



MINUTES

North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission

July 22, 2019 | 3:00 PM

Hays Center

The Senior Citizens Commission meeting was called to order by Robert Barnes at 3:00 PM.

Present were: Jim Lewis, Dorothy Romes, Marleene Calvin, Robert Barnes, Belinda Snow and Beth White. Eddie Powell, Dick Giddings and Dick Blankenbeker were absent. A quorum was declared.

A motion was made by Jim Lewis to excuse absences. The motion was seconded by Marleene Calvin. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Beth White to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Dorothy Romes. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Bernadette Rhodes gave a financial overview, reporting that financials are in good order. Income has been steady and on track, with lunches and events showing a significant increase in revenue. Locker rentals are down. Three Outreach CDs matured and were transferred to Arkansas Federal Credit Union at 2.65% interest. The Ballroom AV bid was finalized with Wirges Percussion as the vendor awarded with the contract. Most of the cost of the AV renovation will be covered by the equipment budget, with equipment maintenance covering the rest. A motion was made by Beth White to accept the financial report and seconded by Belinda Snow. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Rhodes gave a program update, including a review of her staff report to the Mayor. The program memo and staff report are enclosed below. The center has had an increase in attendance with a consistent net gain of members. There were 93 in attendance for the Independence Day Luncheon. The NLRFD/NLRPD blood drive brought in 60 units of blood.

Ms. Rhodes reported that we will now be providing transportation on-demand throughout the week for pharmacy, grocery and medical van runs for senior public housing residents. Grocery and pharmacy will need to stay within the city of North Little Rock. Transportation is starting to pick up.

Ms. Rhodes gave a facility and equipment update. The aerobics pool has been repainted and the contractor fixed his error. We are into \$11,000 for maintenance cost for the year on the Desert Aire HVAC unit in the aerobics pool. With high demand from heat, AC units are consistently needing repair.

Policy Update: The Commission has not come to a decision on membership rate increase or change at this time. Commission members discussed the option of offering reduced fees for senior public housing residents.

No open comments.

A motion was made by Belinda Snow to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Marleene Calvin. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:51 pm.

Prepared by Chera Sbait, Hays Center Staff

Reviewed by Belinda Snow, Secretary

Memo To: North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission
From: Bernadette Gunn Rhodes
Memo Date: July 15, 2019

Our members must be trying to beat the heat, because within the last two weeks, we have had two of our top 8 busiest Mondays on record this year with 633 and 624 unique check-ins on those days.

Average attendance in the last four weeks has been up 3.3% compared to the same period in 2018, and up 5.6% compared to the previous four weeks. We have been logging an average of 2,683 visits per week so far this year. 494 members visit the Center on an average weekday. We currently have 3,351 active members. That is a net gain of 11 members since this time last month.

Financial Update

Belinda and I met on Tuesday, June 25th to officially transfer three CDs to AFCU at 2.65% interest. The next Outreach CD will be up for renewal this December.

Our \$90,000 Hays Center reserve was transferred last month. It appears in our budget report as a large one-time expense, bringing our YTD expense tracking to 52.75%. However, if you consider only 50% of that since we are only half way through the year, we have actually only spent 48.7% of our budget.

We are on track to end 2019 on or under budget, having completed many necessary building improvements. I will complete a forecast in September to predict whether we will have any remaining funds in our budget to purchase new exercise equipment or other "extra" items.

Program Update

Our Independence Day cookout on July 2nd was fantastic. 93 people attended. The food was good and the live music by R&R Band with special guests Linda Grubbs and Tommy Henderson was even better. We received a \$500 sponsorship from Fox Ridge Assisted Living. Overall the event earned the Hays Center \$468.44.

We hosted the Boots and Badges Blood Drive on June 20th. The Arkansas Blood Institute collected 60 units of blood.

As for new classes, we hosted a 6-week Grief Support Group in June and July, led by a Licensed Social Worker. The last session will be 7/18. The volunteer lives in Arkansas part-time and will lead another 6-week session in the future.

