



**SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
SUMMARY MEETING NOTES  
December 15, 2021 ~ Microsoft Teams**

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Guests</b>
Jim Bailey, Chair	AnnaBell Stevens (E)	Maureen Haggblom, ADRC
Dawnia Clements	Mary Shields (E)	Joe Gerace, Director, AHD
Suzanne Hickel	Traci Willett (E)	Brittney Mitchell, ASAC
Abrianna Haring-Brito	Amanda Rinner (E)	Hollis Mickey, Anchorage Museum
	Dr. Emily McMahan (E)	<b>Staff Liaison:</b> Judy Atkins

**Call to Order**

Chair Bailey started the meeting at 10:03 a.m. without a quorum.

**Introductions**

**Approval of the Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Presentations**

Britney Mitchell, Anchorage Senior Activity Center

The Anchorage Senior Activity Center is open to all ages 18 and over, catering to mostly 50 and over. Activities include board games, card games, social hour, visit by Santa on Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> with live music and prizes. They have been fortunate to receive grant funding to receive electronic tablets for members to check out and have use of technology. Also, offering AgeSmart, a virtual training held monthly, next on January 11, 2022. Get yourself back into shape in the new year with ASAC's health and wellness experts. Construction at the center is still an issue however the library and computer lab are available, call first. Many classes are available during the week with the equipment well utilized. Socialization is most important. They are excited about the new year and anticipated reopening the center.

Hollis Mickey, Anchorage Museum

The Anchorage Museum has over 170,000 sf of galleries and expositions with 25,000 items in their permanent collection; large auditorium. She provided an overview of various exhibitions and view of their mission. Current exhibitions include Counter Cartographies; Borealis, Life in the Woods; Stuart Hyatt: Stations. Their hours are Hours Tues-Sat 10-6; Sun 12-6 Fridays thru 9 – closed on Mondays; Cost: \$20 – Seniors \$15. Bank of America credit card holders can attend free on first weekend of the month. There are daily shows, workshops, and private events in the Thomas planetarium. Go to website to learn about programs and events by visiting the calendar. [www.anchoragemuseum.org](http://www.anchoragemuseum.org)

## **Alaska Commission on Aging Report - Gordon Glaser**

This will be Gordon's last meeting. The Commission continues to progress with an advocacy meeting regarding proposed legislation. Not a lot of changes happening at the moment. The Anchorage Pioneer Home special unit for behavior difficulties is set to open soon. Staff are trained and this will make a difference for difficult dementia cases. Some of the senior centers are reopening, some are not, and all are concerned about funding.

## **Legislative | AARP Report**

### **Old Business**

Focal Point – Alzheimer's. Commission would like to at Pam Kelley as a future presenter on this topic.

InPerson Meetings. When? Due to the recent upsurge of the omicron variant, commissioners indicated we should hold off on deciding or give the opportunity to do both. Director Gerace commented that the AHD conference room is available. Most agreed that the meeting should stay virtual now.

### **New Business**

Elections – held in January. Chair Bailey asked that commissioners consider nominating someone for the Chair and Vice Chair positions or perhaps nominating themselves. Elections will be held at the January 26 meeting; Chair Bailey will serve again if asked.

### **Comments from the Chair**

Chair Bailey commented that he is happy to be on our Commission and welcomes the new members. He would like to have personal conversations with each in the future and is encouraging them to bring their ideas to the table. He also put in a good word for the AgeSmart virtual presentation by ASAC which is sponsored by OPAG and AARP.

### **Commissioner/Guest Comments/Announcements**

Commissioner Clements welcomed the new members and is looking forward to what the new year will bring.

Commissioner Hickel commented that she is happy to be on the commission and looks forward to seeing what we do and don't do. She will contact Chair for a conversation.

Commissioner Haring-Brito says we are off to a good start and is looking forward to helping with new ideas and the new year.

### **Adjournment**

Next meeting will be virtual on Microsoft Teams on January 26, 2022, 10AM. Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.