

**Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens Commission
Commissions Room-33 S Arlington Heights Road, A.H. 60005
October 20, 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:

Sharon Adams

Tim Carter

Corinne Drew

Steve Raminiak

Gary Wood

Fred Vogt, Chair

Ellyn Zimmerman

Fred Feldman

Sue Viecegli

Also Present: ☐

Tracey Colagrossi, Liaison

Not Present:

George Motto

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 15, 2025, Minutes

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, BE ACCEPTED. COMMISSIONER FELDMAN MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ADAMS. COMMISSIONERS CARTER AND VIECELLI ABSTAINED. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2025, WERE ACCEPTED.

IV. REPORTS

A. Chairpersons Report

Chairperson Vogt inquired about the status of the e-bike and e-scooter recommendations to the Board. Liaison Colagrossi reported that it was submitted for Board consideration in September. A copy of the memo is included within the minutes.

B. Liaison Report

Senior Center Manager Tracey Colagrossi reported that the Wheeling Township Mental Health Board presented to the funding request for a support group to be held in person and a separate one on the phone. Commissioner Vogt advised that it may be November before a decision is made on funding requests.

Health and Human Services and Senior Services presented their 2026 Budgets to the Finance Department on Tuesday, September 19.

The next Roadshow event for the Senior Center will be at the Arlington Heights Trunk or Treat event at Pioneer Park on October 24. Over 800 families generally attend. This event will have staff manning the tables. Other upcoming events are Autumn Fest and Harmony Fest in October.

September/October program registration has been robust with a lot of programs filling to capacity. The Oktoberfest has 110 patrons attending, which is the maximum to serve patrons a quality experience.

The Senior Center will host the Arlington Heights Ministerial Association on November 19. The meeting and lunch event will include a tour of the Senior Center as well as a discussion of collaborative opportunities with the local faith-based organizations. There are about 20 organizations included within the association.

C. Non-for-Profit Corporation

The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Foundation cancelled the Pickleball Tournament on September 13 at Dryden Courts due to thunderstorms in the area. There was not enough interest for the Billiards Fall Tournament scheduled for Saturday, September 27 and that was canceled as well.

Program Coordinator, Sarah Adelpia, conducted a focus group for the Live Well, Age Well newsletter last week with six people participating. We are seeking feedback on the content, ease of readability, and any other suggestions for the publication. The newsletter will add four more pages which will enable staff to increase font size effective in January 2026.

The foundation is considering hosting a car show event next year. They are creating their 2026 calendar of events for discussion at their December meeting.

Commissioner Raminiak asked what the process was for a funding request. The Arlington Heights Senior Center, Inc. Foundation considers funding request from the eight agencies within the Senior Center, which is reviewed at their bi-monthly meetings. The request must benefit older adult residents of Arlington Heights.

D. Senior Center Advisory Council

The next events from the Advisory Council are

Halloween Costume Party: October 30 from 1 to 2:30 pm. The Senior Center will collect donations to the food pantries (Elk Grove and Wheeling Townships).

New Year's Eve-Eve Party: December 30 from 1:30 to 3 pm. The entertainment is George Holmes and Diva. The party will also have students from Enesco to help serve and interact with party attendees.

E. Legislation

Commissioner Feldman reported on House Bill 3438 is not being moved at all as it remains in the rules can be. the committee. The first three-day meeting of the veto session was completed last week. The RTA has modified what they're calling the financial cliff from the \$771 to \$202 million. Dollars (which covers the 2026 year only). The RTA is still discussing fare increases just to meet operating expenses, schedule reductions, eliminating late hours operations, and eliminating weekend service. These are all tentative right now. There's one more three-day veto session next Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday. Commissioner Feldman will monitor. Commissioner Feldman added that the same information serves as the Transportation Report for Age-Friendly.

F. Age-Friendly Community Certification

Liaison Colagrossi reported that the 34-page Age-Friendly Progress Report and Action plan was reviewed by the Board as well as uploaded on the AARP portal.

