



**SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES  
July 27, 2022 ~ Anchorage Senior Activity Center/Zoom**

Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Abi Haring-Brito, Vice Chair Dr. Emily McMahan Mary Shields AnnaBell Stevens Traci Willett Suzanne Hickel	Jim Bailey, (E) Dawnia Clements (E)	Marge Stoneking, AARP Maureen Haggblom, ADRC Madeline Holdorf, AARP Teresa Holt, AARP Michael Courtney, AHFC Mary Dean Broussard <b>Staff Liaison:</b> Judy Atkins

**Call to Order**

Vice Chair Haring-Brito started the meeting at 10:06 a.m. with a quorum.

**Introductions**

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented, Commissioner Shields; seconded by Commissioner McMahan. **Hearing no objections, the motion passed.**

**Approval of the May 25, 2022 Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Stevens; seconded by Commissioner Shields. **Hearing no objections, the motion passed.**

**Presentation**

**Livable Communities and Senior Commission Involvement | Madeline Holdorf, Teresa Holt AARP**

Congratulations! Anchorage is the 678<sup>th</sup> community to enroll in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities. We are also the most northern one! AARP expressed appreciation to the commission for the letter of support and to Mayor Bronson for his enthusiasm and support for the project. The second step in the approval process is holding listening sessions and preparing a survey. The first listening session will be held at the senior center in November at the Age Smart meeting on Tuesdays. Ideas for where listening centers could be held were discussed: senior centers, pioneer homes, assisted livings, low cost housing, medical clinics. They will also connect with the senior provider groups through the OPAG meetings. Commissioner Bailey has taken on a leadership role in assisting with this project. The eight domains of livability which include: outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, work and civic engagement, communication and information and community and health services, are what makes a community age friendly, some of which are in place already. There will be many options to address these domains individually as the project proceeds. One example of a project for the transportation domain is conducting a walkability audit as volunteers look at sections of the city, making notes. Areas selected because they have been impacted by vision zero (accidents). This

audit would be done in both summer and winter. Commissioners are enthusiastic about participating. Teresa Holt asked for ideas – big or small and to include event planning.

### **Legislative | AARP Report - Marge Stoneking, AARP**

For this legislative session, AARP had 22 priorities, 14 of which passed. The handout was provided: AARP Alaska 32<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Wrap-up, which breaks down supported legislations and their outcomes. PASSED LEGISLATION: High speed internet, advanced practice permit for dental hygienists, dementia awareness, scope of practice for end of life, resident's rights for assisted living homes, deferred maintenance for the Pioneer Home system, home-based reimbursement for Medicaid services and general relief for those temporarily in assisted living. Legislation that did not pass, however is expected to be re-introduced next year: HB14/SB67 nurse licensure compact, HB292 home & community-based services, SB98 adult home care, HB17 non-discrimination. AARP continues to work on discerning what next year's priorities will be along with voter and candidate engagement.

### **Old Business**

Safety concerns at Chugach Manor (CM)/Chugach View (CV) – Mike Courtney. At last month's planning session, Commissioner Clements spoke about an incident that occurred with a senior resident who was injured and is concerned that safety issues may again become a problem as they were many years ago. Mr. Courtney provided details of the incident and included that the attacker remains in jail and has been trespassed from AHFC properties. There was no way to prevent this from happening in advance and AHFC has done everything possible to ensure he does not return. Background on the units: there are 120 subsidized units at Chugach View and Chugach Manor, managed by AHFC. On site, there is a property manager, asset coordinator, service coordinator, and custodians. A screening process for residents is performed, no sex offenders are allowed. There is also an extensive camera system which was updated in the last few years, allowing them to track what is going on in the hallways. They are in the process of designing a generator system to keep heat and lighting on during emergencies. Additional security has been added to alleviate the concerns of the residents. Accessible doors have been changed to create a safer environment and they are in the process of replacing a lot of the windows, making them smaller (for crime prevention). This will be ongoing until completed. AHFC staff care deeply about the residents of CV/CM, keep an eye out for anything that would threaten their safety and address issues before they become problems.

Focal point – Alzheimer's and related dementias. This topic continues to be a high priority for the commission. Ms. Atkins will extend an invitation to Pam Kelley, Executive Director, to attend a meeting, providing updates and also let the commission know how we can be of assistance.

Anchorage as an Age-Friendly Designation. Discussions held earlier in the meeting.

Senior Health Screening Event. As discussed at the May meeting, Dr. Emily McMahan has set up a health screening event at the senior center on August 5<sup>th</sup> from 10-2pm. Offering hearing screenings from Alaska Hearing & Tinnitus Center and vision screenings from Makar Eyecare, this event is totally free for seniors. Mary Shields offered to work with the volunteer coordinator at the center to arrange for assistance that day (3-4 volunteers). Thank you for your generosity!

**New Business**

Commission Vacancies. Gordon Glaser has submitted his Commission application/resume to the Mayor's office for consideration. Mary Shields will be resigning following the August meeting due to her relocation out of state. Two commissioners have terms that expire in 2022 – AnnaBell Stevens and Emily McMahan. Ms. Atkins will send the application link to both.

**Public Comment****Commissioner/Announcements**

Today is the Day of Remembrance at the Anchorage Senior Activity Center, recognizing those who passed away from 2019 to date. Noon-2 pm; refreshments.

**Adjournment**

Move to adjourn, Commissioner Willett; seconded by Commissioner McMahan; hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 11:10.

**Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 24, 2022**