



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

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes from February 27, 2023

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. A. Announcements/Correspondence

B. Citizens to be Heard

VIIIADJOURNMENT

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
3/20/2023

Item: Approval of Minutes

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
February 27, 2023 Minutes	Minutes

**Meeting Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens' Commission
Village Hall Commission Room
Monday, February 27, 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
Sharon Adams
Tim Carter
Fred Feldman
George Motto
Fred Vogt
Tem Williams
Roberta White

Also Present:

Tracey Colagrossi, Staff Liaison
Keith Moens
Melissa Cayer

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from January 23, 2023

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI PROPOSED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED AND CORRECTED. COMMISSIONER VOGT MOTIONED TO APPROVE AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FELDMAN. ALL APPROVED THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2023.

IV. REPORTS

Senior Impacts Reports

A. Chairperson

Chairperson Viecegli read the note from Joan Kennedy regarding her father, George Weber's service on February 8, 2023

Dear Tracey,

On behalf of my mother, Dorothy, and my siblings, I would like to thank the Arlington heights senior Center, Senior Citizen's Commission, and the Arlington Heights Senior Center Inc. Foundation for the lovely floral arrangement in honor of George Weber.

My father was very proud of his work for the Village of Arlington Heights and would be pleased to know his service was remembered and valued. In addition to the diligent work he did for so many seniors, he also valued the personal relationships that he developed with Board Members and staff at the Senior Center. Your remembrance of him is a comfort to us.

Sincerely, Joan Kennedy

Commissioner Feldman attended the service. Additionally, Chairperson Viecegli attended the Housing Commission meeting. They did not officially meet as they did not have a quorum. Commissioner Vogt advised he would attend the next Housing Commission meeting and was grateful to Chairperson Viecegli for attending in his absence.

B. Senior Center Manager

Manager Colagrossi reported that the AARP Tax-Aide free tax preparation service had been underway since February 8. Appointments are filling up, but the demand could have been better than in the past few years since two more preparers and other AARP Tax-Aide sites have reopened.

Attendance at the Senior Center continues to increase. In 2021, the Center reported a year-end total of 52,292 visits; in 2022, the Center reported 82,921 visits. Participation has been steadily growing since Covid. Pre-Covid visits were reported at 109,000 visits. Manager Colagrossi will provide a full annual report at the next meeting.

Programming continues to attract much interest with life-long learning programs such as first-person portrayal programs and virtual visits to Italy. In addition, the March and April newsletter is available online and at the Center.

The Village's website, vah.com, has been updated. Website visitors will notice a calendar feature where Meetings, Events, and Senior Center programs can be viewed at a glance. This is a new feature. Additionally, the Senior Center page is in the process of being redone. Sarah Adelphia, Program Coordinator, and Ms. Colagrossi are working on it. When completed, the Senior Citizen's Commission will be asked to review and provide feedback. Chairperson Viecegli reviewed it so far and commented she was impressed. Commissioner Carter said the accessibility had been improved for visual impairments.

Manager Colagrossi and Social Services Coordinator Erin Mercado are now "Matter of Balance" trained. The team is able to instruct the 8-week evidenced based fall prevention program in targeted areas where the Fire Department receives many calls. Chief Roberts of the Fire Department is working on this project with the team. Classes will be conducted later this year.

Manager Colagrossi reported on the Age-Friendly Town Hall Talk on Monday, February 27, in the morning. The talk featured Sharon Swanson, Volunteer Coordinator for the Senior Center, and Carolyn Roberts, AmeriCorps Program Director for Hands on Suburban Chicago-a volunteer organization. The session was a workshop on volunteering and finding out how people wanted to give back. The Senior Center and the partner agencies will have a Volunteer Fair on Wednesday, April 19, from 3 to 5 PM in the lobby. Manager Colagrossi asked if the Commission would be present at the event to advise folks about the Senior Citizen's Commission. Commissioner

Motto added that he discussed Age-Friendly and how volunteers can help with that initiative.

Ms. Colagrossi also added that she participated in the Modernizing Senior Centers Resource Centers call, where Manoj Pardasini, Ph. D, has been conducting a study for the National Council on Aging through a grant from the Administration on Community Living. Reporting on data collected from the findings was that although some Senior Centers had changed their name, it took time for the community to understand what they were and who they served. Ultimately, Senior Centers have returned to the character and are bringing more awareness to what a senior center is. Additionally, more centers are interested in adopting the Arlington Heights Senior Center model as a collaborative environment with other agencies. Most centers are stand-alone, but with an influx of people aging in the community, they find that collaboration such as our models benefits the community in the long run.

