

Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens Commission
Commissions Room-33 S Arlington Heights Road, A.H. 60005
April 21, 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

Sharon Adams

Tim Carter

Corinne Drew

Fred Feldman

George Motto

Steve Raminiak

Gary Wood

Fred Vogt

Ellyn Zimmerman

Also Present:

Tracey Colagrossi, Liaison

Not Present:

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 17,2025, Minutes

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2025, BE ACCEPTED. COMMISSIONER VOGT MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WOOD. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MINUTES OF MARCH 17,2025, WERE ACCEPTED.

IV. REPORTS

A. Chairpersons Report

Chairperson Viecelli had nothing to report.

B. Liaison Report

Senior Center Manager Tracey Colagrossi reported the Agency Directors met today and reviewed the new Standard Protocol for emergencies from the Arlington Heights Police Department. They are coordinating a future date to train staff, volunteers and patrons as to what the codes mean. The language for the codes is easier to understand in laymen terms, as this is what is used in schools.

A new program that we are launching is our "Meet Up" concept, using the social media platform (Meet Up), to do more spontaneous and active programming outside of the Senior Center walls. The goal is to attract active adults looking to

socialize after work in local areas around the community. The first outing is Mitsuwa Marketplace in May followed by a walk in Busse Woods in June.

On April 3, the Department of Health and Human Services conducted an Aging in Arlington Heights presentation. Eighty-five people attended the event which provided a narration of a resident going through a decline in health and utilizing community resources. Organizations representing the community were on hand. There were a lot of newer faces in attendance which was positive. The department is planning on doing this annually with some tweaks to the program, including a video presentation and more resources.

May and June Live Well, Age Well newsletters were sent to subscribers last week. Open registration begins on Thursday, April 24.

C. Non-for-Profit Corporation

The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Foundation's held its first "Roadshow" event at Beverly Lanes in Arlington Heights on April 3. Thirty-two people were in attendance with a lot of new people. The event was promoted through the e-blast and Event Brite, and participants will be tracked if they participate in programs throughout the year.

The next "Roadshow" event will be on June 19, from 3 pm to 5 pm at Lake Arlington for people to learn how to kayak. We hope to have a food truck, book mobile, and our other organizations to inform residents about the Senior Center.

The Inc. Board the first Billiards Tournament on March 29 was a huge success, with thirty-two players vying for trophies. The event had mostly men ages between 55 and 85 years old. We are surveying the participants to see how often they would like a tournament and if they would be interested in a league to compete with other centers.

The next fundraising event for the foundation is the Live Well, Age Well Expo; Aloha to Wellness on Thursday, June 29 from 11 am to 1 pm. Vendors pay between \$300 to \$750 for a booth space to network with others and exhibit their organization.

D. Senior Center Advisory Council

The Advisory Council is hosting their 2025 programs. The Diversity Celebration featuring Japan and Spain held in April was very successful with over eighty-five participants.

The next event for the Council is the Hot Dog Cook Out on Flag Day. Thursday, June 12 from 12:30 pm to 2 pm. August is the Ice Cream Social, followed by Oktoberfest in September, Halloween party in October and finally the New Year's Eve party in December.

E. Legislation

Commissioner Feldman has been following ten real estate tax items that have not had any additional movement and still in committee. House Bill 1226, the no-road test for older adults between the ages of 79-87 years old has passed the house and now is in the Senate. It has had its first reading in the Senate and has been referred to the Assignments Committee. The legislators have until May 31st to act, as this is the last day of the session. If the legislation does pass, it would be in 2026 or 2027, as rules and regulations will need to be determined.

House Bill 1328, the End-of-Life Options Act, is still in rules and has not been assigned yet. However, there is a Senate Bill (a companion) SB009, that has passed the Senate on its third reading, and the deadline for the third reading has been extended.

Another bill in question is relating to the use of Artificial Intelligence and if it was used to reject a claim on your health insurance, it can be contested.

Senate Bill 1862 is a 30-year property homestead exemption. Senator Neil Anderson from western Illinois introduced the bill to only get the conversation going. The proposal is that a long-time homeowner continuously occupying the residence for over 30 years could apply for an exemption not to pay property taxes.

