



**Municipality of Anchorage
SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES
March 25, 2015**

Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Joan Fisher, Chair Stuart "Cam" Rader, Co-Chair Dawnia Clements Theresa Brisky AnnaBell Stevens <u>DHHS Staff</u> David Levy Judy Atkins	Ella Craig (U) Mary Sullivan (U) Carol Jackson (E) Kevin Turkington (E)	Ken Helander, AARP Jim McCall, AHFC Gordon Glaser Casey McColloch, Elder- Mentor Program Becky Parker, ASAC

The meeting started with a quorum in attendance.

I. Call to Order

Chair Joan Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. at the Anchorage Senior Activity Center. Introductions.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Joan Fisher called for objections to approval of the agenda. Hearing none, agenda approved.

III. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Stevens moved to approve the minutes from Feb. 25, 2015 meeting; seconded by Commissioner Brisky. **Motion passed.**

IV. Liaison Report – David Levy

Mr. Levy reports that he has completed his first month in his new position. He appreciated taking tours of both the Anchorage Senior Activity Center and the Chugiak Eagle River Senior Center. He foresees many opportunities in the community and looks forward to the upcoming challenges as he continues to settle into his position of serving the senior, disabled and homeless communities.

V. OLD Business

Older Americans Month Kick Off Event-May 6, 2015.

The deadline for the Ron Hammett Award has been extended through March 31, 2015. Commissioners are encouraged to reach out to their contacts in the community for nominations. This is the opportunity to profile and highlight special individuals who assist seniors in the community.

The keynote speaker has not been identified yet. Following discussion of prior and possible individuals, Judge Karen Hunt was suggested. It was agreed to invite Judge Hunt to be the main speaker. We anticipate receiving videos from the Congressional delegation; Mayor Sullivan will be asked for a proclamation and his presence at the event; we will task the Commission on Aging with identifying the centenarians.

Commission Meeting Venue Change-April 22, 2015. *The Commission will meet at the Chugiak Eagle River Senior Center, 10:00-Noon immediately followed by a joint meeting with the Mat-Su Senior Advisory Commission which could last until 2:00 pm.*

Commissioners should carpool; Commissioner Fisher offered to drive. Hopefully, dialogues on issues of concern for both groups will be opened. Jim McCall provided background information on the group, which was formed in May of 2014. Members are chosen for seats according to specific areas of expertise. Mr. McCall was asked to provide a map of the Mat-Su Borough boundaries for the upcoming meeting. David Levy will ensure that a representative from the Chugiak Eagle River Senior Center is invited to attend this meeting.

Commission Planning Session/Retreat. June 24, 2015 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm at the BP Energy Center confirmed.

VI. New Business

Outreach to Girdwood. Suggestions on possible meeting venues were asked for; Commissioner Clements suggested the Girdwood Library. As there is a significant senior population in the area, we will urge the community to attend. Chair Fisher will make contact with someone in the Girdwood area.

Legislative Report, Ken Helander, AARP. Mr. Helander provided a handout with details of Bills in the Legislature for approval and where they stand with only month left in session. The Legislature continues to focus on the topics of Medicaid expansion, budget, gas line and marijuana. AARP is also strongly advocating for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, which is the funding source for many senior programs. Without reauthorization, funding is tied to the 2011 levels and priorities and not current ones. AARP continues to provide new caregiver workshops statewide.

VII. Public Comments

Jim McCall, representing Alaska Housing Finance Corp. (AHFC), provided a housing update. The senior citizen project development with a budget of 4.5 million dollars has been zeroed out of the Legislative budget this year. In the past, one million of those funds were

given to non profits and used for accessibility modifications for seniors. Jim offered a breakdown of the capital budget and the many cuts.

VIII. Announcements

Gordon Glaser expressed his appreciation for the AARP and their mission noting that the most two popular programs at the senior center are tax preparation assistance and driver's training.

Commissioner Stevens attended the 7th Annual We Are Elders In Training, sponsored by Trust Training Cooperative, in Fairbanks on March 3 & 4th and will provide a report at the next meeting. She indicated that Fairbanks is interested in starting a program similar to the Senior Friendly.

Casey McColloch looks forward to working with Commissioner Clements to target grandparents for the Elder Mentor Program.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 9th for the 11th annual Ambin' for Alzheimer's Walk, to be held at the Anchorage Golf Course.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.