Commissioner Vogt commented on past recollections of people's reaction to going to the Senior Center as a negative. Commissioner Williams advised that it is improving. Commissioner Vogt added that at Harmony Fest, he encountered people surprised at who could attend and what programs were offered at the Center, noting that changing perceptions is a big job. Commissioner Motto stated that per his observations, three populations are to consider. People who are affluent and self-directed, a group that needs the Center unaware of it, and a third group that does not identify with "senior citizens." Chairperson Viecegli added she attended an event with Trustee Scaletta, and he was very aware of the Center and its services.

C. Not-for-Profit Corporation

Manager Colagrossi reported that the corporation met earlier in February. They decided on the Live Well, Age Well Expo on Thursday,

June 29, and the Pickleball Tournament on Saturday, September 9. Further details will be determined at future meetings.

D. Senior Center Advisory Council

Manager Colagrossi reported that the Advisory Council had the Hersey High School students come to the Center on February 14 for their traditional "Love Bus" performance of choir, poms, and cheers. The next event will be on Thursday, April 6, at 1 PM, for a fusion cultural event from Italy and China. The event results from the popularity of the Cinco de Mayo event last year, highlighting Mexican culture.

E. Legislation

Commissioner Feldman reported that he had contacted the CEO of AgeOptions (Area Agency on Aging), Diane Slezak. She advised that they hired a new consultant to prepare a formalized list of legislation that affects older adults. At this time, a checklist has yet to be designed. Commissioner Feldman stated he checked the General Assembly Website and noted thirteen bills affect older adults, five of which have to do with property tax freezes. Commissioner Feldman added that he would keep in contact with AgeOptions and the website for the General Assembly for any further activity. Ms. Slezak said the legislature has been slow in filing any bills this year.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

I. Transportation Report

Commissioner Feldman stated there was nothing new to report. He reported that another community had adopted self-driving fleets for picking up residents and driving to appointments. The service is for everyone in the community. Robot Taxi, Zooz is a company that Google funds. This is in Foster, California. Commissioner Williams noted that the other side was in Arizona. Commissioner Feldman commented that this is a much

more flexible service. Manager Colagrossi mentioned that the Pace Bus Route 696 is discontinued due to a lack of drivers. Manager Colagrossi added that Commissioner Feldman would join her to attend the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities on March 14. The topic of discussion will be transportation access and the Pace Bus Route 696. Chairperson Viecegli asked who was asking about the route. Manager Colagrossi advised that the Department of Human Services, Social Services, and Senior Services units were receiving calls to complain about the lack of service.

Commissioner Vogt added that anyone wanting to launch an autonomous vehicle program would be best, to begin with, Pace as well as some grant funding for a pilot project.

II. Communication Report

The Communications Sub Committee is scheduled to meet on March 15 at 6 PM in the Community Room. Commissioner Motto advised that the survey questions for the next AARP Community Living Survey will be conducted in 2024. He reported that we would be allowed to use the same survey. However, any changes will be discussed with AARP.

a. 311-Call Center

Chairperson Viecegli reported she was at an event with Trustee Scalletta about a potential call center. Manager Colagrossi presented the newly launched 211 Center from the City of Chicago and Suburban Cook County. Manager Colagrossi displayed the website features and categories of services offered in the system. Anyone can speak with someone live on a phone line 24/7 (English/Spanish or other languages available), live chat on the website or text messages, or self-search on the website. A memo of understanding is required to begin putting our information on the resources list. Manager Colagrossi said

this would answer the 311-call concept for the Action Plan; it is free, fully staffed, and does not duplicate services. Manager Colagrossi added that residents could report services needed in the area, such as a pothole or light post, through the link on the new website or call. Commissioners expressed that the 211 number will address the need for communicating resources. It would be beneficial to promote the number in the community to raise awareness after all agencies are on board. Manager Colagrossi will advise Health and Human Services Director McCalister on the views of the Commission and then review the memorandum of understanding from the 211 Call Center. She will continue to update the Commission as the project progresses. The Commission set a tentative deadline to post information for April 1, 2023.

III. Affordable Housing Report

Chairperson Viecelli read an excerpt from the Inclusionary Housing Project Update:

- Crescent Place Apartment (310 W Rand Rd.): 40-unit affordable housing apartment building is under construction.
- 3 3031 W Salt Creek Lane: Went to the Conceptual Plan Review Committee* on November 30, 2022, as a proposal for a 145-unit, multi-family, 5-story, non-age-restricted, rental building with 70% market rate units and 30% affordable units. A Plan Commission application still needs to be submitted.
- 116-120 Eastman: Went to the Conceptual Plan Review Committee* on July 13, 2022. This project may be moving forward in the next couple of months.
- 4 N Douglas: Went to the Conceptual Plan Review Committee* on June 22, 2022. This project may be moving forward in the next couple of months.