Baptist Health Community Outreach's DEEP class (Diabetes Empowerment Education Program) is also ending this week and has been very well-attended, filling up our meeting room.

Transportation Update

We are still waiting to hear from ARDOT regarding our transportation grant application.

Our new on-demand transportation service is going OK, in which residents at the senior public housing facilities can call us by noon the business day before their desired outing date and we will take them to a medical appointment anywhere in Central Arkansas, or to a grocery store or pharmacy within NLR city limits. We decided that each "stop" on the same trip will cost \$1, otherwise our drivers may find themselves driving all day for just \$1.

Facility Update

JMD Construction corrected its work in the aerobics pool that bubbled up due to humidity. So far it is looking much better.

The Ballroom A/V upgrade is in motion. The contract has been signed and equipment has been ordered. The work will be completed July 21-August 2. We have notified some classes that they will need to be canceled, but overall the contractor is committed to completing the work with minimal disruption to our programs.

Regarding our Aerobic Pools DesertAire HVAC unit, this past month we had NO repair expenses (hurray!). That leaves our 2019 YTD repair cost at \$11,045. In 2018, we spent \$10,997 repairing the unit.

Policy Update

At our last meeting, Commission members were still somewhat divided between going to one membership for all versus sticking with two separate memberships. There was consensus, however, if sticking with two, to keep the \$150 membership the same while slightly increasing the \$35 "core" membership and opening up the core membership to all hours on the weekend. I have provided an income analysis in your packet to compare the different options.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, July 22nd.

Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center and Mayor's Office of Volunteer Services Monthly Report – July 2019

Member Statistics

- Our members logged 12,455 visits to the Hays Center (1,481 more than last month).
- 93 new members joined the Hays Center this month for a total of 3,339 active members (19 more than last month).
- New member demographics:
 - 79 new "Core Hours" (\$35) members, 14 new "Extended Hours" (\$150) members.
 - 44 African American, 45 Caucasian, 2 Asian/Pacific Islander, 1 Hispanic, 1 unknown.

- 69 females, 24 males.
- 48 from North Little Rock, 45 from outside NLR.
- The youngest member to join this month was 50. The oldest was 85.

Deposits

- \$ 4,290.00 in new member fees
- \$ 9,888.34 in renewal fees
- \$ 2,575.00 in rental fees
- \$ 2,164.00 in trip fees
- \$ 542.00 in lunch/event sales
- \$ 351.00 in other revenue
- **\$19,810.34 Total (↓10% over last month)**

Activities (Susan Russell)

- Governor's Advisory met at the center this month.
- Our annual 4th of July cookout was held July 2nd. Approximately 120 attended.

Facility (Bruce Vang)

- Checked on all Keiser equipment for correct operation. Fixed several machines.
- DesertAire HVAC unit in aerobics pool continues to spring leaks and have compressor issues. We are fixing it as we go along and tracking repair costs for another 6 months before making a decision to replace. The replacement will cost \$250-300k.
- New ballroom A/V equipment is being installed. Expected completion date is Monday, August 19.

Trips (Chera Sbait)

- We provided 21 trips, transporting a total of 111 people and collecting a total of \$424 in trip fees.
- Hays Center day trips went to Van Buren, Jasper, and Flyway Brewing for trivia.
- Public senior housing residents traveled to medical appointments (12 trips) and grocery stores (4 trips). We are now offering grocery store and pharmacy trips to senior public housing residents on-demand, just like our current medical appointment model. This appears to have increased the medical trips since we now include pharmacy.
- The Bean Bag Baseball team traveled to Little Rock and Des Arc for away games.
- After driver, fuel and meal costs, the transportation program netted -\$859.

Rentals (Angela Wirt)

- 4 paid rentals
- Total rental income: \$3,350

Mayor's Office of Volunteer Services (Angela Wirt)

- Hays Center volunteers reported 1,412 hours this month.
- Received 6 new volunteer applications.