

CITY OF WIXOM
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION MEETING
LIBRARY
49015 PONTIAC TRAIL
TUESDAY, September 10, 2019

Chairperson Korleski called the meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission to order at 10:00 am with the following individuals in attendance:

Commission: Jean Korleski, Anna Contreras, Joan Roberts, Judy Celinske, Connie Salvati, and George Carty.

Absent: Larry Grant

Staff: Steve Brown (City Manager), Sheryl Lucas (Administrative Assistant to City Manager), Kailyn McMahon (Senior Coordinator) and Ron Moore (Police Chief)

Public: Connie Malloy and Ed Jones

Determination of a Quorum:

A quorum of the Senior Citizen Commission was present for this meeting.

Changes or Additions to the Agenda

Chairperson Korleski stated there were no changes or additions to the agenda

March 12, 2019 Meeting Minute Questions

Mr. Brown felt that the wording in the March 2019 minutes did not convey his concern when the term elder abuse was used to describe the treatment of the senior citizens utilizing the center. Elder Abuse is when seniors are being abused financially, physically, or emotionally. This was not the case at the Senior Center. Mr. Brown asked Police Chief Ron Moore to investigate the allegations. Police Chief Ron Moore did several interviews with staff, patrons and the commission and came to the conclusion that there was absolutely no elder abuse going on at the Senior Center.

Police Chief Ron Moore spoke and stated that he sits on an Elder Abuse Commission, and he said that Elder abuse has certain connotations. He reiterated Mr. Brown's statement, that there was no elder abuse at the Senior Center.

Chairperson Korleski asked if any of the commission members had questions regarding the March 2019 meeting minutes. Commission member Celinske said that so much has changed with the new coordinator starting that it seems like a fresh start. She did point out that the membership drive is still important. She asked Mr. Brown about the five cards idea to help with

membership. Mr. Brown explained that this idea is used a lot in politics. The person would take five invitation cards and sends them to five of their friends inviting them to the senior center. Membership at the Senior Center is at 119. Chairperson Korleski stated that many are now going to the Richardson Center in Commerce because they have comfortable seating, others are going to Novi and Milford Senior Centers.

Mr. Brown explained that the membership drive will be held in the spring and the commission needs to move ahead in a positive and proactive manner. Mr. Brown would like to see the Senior Commission meetings returned to an agenda that deals with new activities, policies and major issues. The Senior Coordinator, Kailyn McMahon will handle the operational and day to day questions regarding the center. The City Manager's office will assist her with this authority.

Approval of March 12, 2019 Senior Commission Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Korleski motioned for the March 12, 2019 meeting minutes to be approved. Joan Roberts was first to approve the minutes and Judy Celinske was second to approve the meeting minutes.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence to be reviewed.

Call to Public

Chairperson asked the public wait for the second call to the public to speak.

Unfinished Business

Tabled motions have to do with the operational procedures and will be handled by Senior Coordinator, Kailyn McMahon.

New Business

Mr. Brown introduced Kailyn McMahon as the Senior Coordinator. She was hired by way of a unanimous recommendation from the selection committee.

Ms. McMahon introduced herself to the group and stated she was from the Upper Peninsula. She said she was very excited to be at the Wixom Senior Center. She is currently working on the newsletter and it should be ready to be sent out at the beginning of October. She has passed out comment cards and is loving the feedback with all the great ideas the seniors have. She has a trip to the DIA on the calendar and has started a coffee time she is calling Community and Conversation that will take place monthly. She is planning on painting pumpkins and a possible trip to the cider mill and crafting Christmas cards for Children's hospital. She said she is loving her job.

She said there is more traffic now in the center and loves hanging out with the Senior Citizens. Ms. McMahon stated she is all in.

Commission member Celinske asked if the kitchen was going to be opened to the seniors. Mr. Brown and Mrs. Lucas are researching the licensing rules on having the kitchen open to the public. Mr. Brown said He doesn't want to create a bigger problem by opening the kitchen until they are through with their research. Vice Chairperson Contreras said that the Richardson Center kitchen is closed because people were going in the kitchen and removing things. Mr. Brown reassured the commission that the Senior Coordinator, Ms. McMahon has the key to the kitchen and will be able to get the seniors what they need from the kitchen area.

Mr. Brown thanked his assistant Sheryl Lucas and Anna Kulas Rosenthal for their amazing help over the summer keeping the Senior Center running. They really stepped up. Mrs. Lucas said she definitely learned a lot more about the Senior Center.

Second Call to Public

Mr. Ed Jones said he attended the last Wixom City Council meeting, there was discussion by the council about the Community Center and how a lot of money was spent to renovate the center so they could rent it out more. Mr. Jones said he felt that Mayor Ziegler was on board with the community center being for the Senior Citizens. Mr. Brown said that anytime you have a community center that hasn't been renovated in 15 to 20 years you owe it to the community to bring it up to date. The cost of the renovations was \$350,000 and that regardless of rentals, first and foremost it was for the community.

Mr. Ed Jones said that it might not have been elder abuse but he knows that people were emotionally chastised and afraid to speak up because they might get in trouble. He said he is thinking things will get better with the new Senior Coordinator.

Police Chief, Ron Moore spoke about September being Hunger Action Month. The City Police Department is having Stuff the Squad Car during the month of September. They are collecting non-perishable foods and toiletries. He said that Hospitality House serves 550 people monthly. He is counting on the community to fill the squad car; he is hoping to take a trailer full to Hospitality House on September 30th.

Connie Malloy said she wanted to praise Kailyn for speaking eye to eye with the senior citizens at the meet and greet. She said Kailyn squatted down and spoke to everyone at their level.

Staff Comments

None

Commission Comments

Commission member Celinske stated she is looking forward to giving to the community now that there is a new Senior Coordinator. She missed doing the school supply collection for Hospitality House and the donations for the veterans.

Approved
1/14/2020

Commission member Roberts said that Christmas is coming and they would like to do gift giving for the homeless. The Senior Coordinator said they can toss ideas around during coffee time and definitely hop on the Stuff the Squad Car for September. Police Chief, Ron Moore said they will have another event to collect toys in November.

Commission member Connie Salvati asked if there was going to be a Halloween Luncheon. Ms. McMahon said she is working on the luncheon right now. Commission member Roberts asked if it was going to cost \$8 for non-members and \$10 for members. Commission member Carty said that way they can pay their dues on the spot and get the discount.

Ms. McMahon added that she has a tentative date for the seniors to receive the flu shot and that potluck bingo will be a monthly event again. She also said there will be a Trivia luncheon over the next three months with a free lunch.

Commission member Salvati asked about the Zehnder trip. Ms. McMahon will check into that possibility. She did say that movie and pizza will be coming back monthly and she will check into The Armchair Traveler.

It was agreed that open communication is the key to making everything work.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Chairperson Korelski. Commission member Anna Contreras approved the motion and Commission member Judy Celinski seconded the motion. The meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission was adjourned at 10:47 am.