



**Municipality of Anchorage
SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES
April 26, 2017 – 10:00am-12:00pm
Anchorage Senior Activity Center, 1300 East 19th Avenue**

Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Gayle Schuh, Chair AnnaBell Stevens Ella Craig (T) Theresa Brisky Hattie Gardner Kevin Turkington	Dawnia Clements (E) Joan Fisher (E) LeeAnn Horn (E)	Coleman Cutchins Mountain-Pacific Preston Groogen Mountain-Pacific <u>DHHS Staff</u> David Levy Judy Atkins

The meeting started with a quorum.

I. Call to Order

Chair Schuh called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

II. Approval of Agenda

Chair Schuh called for approval of the agenda. The presentation from Mountain-Pacific Quality Health was to the top of the agenda. Commissioner Turkington moved to approve the agenda with changes; seconded by Commissioner Stevens. **Hearing no objections, the Agenda was approved.**

III. Approval of Minutes

Chair Schuh called for the approval of the minutes for the March 22, 2017 meeting as presented. Chair noted minor typo in page 2 under presentations. Commissioner Turkington moved to approve the minutes with changes; seconded by Commissioner Gardner. **Hearing no objections, the Minutes were approved.**

IV. Introductions

Guests include: Preston Groogen and Coleman Cutchins representing Mountain-Pacific Quality Health.

V. Comment from the Chair

Chair Schuh apologized for missing two meetings, however anticipates attending the rest of the year.

VI. Presentations

Representing Mountain-Pacific Quality Health, Preston Groogan provided a verbal presentation. MPQH is a quality improvement organizations with multiple different health care tasks performed. Working with Alaska senior citizens to address diabetes. Very large diabetes education program, offering 27 free courses. Over 13 different tasks worked on from cardiac measures to working with physicians to improve the state of cardiac and blood pressure in Alaska to diabetes to care coordination. They also encourage using medical portals and are tracking the number of influenza vaccinations across Alaska. Classes are offered free of charge. Commissioner Schuh suggested they contact the Federation of Community Councils as their meeting offers a good networking opportunity.

VII. Liaison Report – David Levy - none

VIII. Old Business

Update – Senior Survey – Mr. Levy reported that close to 700 people have taken the Senior Survey. Reporting on her volunteer effort at Brother Francis Shelter, Commissioner Fisher said the survey does not match the needs of the population there; there was little participation and no volunteers showed up to assist. She suggested that we have a joint meeting with the ADA Commission to do a community forum at Brother Francis to see how we can assist with the intense demands of seniors in the homeless population. Commissioner Brisky commented on the challenges of mental health issues with that demographic; often we have idealistic ideas to assist the homeless, not seeing the realistic and addressing the original issues of being homeless. Commissioner Turkington would like to see more of a “Clitheroe Center” type of facility that addresses homelessness and provides treatment. The survey was also offered to the residents of Chugach Manor; a translator was offered and 45 were completed.

Older Americans Month Kick Off Event, May 3 – Judy Atkins provided a synopsis of issues for the event: Speaker: Lt Governor Byron Mallott is unable to attend; Ken Helander with AARP will be the keynote speaker; Steve Ashman will represent the Mayor’s office. Rick Schroeder will sing the National Anthem and lead us in the Alaska Flag song, still waiting on video from Senator Murkowski, Ron Hammett plaque will be ready, the ADRC staff along with three volunteers from Mountain-Pacific will assist with setup, seating, tickets, cake serving, etc. Most of the checks have been turned in to the Senior Center. Commissioner Gardner will assist Commissioner Fisher with door prizes. Only minor issues to attend to.

IX. New Business

Support for Senior Benefits Program – Mr. Levy indicated that Senior Benefits Program is up for reauthorization in June 2018. This program provides three payment levels based on the senior’s gross annual income. They are looking for support from the Commission in the

form of a letter or public testimony. He will forward the request letter to the Commissioners who will write a letter.

X. Legislative Report – Ken Helander - none

XI. Announcements

Ms. Atkins announced that she will not be available to take minutes at the May meeting which will be a joint meeting with the Mat Su Council on Aging. She asked if anyone would like to volunteer.

Kevin Turkington announced 4th Annual Midnight Sun Swing into Solstice Charity Golf Classic at Settler's Bay on June 23rd. Tee off at 4pm and golf into the midnight sun. Checkout the website at www.swingintosolstice.org.

Also on May 12... Visitor Industry Charity Walk celebrates tourism's commitment to community that is fun and raises money for nonprofits. Enjoy food while raising funds. Walk along the downtown route nibbling tasty treats donated by local restaurants.

Kevin Turkington announced that Midnight Sun Home Care had acquired Carenet's homecare division.

Saturday, April 29th is Prescription Drug Take Back Day at Fred Meyer locations around Anchorage.

XII. Adjournment

Commissioner Turkington moved to adjourn; second by Commissioner Stevens; the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.