



**SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION
SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES**

February 26, 2020 ~ Anchorage Senior Activity Center, 1300 E. 19th Ave.

Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Theresa Brisky, Chair Pam Kelley Emily McMahan (T) AnnaBell Stevens Dawnia Clements (T) Jim Bailey (T)	Hattie Gardner (U)	Keisha Lafayette, CENSUS 2020 Gordon Glaser, ACoA Viola Smith, Frontier Health Staff: Judy Atkins

Call to Order

Chair Theresa Brisky called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. with a quorum.

Approval of the Agenda

Chair Brisky called for approval of the Agenda. Commissioner Stevens moved to accept the Agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Schuh. **Hearing no objections, the Agenda was approved.**

Approval of Minutes

Chair Brisky called for approval of the minutes for the January 22, 2020 meeting. Motion to accept the minutes as presented by Commissioner Kelley, seconded by Commissioner McMahan. **Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.**

Introductions

Presentations

U.S. Census Bureau, Keisha Lafayette, Regional Partnership Specialist. Once every decade the federal government conducts a census of the entire population to count everyone in the United States and record basic information. Our nation’s founders believed this data was so important they mandated the decennial census in the Constitution. The census is much more than just a head count. It provides a picture of our nation that helps determine where to build new schools, hospitals and businesses; how federal funding is distributed; and how congressional seats are apportioned. It also helps us see how our communities have changed over time. That is why an accurate count is so important. Census data impacts our daily lives. More than \$675 billion in federal funding flows back to states and local communities each year based on census data. FAQs: Everyone Counts – The census counts every person living in the U.S. once. Easy and Convenient - Responses will be accepted online, by phone, or by

mail. There are 10 questions. If you don't respond, a census taker will go door to door to count people. Strict law protects census responses. It is against the law for any Census Bureau employee to disclose or publish any census information that identifies an individual or business. Census takers do not ask for social security numbers, bank or credit card numbers, donations or support for political parties. Personal data gathered in the 2020 Census will not be released to the public until 2092. Note – Census teams are still needed – jobs pay well, are temporary and flexible (\$28-\$31 per hr)

Legislative | AARP Report | Ken Helander

Comments from the Chair

Old Business

Older Americans Month / Ron Hammett Award updates. Ms. Atkins reported that all planning is going well. The singer is secured; Mayor's proclamation turned in; invitations have been sent to our Congressional delegation, the Mayor and Governor. The facility will decorate the tables with a Spring theme; ADRC will provide staff to assist with seating and other issues; Commissioners Schuh and Gardner are working on door prizes; entertainment is confirmed. Ron Hammett Award criteria and nomination forms have been distributed to various media and posted on commission webpage; translated into Korean for Chugach View and Manor; There is one submission for the Ron Hammett Award. Many issues are falling into place and we are ahead of the game. Next meeting – identify Emcees.

Licensing and Certification of Nurses Bill (HB238/SB179) – Letter of Support. As discussed in the January meeting, the Commission would like to send a letter of support for this important issue affecting not only seniors but all residents. Commissioner Schuh agreed to draft a letter. Final letter to be sent to Governor, OPAG, Alaska Commission on Aging.

April Meeting with the Mayor / Letter to the Mayor. Ms. Atkins reported that the Mayor's office will confirm a date when the Mayor's travel schedule for April is firm. Commissioner Schuh agreed to draft the annual Letter to the Mayor.

Senior Friendly Project – Educational Presentation. If the Commission wants to proceed with this project as an educational piece, a subcommittee should be formed for action to be taken. Any future presentations at groups such as the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, should be booked sooner rather than later as the slots are filled quickly. Viola Smith, a guest today, is also an Ambassador with the Chamber and would like to assist with scheduling. Those interested in being on the subcommittee are Commissioners Bailey, Stevens, Brisky, Clements and McMahan.

New Business

2020 Commission Topic of Interest – Dementia / Alzheimer's. This will be the focal point for the Senior Commission this year. Commissioner Kelley will draft a letter to the Mayor supporting the efforts of Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska in elevating awareness of the

prevalence and incidence of dementia as it affects all members of our community and urging early memory screening. Commissioner Kelley with Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska, plans on attending every Community Council meeting to raise awareness. Other ideas are asking help from OPAG/AARP and providing education at the senior center; reaching out to other organizations to help; churches would be a good venue.

Commissioner comments/Announcements

Gordon Glaser remarked that the new Director for the Alaska Commission on Aging is Emily Palmer. He encourages people to check online for legislative updates. He also urged us to support Proposition 7 which pays for repairs, safety upgrades, code improvement projects, elevator repairs, ADA compliance and seismic modifications for the Anchorage Senior Activity Center, Chugach-Eagle River Senior Center, Loussac and Mt. View Libraries. Anchorage Senior Activity Center is applying for a liquor license (beer & wine). Gordon Glaser would like to be added to our Agenda to offer reports from the Alaska Commission on Aging.

Pam Kelley informed us that the AARP Livable Communities Grant process has started again, with a deadline of April 1. Look at some of the projects funded under these grants.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn by Commissioner Schuh, second by Commissioner Stevens; meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Wed., March 25, 2020.