



**Senior Citizens Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2026 | Anchorage Senior Activity Center and via Zoom**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Jim Bailey, Chair; Madeline Holdorf, Vice Chair; Gordon Glaser; Judy Atkins; Anne Tompkins

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Abi Haring-Brito (unexcused); Suzanne Hickel (unexcused)

GUESTS

Celine Kaplan, Anchorage Senior Activity Center; Marge Stoneking, AARP (Zoom); Torrie Schleper, Alaska VA Healthcare Community Engagement Partnerships; Cecila Sanchez, AnchorRIDES

STAFF

Amy Becia, ADRC Sr. Office Associate
Christine Villanueva, ADRC Sr. Office Associate
Darcie Montalvo, Human Services Division Manager

ROLL CALL – 10:07 AM

Jim Bailey, Chair, noted that a quorum was not present. He stated that Anne Tompkins was expected to arrive shortly and that Abi Haring-Brito would join via Zoom at approximately 11:00 AM. Members present at 10:07 AM were Jim Bailey, Madeline Holdorf, Gordon Glaser, and Judy Atkins. The Chair proceeded with an informational presentation while awaiting additional members.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

Anchorage Senior Activity Center (ASAC), presented by Celine Kaplan

Celine Kaplan provided an overview of ASAC's upcoming events, programs, services, and membership. Additional information is available on the ASAC website and in the Senior Borealis monthly newsletter.

Gordon encouraged attendees to participate in community organizations such as the ASAC Board of Directors, AARP, and the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission. Madeline noted that ASAC offers meeting space for nonprofit groups and mentioned Alaska Rainbow Elders and other organizations that support socialization and community engagement.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL – 10:16 AM

Jim stated a quorum was present at 10:16 AM and called the meeting to order. Members present at 10:16 AM are Jim Bailey, Madeline Holdorf, Gordon Glaser, Judy Atkins, and Anne Tompkins. Madeline requested that guests, members of the public, and staff introduce themselves so their attendance could be recorded.

MEETING APPROVALS

Agenda

Judy MOVED to approve the agenda, SECONDED by Gordon. Hearing no objections, the motion PASSED.

Minutes: March 25, 2026

Jim stated that Gordon had MOVED to approve March 25 minutes during the May 27 meeting, but the motion had not received a second. Anne SECONDED the motion. Hearing no objections, the motion to approve the minutes PASSED.

Minutes: May 27, 2026

Judy MOVED to approve the minutes, SECONDED by Gordon. Madeline requested that the minutes include additional details regarding the Older Americans Month debrief and asked that the phrase “including the need for thank you notes for presenters, sponsors, and people who donated” be added. Madeline asked whether a purpose statement should be added to the minutes; members agreed to discuss this after addressing the motion to approve the minutes. The motion to approve the minutes, with Madeline’s addition regarding thank you notes, PASSED.

Judy MOVED to include the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission purpose statement on the monthly agenda. SECONDED by Gordon. Hearing no objections, the motion PASSED.

DISCLOSURES

None.

PRESENTATION

Legislative Report, presented by Marge Stoneking, AARP Alaska (AARP)

Marge provided an overview of legislative activity relevant to older Alaskans.

Retirement Readiness Initiatives: She reported that the legislature successfully passed key initiatives centering on retirement readiness: Pensions for Public Service and Alaska Work and Save. However, both bills were ultimately vetoed by the Governor. AARP plans to continue advocating for these initiatives next year.

Cryptocurrency Consumer Protections: A consumer protection bill regulating cryptocurrency kiosks passed unanimously and is scheduled for the Governor's signature on July 2, 2026.

Civil Legal Aid Funding: Marge noted that AARP supported a multi-year effort to revise the state's civil legal aid funding matrix, resulting in increased support for the Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC).

AARP-Supported Legislation Passed This Session:

Mail Theft Protections: Expanded penalties for mail-related offenses, including identity theft.

Social Work & Occupational Therapy Compacts: Adoption of multistate licensing compacts to help address workforce shortages.

CNA Training: Added training requirements for dementia care.

Data Sharing: Streamlined processes to expedite Social Security card replacements.

Medicaid Workforce Funding: The legislature approved a funding increase intended to boost wages for Medicaid Direct Service Professionals (DSPs), pending the Governor's signature.

Senior & Disability Service Funding: Additional increases were approved for non-Medicaid Senior Community Grants, adult day services, and the Statewide Independent Living Council.

Event Announcement: Marge shared that AARP will host a nonpartisan candidate engagement event on September 30, 2026, at 49th State Brewing Company in Anchorage. More information is available at aarp.org/getinvolved

Jim invited Marge to present at the next meeting and she will check her availability. Anne asked a question regarding the pending DSP funding and Marge offered to provide a link with further information.

COMMISSION FOCUS

Age-Friendly Anchorage

Jim invited members to discuss upcoming community events and initiatives for future commission consideration.

AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities: Madeline provided an overview of the AARP Age-Friendly Designation framework, noting the structured reporting requirements,

multi-year timeline, and annual reporting to AARP's Livable Communities division. She reported that the leading member of the working group is assessing progress outlined in the action plan and will request input from members before the reporting deadline of June 30.

Municipal Housing Initiative: Gordon commented on the Mayor's housing initiatives, highlighting the municipality's focus on tax rebates and policy reforms aimed at addressing the local housing shortage.

