

Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens Commission
Commissions Room-33 S Arlington Heights Road, A.H. 60005
August 18, 2025
7 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Vogt called the meeting to order at 7 PM. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Tim Carter

George Motto

Steve Raminiak

Fred Vogt, Chair

Ellyn Zimmerman

Fred Feldman

Also Present: ☐

Tracey Colagrossi, Liaison

Not Present:

Sue Viecegli

Sharon Adams

Corinne Drew

Gary Wood

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 21, 2025, Minutes

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

IV. REPORTS

A. Chairpersons Report

Chairperson Vogt had nothing to report.

B. Liaison Report

Senior Center Manager Tracey Colagrossi reported that the Wheeling Township Mental Health Board has opened their Funding Requests for 2026-27. A proposal was submitted for consideration. Manager Colagrossi will present to the board on Wednesday, September 10 at Wheeling Township.

All departments are working on their budget proposals for 2026. The Senior Services division has submitted an expanded budget request for the Revitalization/Rebranding of the Senior Center. This comes as a recommendation from the strategic planning report created by Northern Illinois University Center for Governmental Studies.

The Roadshow at the Arlington Heights Farmers Market, Saturday, August 16 from 9 am to 12 pm was well received by the people attending. 50 to 60 young people helped to create a group art project entitled "Words of Wisdom". Commissioner Wood was there with his eight grandkids. It was a lot of fun. We hope to mount it in the Senior Center this year.

The next issue of the Live Well, Age Well newsletter is available to patrons.

Last Thursday, all agencies and volunteers were trained on the Police Department's Standard Operation Protocol for emergencies. The session provided language for weather,

threats, and other instances where clear communication is essential. The next step will be for the Officers to come and conduct a building assessment for safety in each area.

The Park District's Athletic Club in the Senior Center has had paint and carpet cleaned in that space. It is now open to patrons.

C. Non-for-Profit Corporation

The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Foundation's met this month and awarded funding requests for kitchen supplies, heated bags, exercise equipment for Endeavor Health exercise programs, and the Park District Wood Shop's replacement for dust collectors.

The next fundraising event for the foundation is the Pickleball Tournament on September 13 at Dryden Courts. Followed by the Billiards Fall Tournament on Saturday, September 27 from 9 am to 1 pm.

D. Senior Center Advisory Council

The next events from the Advisory Council are

Ice Cream Social: August 21 from 1:30 to 3 pm

Oktoberfest Brat Cookout: September 26 from 1 to 2:30 pm

Halloween Costume Party: October 30 from 1 to 2:30 pm

New Year's Eve-Eve Party: December 30 from 1:30 to 3 pm

E. Legislation

Commissioner Feldman reported on House Bill 1226 that changes the restrictions on drivers needing to take the driver's test from those aged 79 to 86 to only those aged 87 and older, is at the Governor's desk awaiting signature. There was a Daily Herald article stating that it was signed, however, according to the state's website, it was listed as unsigned. Either way, it will go into law.

There was one other piece of legislation that was made reference to, again, in the media. There is talk about a bill to restructure the RTA to combine all the transit agencies under one wing. The paper is reporting it as a Senate bill that was passed in the Illinois Senate and sent to the House and the House didn't act on it. However, the House of Representatives had initiated its own bill ostensibly to restructure the RTA, House Bill 3438. However, the synopsis of the bill doesn't make it sound like that's what it's going to be, unless it gets amended, severely amended at the veto session.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

Age-Friendly Chairperson and Commissioner, George Motto, reported that the Progress Report is moving along toward being submitted to AARP.

1. Transportation/Affordable Housing Report

Commissioner Raminiak reported that the survey to assess older adult's need for housing affordability gained more responses after it was incentivized with offering program dollars for programs. With eighty responses, the survey had 16 respondents self report that they spend over 30% of their income on housing.

Commissioner Raminiak added that next best step is to share this data with the Housing Commission. The Transportation subcommittee will create recommendations as to how a program might look like to help older adults stay in their homes. A short memo created for the Housing Commission to be presented with the data collected. At the last Housing Commission, Commissioner Vogt and Raminiak reported that the Housing Commission requested any data to share that would be helpful. The Commission discussed the memo and requested it to be sent to the Housing Commission.

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO SEND THE MEMO AND DATA TO THE HOUSING COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOTTO. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION PASSED.

Chairperson Vogt stated that the meeting between Wheeling Township Supervisor, Trustee, Health & Human Services Director, Liaison, along with Commissioner Motto and himself will be rescheduled for Friday, September 12 at 11 AM at Wheeling Township. The discussion will be around Age-Friendly and transportation.

Commissioner Feldman reported the RTA had a public forum a week ago Wednesday. He monitored to find out what the RTA was doing. The subject of the call was the communication systems of any of the public transit agencies are interacting.

They're all separate and distinct. And one of the goals of the RTA is to integrate them all into one single comprehensive communication system, which they say will take from one to three years to achieve. The RTA is still facing a \$771 million fiscal cliff. The General Assembly has brought has made several suggestions ideas on fundraising so that the RTA can be financed by the General Assembly without a lot of fare increases and service cutbacks. One idea was a "pizza tax" which would have people who order food delivery or items online a \$1.50 tax on the transaction.

2. Communications

Commissioner Carter summarized that the subcommittee reviewed the look of the Age-Friendly Initiative Progress report. Commissioner Carter requested the Commission review the report content and provide Liaison Colagrossi with any corrections by September 8.

The flyer for the Kenneth Hood Award Presentation and Reception was reviewed and will be sent out next week.

G. Kenneth Hood Award

Chairperson Vogt reported that the award winners were notified and a presentation date is scheduled for Monday, September 15 at 7:30 PM at the Village Board

Meeting. A reception will immediately follow in the Buechner Room on the first floor.

The Commission discussed if they would like to continue to meet on the 15th. They decided to have the Communications Subcommittee meet at 5 pm, followed by the Regular Meeting at 6 pm. This would leave enough time for the award presentation.

COMMISSIONER VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGE IN MEETING TIMES TO 5 PM FOR THE SUBCOMMITTEE AND 6 PM FOR THE REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2025. COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN MADE THE MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RAMINIAK. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION PASSED.

Liaison Colagrossi will reach out to the Kunz' and advise with Administration on a possible date to present the award.

H. Intergenerational Outreach

Commissioner Zimmerman reported a large list of ideas created by the various agencies at the Senior Center was presented to District 214 and District 25. The districts will share the list with the lead coordinators for students and find potential projects to work on together in the new school year.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Last week, the board was considering or just hearing out the feedback on motorized bikes and e-bikes and scooters. There was a daily Herald article and part of the minutes that our mayor stated that perhaps the commissions of the Senior Citizens Commission, the Bike and Pedestrian Committee, and the Youth Commission would want to provide feedback on this issue for consideration.

The commissioners discussed the speed of the three types of scooters. They decided to have it on the agenda for the September meeting.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

The next Senior Citizens Commission meeting will be on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 6 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 FELDMAN. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:56 PM.