



AGENDA

Special Senior Citizens Commission Communications Subcommittee
Arlington Heights Village Hall - Commissions Room
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd., AH 60005

April 13, 2026

6:00 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. March 17, 2026, Meeting Minutes
- IV. REPORTS
 - A. Chairperson Reportt
 - B. Liaison Report
- V. OLD BUSINESS
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. OTHER BUSINESS
 - A. Announcements / Correspondence
- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to speak on a subject not on the Agenda may speak at this time. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

- IX. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services, such as an American Sign Language interpreter or written materials in accessible formats, should contact the Health & Human Services Department, at 33 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, healthmail@vah.com or 847/368-5760.

Minutes
Village of Arlington Heights
Senior Citizens Commission
Commissions Room-33 S Arlington Heights Road, A.H. 60005
Commissions Sub-Committee
March 16, 2026
6 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Vogt began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Present

Ellyn Zimmerman

Tim Carter

Fred Vogt

Also Present

Tracey Colagrossi, Liaison

Absent

Sue Vicellei

Corinne Drew

George Motto

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of February 23, 2026

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2026. COMMISSIONER CARTER MADE A MOTION AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2026, WERE APPROVED.

IV. REPORTS

Chairperson

Chairperson Vogt had nothing to report.

Liaison Report

- 4,342 views over the past 28 days (100% increase)
- 9 new followers added
- Continued success attributed to intergenerational content and program promotion
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Age-Friendly Community Presentation

- A PowerPoint presentation summarizing Age-Friendly initiatives was reviewed.
- Content is based on the AARP submission report but presented in a more accessible format.
- The subcommittee discussed presenting the information at:
 - Senior Center
 - Arlington Heights Memorial Library

- Other community venues and commissions
- Discussion Points:
 - Use presentations to gather community feedback
 - Consider segmenting presenters based on availability
 - Add refreshments to increase attendance
 - Simplify slides (bullet points vs. narrative text)
- Additional Ideas:
 - Create a narrated video version for the website
 - Develop a concise, community-friendly version of messaging

Community Outreach & Materials

Distribution of translated materials underway at:

- Luther Village
- The Moorings
- Church Creek
- Local churches (planned)
- Existing materials include:
 - Transportation brochure (5 languages)
 - Housing and services information

Marketing & Communication Tools

The committee discussed improving visibility and messaging:

Ideas included:

- Banner signage (indoor/outdoor, reusable)
- “Did You Know?” messaging displays
- Updating Senior Center bulletin board for greater impact
- FAQ-style materials instead of lengthy reports
- Buttons or small promotional items (e.g., “Age-Friendly”)
- Action Item:
 - Staff will develop three banner design concepts for review.

Senior Center Communication Strategy

Discussion emphasized:

- Focusing on services and benefits rather than accomplishments
- Avoiding overly institutional messaging
- Prioritizing clear, practical information for residents

Next Steps / Action Items

- Revise PowerPoint slides to be more concise
- Schedule community presentations (May–June)
- Explore video/narration option for website
- Develop banner signage concepts

- Continue evaluation of transportation options and partnerships

V. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO AJDOURN. COMMISSIONER CARTER MADE THE MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ZIMMERMAN. THE MEEDING ADJOURNED AT 6:43 PM.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Health and Human Services Director, Mila Tsagalis, presented information on a new disability inclusion award program. Key points included:

- The award was previously focused solely on employers recognizing inclusivity in hiring. The program has been reimagined to be community wide.
- The new Disability Inclusion Award is open to individuals, organizations, businesses, and schools — recognizing any act of inclusivity or accessibility improvement.
- Nominees can be submitted throughout the year, not just at year-end. The commission will also recognize nominees on an ongoing basis, not only the final awardee.
- Five nominees have already been submitted, including an organization, an individual who started a community foundation, and a business.
- Director Tsagalis noted the award connects well with built-environment concerns such as brick paver sidewalks downtown, which can create safety hazards for people with mobility issues.
- Director Tsagalis requested the Communications Subcommittee assist in spreading the word. Postcards with QR codes linking to the nomination form were distributed.
- Outreach ideas discussed: District 214 schools (including Hersey High School), churches, senior centers, doctor's offices, and the Youth Commission.

Additional announcements:

- An updated Bartlett Pharmacy brochure (home immunizations) was shared.
- The new Refuse Groot brochure is now available.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Downtown Sidewalk Safety / Brick Pavers:

Resident Donna Kunz commented on the safety of brick paver sidewalks in downtown Arlington Heights, particularly for residents with mobility challenges. Points raised included:

- Brick pavers may be technically ADA compliant but present tripping hazards for those who shuffle, including many seniors.
- Stamped colored concrete was suggested as a cost-effective alternative that mimics the appearance of brick while providing a safer, more maintainable surface. (Precedent noted from Rolling Meadows.)
- Evanston and the Village of Arlington Heights have already begun replacing pavers in some areas as part of ongoing construction projects.
- The Metra train station platform was also mentioned as a location with suggestions from wheelchair users for improved accessibility.

It was suggested the commission formally weigh in on this issue. Director Tsagalis will contact the Director of Public Works for information on current maintenance practices, complaint history, and whether any further removal or modification of pavers is planned. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIRPERSON VOGT REQUESTED A MOTION TO ADJOURN.

COMMISSIONER CARTER MADE A MOTION AND WAS SECONDED BY

COMMISSIONER DREW. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MEETING

CONCLUDED AT 6:57 PM.