- International Plaza/TIF 4: Went to the Conceptual Plan Review Committee* and early review by the Housing Commission, Design Commission, and Village Board. Northpointe Development submitted a preliminary application to IHDA for low-income housing tax credits.
- 1519-1625 S Arlington Heights Rd.: Full Circle Communities: Has been approved for low-income housing tax credits and funding from Cook County for a supportive housing project. A Plan Commission application has yet to be received.
(Appearance before the Conceptual Plan Review Committee (CPRC) is voluntary and is done for the developer receiving informal input. Projects that go to the CPRC may or may not proceed, and the concepts may change by the time the project is formally submitted to the Village.)*

G Kenneth Hood Senior Service Award
 Commissioner Vogt reported that the Sub Committee met on February 22 which included Commissioners Adams and Williams. With eight nominations from the community, the sub committee agreed that it went well. They would like to see other organizations like churches, hospitals, and community agencies to submit more entries. The Commissioners will follow up the nomination announcement letter with a personal phone call to encourage participation. A rubric for scoring the nominations will also be included with the form, so there is a greater understanding of the nominee requirements. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28. The nomination forms will be mailed out to April 15, 2023. Commissioner Carter inquired when someone is selected. Commissioner Vogt replied the nominations are due on June 1, but if there are not enough submissions it would be extended to July 1. Decision is made mid-month and announced on July 31, Dr. Kenneth Hood's birthday.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Viecelli announced that AARP Community Challenge Grants were open and due March 15. She reviewed the three types of grants that will be awarded this year.

1. AARP announced the 2023 Flagship Grants, awards ranging from \$500 to \$50,000 for projects benefitting residents and especially those aged 50 and older, for the creation of vibrant public places, increasing connectivity through transportation, and housing options, increasing civic engagement, improving health and economic empowerment, all with a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
1. Capacity-Building Microgrants: combines \$2,500 grants with resources such as webinars, publications, and learning opportunities for residents and folks aged 50 plus. The grant includes a walkability audit or community garden using the community garden publication from AARP.
1. Demonstration Grants: advancing solutions that build capacity towards a transportation system change (funding awarded between \$30,000-\$50,000 per project sponsored by Toyota or implementation of an accessory dwelling unit design competition that increases understanding of the housing option and encourages implementation of supportive policies.

The Commission discussed the grant opportunities and what could be done quickly. Commissioner Vogt commented that what is needed is a better way to communicate programs and services at the Senior Center. Is there a consideration to have a locked display case at various locations such as the Village Hall, Library, Park District, etc.? This could be a good proposal for a grant. Chairperson Veicelli asked if a mailing list could be purchased to build a list targeting residents

aged 50 and over. A mailing list would need to be bought and have people opt-in to receive an email address.

The second item for new business was for the Senior Citizen's Commission to discuss what they would like the Village Board to consider for the strategic planning session this summer. The Commission should have formulated a response by April 30. Commissioner Motto advised the Village (including commissions) to view policies, programs, and decisions considered through an Age-Friendly lens. The Senior Citizen's Commission may have to outline what that means for people to age in the community. Another idea was to increase collaborations with all Commissions. They would like to have Age-Friendly and livable communities in the vocabulary.

Commissioner Vogt noted that what the departments need to tie back to what the Village sets the strategic plan. The Commission will put it onto the agenda next meeting to formulate ideas to submit to the Board. The topic will be discussed further at the March 20 meeting.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Announcements/Correspondence

1. None

2. Citizens to Be Heard

Melissa Cayer advised that a food report or a sustenance report be discussed. She stated she attended the Village and Library joint meeting last week, and they said we should pay attention to the taxing bodies. She added that having the web addresses on the bills would be good, so people know where their dollars are spent. Commissioner Vogt stated that the county is the agency that sends out the bills. Ms. Cayer said she mentions this so others can spread the word and that Cook County Commissioners are aware. Commissioner Vogt said he would happily pass that along to the Cook County Commissioner he knows. Chairperson Veicelli

inquired further about the food issue. Ms. Cayer said she worries about housing units being built and we are getting further away from our food. She added that we might be at risk if we cannot access food and look at our current and future paths to food. Ms. Cayer said that she would like more farming in the area. Ms. Cayer also noted that the meeting agenda should have been posted downstairs in the lobby as it should be. Manager Colagrossi said she would address it.

Resident Keith Moens asked that public comments be added to the agenda.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJOURN. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ADAMS. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:19 P.M.