living - to make it happen in new developments and redevelopments.
5. Encourage New developments in good transit areas that are serviceable such as downtown and Arlington Park.
6. Encourage and pursue Transit-oriented developments by working with neighboring municipalities and regional organizations such as PACE. But, again, we need help to do it.
7. Increased communication amongst Commissions and Village staff. Especially areas of common interest such as housing and planning.

Affordable housing with a senior center located inside the building.

Manager Colagrossi will send the draft of potential ideas to Commissioners and add the discussion to the agenda to decide on a final list at the April 17 meeting.

Chairperson Veicelli asked for the number of emails the Senior Center account has now.

Chairperson Veicelli inquired about the status of the 211 Call Center. Manager Colagrossi advised that she has passed along the information to the individual agencies in the Senior Center. They are encouraged to sign their MOU, and the Senior Center will post it soon. Chairperson Veicelli asked for the 211 Call Center to be included on the agenda. She will also present the information in the Commissioner's Corner article in the newsletter.

Commissioner Vogt noted that he followed up on the comment made at the last meeting by resident Melissa Cayer regarding publishing the website of the taxing bodies on the property tax bills. The Commissioner approached Cook County Commissioner Maggie Trevor, who said it was a good idea and would look into it.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Announcements and Correspondence

None

2. Citizens to be Heard

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON VEICELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJOURN. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VOGT. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:20 P.M.

