

Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens Commission
Commissions Room-33 S Arlington Heights Road, A.H. 60005
February 24, 2025
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
Gary Wood
Tim Carter
Corinne Drew
Fred Feldman
George Motto
Fred Vogt
Ellyn Zimmerman

Also Present:

Tracey Colagrossi, Liaison
Nora Boyer, Housing Commission Liaison
Keith Moens

Not Present:

Sharon Adams
Steve Raminiak

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 16, 2024, Minutes

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2024, BE ACCEPTED. COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOTTO. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2024, WERE ACCEPTED.

January 27, 2025, Minutes

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2025. COMMISSIONER FELDMAN MADE THE MOTION TO ACCEPT AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOTTO. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2024, WERE ACCEPTED.

IV. REPORTS

A. Chairpersons Report

Chairperson Viecelli introduced Housing Commissioner, Nora Boyer to the Senior Citizens Commission. Ms. Boyer was invited to answer questions and to learn more about the Housing Commission. Ms. Boyer described the charge of the commission to make sure that there's adequate housing for all the community's people, not just affordable, although the market tends to take care of itself more than the affordable takes care of itself. They're in their advisory role to the village board as you are so they don't set policy, but they make recommendations on policy that then goes to the Village Board to deliberate and decide on. They can work with

surrounding communities in their efforts. they evaluate and set priorities. They are also the Fair Housing Review Board for the Village, so if someone makes a fair housing complaint and a charge of discrimination in housing that can be made through the Housing Commission.

They also provide advice and recommendations to the Board to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The Village has a number of affordable housing programs: the single-family rehab program or the 0% interest deferred home improvement loans to income eligible households; the Inclusionary Housing Program where the percentage of units in new multi-family developments need to be affordable according to the standards that are included in the ordinance and in the associated guidelines or options to pay a fee in lieu of providing the affordable units and it's through the Inclusionary Housing Program that most of the money for the trust fund comes from.

The trust fund has not been used yet because the Housing Commission had wanted funding to accumulate enough of an amount to be able to do something substantial. They're at that point now, there's over a million dollars in the trust fund and they're working now to develop recommendations to the village board about how those funds should be used.

Three planners evaluate the project. If it's a Planning Commission project, the plans are sent to other departments as well. The comments from all of those departments are consolidated. There's communication with the developer about any problems that any of the department's staff tries to work those out with the developer at that point. And then very as much as is resolved as possible before it goes to the plan commission but that report, and recommendation come from the Planning Department.

Ms. Boyer has seen that, over time, that what gets developed as far as affordable housing when and where often has to do with what kind of federal programs are available and it's very difficult to do affordable housing just with conventional financing usually requires some kind of steps that need assistance somewhere. Also, the priorities and the availability of those resources change from time to time. For example, with the Illinois Housing Development Authority where a lot of the funding financing tends to come from for new construction. In years past, there was a push for senior housing, it ebbs and flows. The Housing Commission is hoping to have recommendations to the Village Board in 2025 this year.

Ms. Boyer added the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus, which is a Metropolitan Mayor's organization actually is doing a project now on Missing Middle Housing. We're looking at zoning requirements in other kinds of obstacles that are discouraging like the construction of duplexes, triplexes, and we do have some zoning districts that permit those kinds of residences. If an area permits duplexes or triplexes, but the

setbacks are too large, or the footprint is really tiny and then the building would have to be too tall. Looking at the zoning code to see, if it is in a practical way permitting these things for something that can be used.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Boyer for her time.

B. Liaison Report

The March and April newsletter was mailed out to homes and the team is working on the May June newsletter so that will if you want information in there it'll be at the end of March so articles will be due then.

The agencies in the Senior Center are hosting an event called Aging in Arlington Heights on Wednesday, April 2, from 6 pm to 8 pm . This event will focus on one fictitious individual named Jack. Jack will be going through a continuum of the aging process, not a typical aging process, but somebody that maybe had a fall, lack of socialization. There will be a panel of people representing variety of services. Registered Nurse, supervisor Lindsey Dohse will be heading this project for us. Coordinator Adelpia and Manager Colagrossi are collaborating to assist with the coordination all the speakers. The event will consist of the panel will take one hour and then a resource table where people can ask one-on-one questions at the end.

On Friday, the Area Agency on Aging CEO, Diane Slezak will meet with Representatives Canty and Grasse at the Senior Center to make aware of issues affecting older adults in our area and funding issues.

Commissioner Zimmerman met with Volunteer Coordinator Nierman and the Manager to discuss expansion of intergenerational programs and collaborative opportunities with the school districts. Elyn scheduled the morning of April 4 with the superintendents from District 214, District 25 and the President from Saint Viator.

C. Non-for-Profit Corporation

The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Foundation's first "Roadshow" event is taking place on Thursday, April 3, at Beverly Lanes Bowling Alley from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The commission is invited to have their give-away items at a table.

The other "Roadshow" events will take place in Lake Arlington, the History Museum, and the Moorings.

D. Senior Center Advisory Council

The Advisory Council is hosting their 2025 programs. The Diversity Celebration featuring Japan and Spain is taking place at the Senior Center on April 3. Dancing, food and education on both countries will be featured. Other events upcoming will

be the traditional summer fare, such as the Hot Dog Cookout and the Ice Cream Social.

E. Legislation

House Bill 1226 is the bill that will eliminate the driving test for senior citizens who are renewing their driver's license for ages 79 to 87. It's moved very quickly in the legislature. It was assigned to the Transportation Committee in February. The Transportation Committee within a week reported it out pass short debate. The bill has now been placed on the calendar for the second reading which is the means by which the bill that came out of the committee is presented to the entire General Assembly. It will be read a third time when it's enacted. But this will give the whole body and opportunity to amend it or suggest amendments and things like that.

HB 1328 End-of-Life Bill would allow a person, who is terminally ill to procure life ending medication under very strict rules; requiring have to be approved by a physician and a psychiatrist, prove you are of sound mind. There's all sorts of rules and regulations. There are a number of states already have approved this law.

House Bill 35 creates Artificial Intelligence Systems Use and Health Insurance Act, which allows people to find out if a claim or a request that they've made to a medical insurance claim that will ensure that they've been rejected based on a rule created by artificial intelligence, they can appeal it. And there will be a mechanism in government, in state government, by which the determination by the health insurer can be overridden by the State of Illinois if they find that something was done improperly using artificial intelligence. That one has been assigned to the Insurance Committee and it's only been out a month.

There were also 10 bills introduced seeking to address the proper property tax senior citizens exemption freeze. These never get passed and usually never get out of committee. Commissioner Feldman will keep track of them.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

1. Transportation/Affordable Housing Report

Commissioner Feldman reiterated the driver's license bill HB 1226.

2. Communications

Chairperson Viecelli advised that the 2025 marketing plan is revised, but final touches will be submitted and approved for the March meeting. Currently there are 10,752 e-blast subscribers, 275 Facebook followers, and over 400 newsletter subscribers.

G. Kenneth Hood Award

Commissioner Vogt reported the awards committee did not meet due to inclement weather. They will reschedule and resume the awards cycle.

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, March 17, 7 pm.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJORN.
COMMISSIONER CARTER MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY
COMMISSIONER VOGT. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 8:11 PM.**