1. Transportation/Affordable Housing Report

See Legislative Report for Transportation updates.

Affordable Housing

Commissioner Raminiak reported that the data that the Housing Commission requested from the Senior Citizens Commission survey conducted over the summer regarding housing affordability and the older adult population of Arlington Heights. In addition, a memo was created for the Board to review regarding a recommendation for a subsidy for older adults who may need greater financial assistance to remain in their homes. The memo was not submitted yet, as the recommendation would involve the Department of Planning and Community Development, which is evaluating programs and services.

Commissioners Raminiak and Vogt attended the October 15, Housing Commission to discuss the memo and recommendations regarding a housing subsidy for older adults during public comment period.

2. Communications

Since the last meeting, the Senior Center Facebook page has 476 Followers. The e-blast database has been updated to 8,700; as there were a large number of emails bouncing back.

The Commissioners requested to see the translated marketing materials available in Spanish, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, Japanese and Korean. The Liaison will make the materials available at the next meeting.

The Commissioners reviewed the District 214 video featuring Hersey High School and Arlington Heights patrons going back to school. The video is featured on Facebook on both pages as well as made a feature article in the Daily Herald.

G. Kenneth Hood Award

Chairperson Vogt reported on the well-attended Kenneth Hood Award celebration that occurred on September 15. Albert and Donna Kunz had a large turnout of family, friends, and Nurses Club members.

H. Intergenerational Outreach

Commissioner Zimmerman and Drew reported on the students at Hersey High School toured the patrons of the Senior Center on September 20. They got to see all of the new and innovative things going on in high school and even went through the hot lunch line and took a bus to and from the senior center. The Commissioners listened for ways that the patrons could be more involved in their programs, one way was to be a juror during their case law sessions.

The Senior Center will be participating in St Viator's Day of Service on October 21. We will host a group of students here participating in different projects and programs.

Recruitment for student snow removal referral program has begun. An article went out in the Daily Herald, it is on all of the Village's socials, and last year's participants were asked if they would like to take part again. A letter to schools will go out soon. We hope to have a list to share with our residents by mid-November.

The intergenerational projects initiated this year are pilots and may expand next year. With a small Senior Center staff, the expansion needs to be done with intention and quality programming in mind.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

The next Senior Citizens Commission meeting will be on Monday, November 17 at 7 pm.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJORN. COMMISSIONER CARTER MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FELDMAN. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:02 PM.

MEMORANDUM

To: Arlington Heights Board of Trustees

From: Senior Citizens Commission

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Subject: Recommendations on E-Bikes and E-Scooters in Arlington Heights

The Senior Citizens Commission has reviewed the Village's new ordinance on motorized mobility devices, including e-bikes and e-scooters and discussed at the Monday, September 15 Commission meeting. While the ordinance is comprehensive, commissioners raised several safety and education concerns that we believe merit further consideration:

Rider Limitations – We recommend clarifying that only one rider is permitted on e-scooters or e-bikes unless the device is specifically designed for multiple passengers. Observations in our community show frequent instances of children and adults carrying additional riders, which presents significant safety risks.

· Helmet Use – Helmets should be strongly encouraged—and where possible, required—for all riders, regardless of age.

· Visibility and Safety Equipment – Many devices lack horns, lights, or reflective striping. Requiring basic safety features would improve pedestrian and driver awareness.

· Speed Limits – We recommend considering lower maximum speeds for these devices to reduce the risk of accidents in residential areas.

· Education and Awareness – Regulations alone will not prevent accidents. We strongly support ongoing education efforts directed at parents, middle school, and high school students about safe ridership, helmet use, and traffic awareness.

· Regional Consistency – We suggest consulting the Northwest Municipal Conference to align Arlington Heights' regulations with those of nearby communities, ensuring consistency and clarity for residents and visitors.

The Commission emphasizes that education, coupled with enforceable safety measures, is essential to prevent injuries and promote safe use of e-bikes and e-scooters in Arlington Heights.