

SENIOR SERVICES COMMISSION

Minutes

Regular Meeting

January 11, 2011

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Senior Services Commission meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Rowe at 9:03 a.m.

B. ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioners present P. Davis, R. Fischer, N. Kobashigawa, D. Thibeault, L. Villareal Yu, and N. Rowe

Commissioners absent: J. Jacobs, excused

Staff present: Julie Doi, Deputy City Attorney
Marisue Eastlake, RSVP Director
Caroline Gambala, Office Manager

Approval of the minutes from the November 9, 2010 meeting was moved by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and unanimously approved.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

D. PRESENTATION

No presentation was scheduled

E. NEW BUSINESS

Marisue Eastlake gave a brief review of upcoming events within the three senior centers and handed out a flyer regarding the annual Ventura County Transportation Commission hearings on transit needs.

Prior to other new business being discussed, Commissioner Kobashigawa questioned whether the Commission could legally meet since the City Council had not yet appointed members for 2011 and Commission bylaws call for a new Commission to be sworn in during January. Deputy City Attorney Doi stated the meeting met legal standards and the Commission could legitimately meet. Commissioner Thibeault made a motion to adjourn based on his concern that the meeting was illegal. There was no second. It was suggested the bylaws be placed on a future agenda.

Commissioner Thibeault reviewed goals set for 2010 and progress made including: 1) commissioner visits to the city's senior centers; 2) commissioner visits to agencies receiving Senior Services grants; 3); having grant recipient agencies speak at commission meetings; and 4) initiation of Sunday dances.

Vice Chair Rowe suggested the Commission continue its goal of starting Sunday dances. She will continue to research.

Commissioner Thibeault suggested the following 2011 goals:

- Explore the feasibility of constructing a state-of-the-art senior center;
- Work to elevate Senior Services to the department level;
- Develop a structure for commissioners to recruit volunteers to aid in senior center programming, including teaching classes;
- Improve communications between the Commission and the City Manager's office and City Council, including providing an annual report of activities to the City Council;
- Conduct a citywide survey of senior needs and wants.

Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Fischer seconded that a committee composed of commissioners Kobashigawa, Rowe and Thibeault be formed to develop a community outreach plan for recruiting volunteers and informing the public about Senior Services. Motion was approved.

Vice Chair Rowe suggested the Commission invite new City Council members on a tour of the three senior centers as part of improving communications. She agreed to contact a Thousand Oaks Council on Aging member regarding the survey that city conducted. Commissioners discussed holding a special meeting to discuss development of a survey and how it will be conducted, tentatively scheduling for February 22, 2011.

F. OLD BUSINESS

Marisue Eastlake reported she had made contact with the Parks Department regarding progress on the new community garden in Colonia. The city and county are working on an agreement regarding the garden. There is currently no estimated completion date. Eastlake has asked to attend the next meeting between the two agencies to discuss setting aside an area for seniors.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commissioner Rowe reported that VCAA was dark in December.

H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Thibeault requested the following items for a future agenda:

- Recreation and Senior Services budgets for FY 09/10 and FY 10/11;

- Ask senior center directors to each attend one meeting a year and report on their advisory councils and center activities;
- Consider creation of subcommittees within the Commission;
- Development of a writing program to capture seniors' stories.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.