

Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens Commission
Commissions Room-33 S Arlington Heights Road, A.H. 60005
May 19, 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
Fred Feldman
George Motto
Steve Raminiak
Gary Wood
Fred Vogt
Ellyn Zimmerman

Also Present:

Tracey Colagrossi, Liaison
Will Delea

Not Present:

Tim Carter
Corinne Drew

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 21, 2025, Minutes

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2025, BE ACCEPTED. COMMISSIONER FELDMAN MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VIECELLI. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2025, WERE ACCEPTED.

IV. REPORTS

A. Chairpersons Report

Chairperson Vogt said he appointed Chair as Commissioner Viecelli has served over three years which is the maximum term. He also had nothing additional to report.

B. Liaison Report

Senior Center Manager Tracey Colagrossi reported that the next major event at the center is National Senior Health and Fitness Day, May 28 from 9 am to 12 pm. There are over a dozen health screenings such as blood pressure and skin cancer detection at the event that expects over 100 people.

The search for the new Director of Health and Human Services continues. James McCalister is due to retire on May 23. First and second round interviews have been completed, so we are waiting on an announcement soon.

The Liaison and Nursing Supervisor, Lindsay Dohse, presented the |Health |& |Human Services Biennial Department report to the Board on May 27 at 7 pm.

Manager Colagrossi added that the first "Meet Up" event of the year took place at Mistua Marketplace in Arlington Heights. A volunteer took patrons on a tour of the shopping area then they all had lunch within the food court. It was well attended with 15 people. She also said that they held a "Meet Up" to see the Sounds Good Choir at the First Presbyterian Church.

C. Non-for-Profit Corporation

The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Foundation's second Roadshow event is taking place on Thursday, June 19 at Lake Arlington. Kona Ice and free Kayaking Lessons will be held on site as well as the agency partners will be there to inform people of our services.

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.

The Commission inquired if the center would be open on June 19, due to the Juneteenth Holiday. Manager Colagrossi replied that it is open. The Commission suggested to have something acknowledging Juneteenth at the event, to insure inclusivity. Manager Colagrossi agreed that it was a good idea.

D. Senior Center Advisory Council

The Advisory Council is hosting ts the Hot Dog Cook Out on 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 reported on the 10 tax bills he has been monitoring. He stated that they are still all in assignment, adding that they have not been assigned to any committee. They're presumably not going to be acted upon during this session, which only has about 11 more days until it goes into recess.

With respect to House Bill 1226, which is no road test for driver license renewal for senior citizens, it was scheduled for third reading and presumably passage in the Senate.

The road test for driver license renewal for senior citizens: it was scheduled for third reading and presumably passage in the Senate on May 13th, but he checked the record, and it didn't get called. The final date was not extended. So unless the legislators do something extraordinary it may die. The bill had 30 or 40 co-sponsors on the bill on both sides in both houses. For some reason it was not called on May 13th.

House Bill 1328, the End-of-Life Options Act. was referred to rules, it came out, and it has been re-referred back to rules, so it too is currently unassigned. Senate Bill 009, which is the End-of-Life Options Act in the Senate, is scheduled for its third reading, which has been extended to May 23rd. So, it could still pass it out of the Senate the General Assembly goes into recess, but they've extended the deadline to May 23rd.

House Bill 35, which was a bill to use artificial intelligence in health insurance administration been assigned to the Executive Committee and is given until May 23rd to be assigned out.

Senate Bill 1862, which was the 30-year property homestead exemption. That too is still in assignments in the Senate. House Bill 3466, which provides for tax assessment relief for affordable housing or property upon which substantial rehabilitation has been made to make it affordable. That too is still in the Rules Committee. The Senate, the Senate version, which is Senate Bill 1911, was assigned to the Revenue and Finance Committee on the 13th and it has not been acted on. All of these bills are still pending. There's 10 or 11 days before the General Assembly goes into recess, but it doesn't look like, the driver bill is the only one that has a possibility of being enacted this session.

It looks as if the bills will wait until the veto session in November to see if any of these bills get passed.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

1. Transportation/Affordable Housing Report

Commissioner Motto reported that the subcommittee did not meet due to lack of quorum. He added that a Housing forum is planned for June 16 at 5:30 pm. The forum will have Nora Boyer from the Village of Arlington Heights Planning Department; Michelle Hill of the Northwest Housing Partnership and someone representing the Shared Housing Program from the Center of Concern.

Commissioner Raminiak reported that he created a short survey for residents to complete regarding their housing affordability status. The survey will be inside the newsletter, available at the Senior Center, posted on an eblast, and posted on the website. Liaison Colagrossi stated that the collection of data would be four to six weeks. The survey will be available at the Expo on June 26. Mr. Raminiak presented the questions for the Commission's review and feedback.

Commissioner Raminiak stated that the purpose of the survey was to get a feel for how many older adults in the area may require a subsidy in order to live in their homes. There was discussion between Commissioner Motto and Commissioner Raminiak on the focus of the survey and the work of Age-Friendly. The other purpose of the survey is to advise the Housing Commission on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and to show the needs of older adults in the community.

Chairperson Vogt advised that the Housing Commission will be meeting on Wednesday of this week.

2. Communications

Commissioner Viecegli summarized that the subcommittee reviewed the trifold brochures to be distributed at upcoming community events. Liaison Colagrossi stated she is looking to get the item translated into multiple languages spoken in the village and hopes that will be subsidized by the foundation. Additionally, Facebook has 388 followers to date since January 1, 2025.

G. Kenneth Hood Award

Nomination requests were sent out via mail, social media, and follow up phone calls from the subcommittee members. There is one nomination there are commitments for others when conducting the follow up calls. June 1, 2025, is the deadline, however, it can be extended to June 15 if we need to receive more nominations.

H. Intergenerational Outreach

Commissioner Zimmerman reported that staff met with the Director of Equity and Multilingual Programs from District 25. There will be a partnership with the district in the fall during each grammar school's Curriculum Nights, to have a booth at each event. District 25 Superintendent, Dr. Kay is scheduling a tour of the senior center for the principals.

District 214 is sharing schedules of events that seniors can attend like meets and theatre events. Staff shares that on the eblasts every two weeks.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

The next Senior Citizens Commission meeting will be on Monday, June 16 at 7 pm.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJORN. COMMISSIONER RAMINIAK MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ADAMS. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:07 PM.