AARP Middle Housing Initiatives: Following Gordon's remarks, Madeline outlined AARP's work on middle housing, noting that AARP's Livable Communities initiative is offering legal resources and grant funding to support evaluation of neighborhood-scale housing solutions.

Planning, Goals, and Commission Responsibilities

Future Presentations and Quorum Management: Jim requested that commissioners actively work to identify and arrange presenters for future meetings and provide updates to him directly. He emphasized the importance of responding promptly to attendance emails from Anchorage Health Department (AHD) support staff to ensure quorum requirements are met.

Long-Term Care Presentation Proposal: Madeline suggested inviting Stephanie Wheeler, Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO), to present emerging issues in long-term care. A general discussion followed regarding long-term care permitting, the LTCO volunteer program, and statewide oversight considerations.

Motion to Invite the Long-Term Care Ombudsman: Madeline moved to establish an ongoing relationship with the LTCO regarding elder care in Anchorage and statewide. After discussion on the process for establishing such a relationship, Madeline withdrew the motion and restated it as a formal invitation.

Madeline then MOVED to invite Stephanie Wheeler to present at a future commission meeting, SECONDED by Gordon. During discussion, Jim suggested adding long-term care (LTC) as an ongoing Commission Focus agenda item, prompting further conversation. Hearing no objections, the motion to invite Stephanie Wheeler PASSED.

Motion to Add LTC as an Ongoing Agenda Item: Gordon moved to add long-term care as an ongoing agenda item under Commission Focus. The motion did not initially receive a second, and the Commission proceeded with general discussion regarding LTC, assisted living facilities, and the agencies and programs involved.

Inquiry on Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC):

Madeline asked how the ADRC is directly involved with LTC services. Darcie Montalvo described ADRC services such as options counseling and assisted living home lists.

Gordon asked which public agency residents should call when seeking assisted living options. Darcie confirmed that the ADRC serves as the primary contact point. Amy Becia noted the high volume of public inquiries the agency receives and recommended inviting the ADRC Program Manager to a future meeting for a structured discussion of ADRC services.

The Little Blue Book: Jim asked about the timeline for updating The Little Blue Book. Darcie agreed to follow up with him after the meeting.

Following additional discussion on LTC planning and care types, Anne offered to speak with the editors of the Senior Voice and plans to recommend a special housing section. Jim asked whether any motions were pending in this area. Gordon restated his earlier motion to add long-term care as an ongoing agenda item under Commission Focus, and Anne SECONDED the restated motion. Hearing no objections, the motion PASSED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Older American Month – Wrap Up

Older Americans Month was not discussed during the Unfinished Business and was later mentioned under Commissioner Comments & Announcements.

NEW BUSINESS

Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA), Summit on Aging, October 15 -17, 2026

Jim opened a discussion regarding the upcoming Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA) Summit, asking commissioners about their participation plans and available event information. Madeline suggested offering a workshop on how the public can become engaged with advisory commissions. The commission discussed potential involvement in the summit. Anne agreed to contact the ACoA to secure additional summit details for Jim and the rest of the commission. Additionally, the commission discussed coordinating attendance with the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and Darcie Montalvo responded that she will inform the ADRC Program Manager.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Torrie Schleper, representing Alaska VA Healthcare Community Engagement Partnerships, introduced herself and shared information regarding VA community engagement services. Torrie offered to present detailed program information at a future date, and Jim invited her to present at the July meeting. Torrie agreed to email an informational packet to the Commission and noted she would follow up with Jim after the meeting. During the discussion, Darcie suggested that Torrie connect with Access Alaska and AHD Community Health Workers. Madeline also recommended reviewing veteran resources provided by AARP.

Cecila Sanchez introduced herself to the Commission and shared information regarding the AnchorRIDES program. Commissioners raised questions regarding the program's

funding and offered various suggestions. Cecilia stated that she did not have funding information available to present during the meeting. However, she answered general questions about AnchorRIDES operations and invited the Commissioners to reach out to her directly with any subsequent questions or concerns.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS | ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim invited commissioners to offer comments and make announcements.

Plans to Meet with the Mayor: Judy asked the Commission to resume discussion regarding a meeting with the Mayor. Jim noted that a motion would be required. Gordon MOVED to set up a meeting with the Mayor, “to advise and consult as instructed in the charter,” SECONDED by Anne. Hearing no objections, the motion PASSED. Jim asked Judy to contact the Mayor’s office to request a meeting on behalf of the Commission. Members briefly discussed public notice requirements for such a meeting.

Alaska Rainbow Elders: Madeline announced that members of Alaska Rainbow Elders will serve as Grand Marshals in the 2026 Anchorage Pride Parade, scheduled for Saturday, June 27.

Older Persons Action Group Provider (OPAG) Providers Breakfast: Anne announced the next OPAG Providers Breakfast is scheduled for July 8, from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM.

Older Americans Month: Anne noted that Judy left the meeting and asked about the status of thank you notes for the Older Americans Month event. Jim offered to follow up with Judy and Suzanne Hickel regarding the thank you notes.

Alaska Commission on Aging (ACoA), Senior Snapshot 2025: Anne shared copies of the ACoA Senior Snapshot 2025 with commissioners.

Long-term Care: Gordon reiterated the importance of the Commission’s continuing discussion on long-term care.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next regular meeting- July 22, 2026

Jim reminded commissioners to respond promptly to attendance emails from AHD staff.

ADJOURNMENT — 11:50 AM

Despite the loss of quorum, Madeline MOVED to adjourn the meeting, SECONDED by Gordon. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.