Commissioner Motto alerted Commissioner Feldman to Bill 1711 and House Bill 3466, which is a statute that provides financial assistance by way of a reduced assessment evaluation when you build affordable housing rental property. The statute only applies to new construction. The two bills would propose to include rehabilitated residential property, as well.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

1. Transportation/Affordable Housing Report

Commissioner Raminiak reported on the subcommittee meeting that occurred on Friday, April 21. Similar to the Aging in Arlington Heights, Tracey is proposing doing an event/workshop to address housing, home modification, and loans to help older adults maintain and stay in their homes. In addition to this proposed event, Commissioner Raminiak will create a seven to ten question survey to capture the needs of older adults: specifically, those needing some sort of subsidy to collect data to support any ask of the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance Trust fund.

Chairperson Viecegli asked about the annual Community Survey and the status of data collection. Liaison Colagrossi was not aware of the final dates but would look into it for the Commissioners and get back to them.

Commissioner Feldman reviewed the "Getting Around Arlington Heights" Transportation Resources flyer. The Commission suggested to have the flyer formatted in both 8 ½ x 11 and a trifold for going to events. Liaison Colagrossi agreed and that the item along with other informational flyers will be translated into different languages with some help from a restricted fund from the foundation.

Commissioner Vogt added that he attended the Housing Commission meeting last week. Grace Terrace, final plan is being reviewed. They submitted for building permits recently. the International Plaza of Urban Street Group have had discussions with staff, but no application has been received yet for the Plan Commission. 116 West Eastland Street, the demolition is expected to begin this summer on that building. Five North Douglas, they expect a plan commission application will be made the summer. The Arlington 425 project, which was a newspaper last week has notified that they have withdrawn their entitlements, as they expire on May 7th. Brookshire Arlington Heights, part of the parking lot, north of Beverly Lanes will be submitted to the Conceptional Plan Review committee this summer. Country Lane Town Homes has one unit that will go under the Affordable Housing Ordinance, as it is a small project.

2. Communications

Chairperson Viecelli summarized that the subcommittee reviewed the "Getting Around Arlington Heights" and the "Aging in Community" flyers to be distributed at upcoming community events. Additionally, Facebook has 360 followers to date since January 1, 2025.

G. Kenneth Hood Award

Commissioner Vogt reported the awards committee met in March. The press release and social media announcements for the Kenneth Hood Award were released last week. A targeted mailing to organizations that utilize volunteers in Arlington Heights will go out later this week.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Strategic Planning Recommendations Memo

The Commissioners reviewed the memo for content and grammar. All agreed on the memo.

CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEMO OF STRATEGIC PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD. COMMISSIONER VOGT MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FELDMAN. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEMO WAS APPROVED TO BE SENT TO THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD.

B. Intergenerational Outreach

Commissioner Zimmerman reported on a meeting with the Superintendents of Districts 25 and 214 as well the President of Saint Viator. Commissioner Drew,

Volunteer Coordinator, Nierman and Manager Colagrossi were also in attendance. The meeting began with a tour of the Senior Center, incorporating narratives on how volunteers are utilized, and intergenerational programs are currently working.

There is a targeted follow up to the meeting with principals of the schools coming in for a tour. Other immediate connections were awareness of school programs, concerts and plays that can be communicated on the Center's e-blasts bi-weekly. Looking forward will focus on what the student and the senior can do to both make the school and senior center a more integrated and intergenerational space.

The meeting attendees were given the annual report as well as an informational page on the current intergenerational collaborations of the Senior Center and the community. It helped illustrate what is already taking place and also future possibilities.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Motto spoke about the area agency on aging for suburban Cook County, AgeOptions. He reported on that the federal government has not reauthorized the Older American's Act that was established in 1965. The Act allows for funding for home delivered meals, caregiver support groups, house keeping help, transportation, and a myriad of supports to help keep older adults in their homes. Without this funding, area agencies across the state will be struggling to help its most vulnerable people. Commissioner Motto recommended to review the AgeOptions.org website for further information and how to sign up for updates.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Viecegli remarked that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 19, 7 pm.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**CHAIRPERSON VIECELLI REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJORN.
COMMISSIONER MOTTO MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY
COMMISSIONER ADAMS. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 8:15 PM.**