



City of San Leandro

Civic Center
835 East 14th Street
San Leandro, California

Minutes

Senior Commission

Chair Janice Woycheshin, District 3

Vice Chair Bella Comelo, District 6

David Anderson, District 1

Mary Jo Knueven, District 5

Claudia McHenry, At Large (5)

Adrienne Miller, District 4

Vacancy, District 2

Vacancy, At Large

Vacancy, At Large

Thursday, February 18, 2021

10:00 AM

Access the meeting remotely by using this URL
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89547644696>

This meeting is being held in accordance with the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020 to allow attendance by members of the Senior Commission by teleconference, videoconference, or both.

Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, the Senior Community Center will not be open for the meeting. Senior Commissioners will be participating telephonically and will not be physically present at the Senior Community Center.

If you would like to speak on an agenda item, you can access the meeting remotely:

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please use this URL
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89547644696>

If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop-down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous.

Or join by phone:

*67 (877) 853-5247 (Toll Free) or (888) 788-0099 (Toll Free)

Enter Meeting ID: 848 9955 7250

If you want to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press *9 and we will select you from the meeting queue.

NOTE: Your phone number will appear on the screen unless you first dial *67 before dialing the numbers as shown above.

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am.

Present 7: Woycheshin, Comelo, Anderson, Knueven, McHenry, Mendoza, Miller

Also in attendance: City staff Criswell, Hamer, Tabilang; Guest Marci Dillon

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF February 18, 2021

Approved - MSC (McHenry, Miller) (7 Ayes, 0 Nays)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF January 21, 2021

Approved - MSC (Anderson, Knueven) (7 Ayes, 0 Nays)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. PRESENTATIONS

None.

7. ORAL REPORT OF SECRETARY

- There is no change to the status of the Senior Community Center; it remains closed to the public due to no significant changes in Public Health orders.
- Staff continue to distribute Spectrum Senior Meals and Mercy Brown Bags, and to make wellness calls. Staff is making the final edits on a Senior Newsletter to be emailed, posted online and mailed out to a select list by early next week. Community Education Programs topics in February included Diabetes Management presented by County Public Health Chronic Diseases staff last Friday, and a Panel Discussion of Financial and Emergency Preparedness to be moderated by Deputy District Attorney Cheryl Poncini tomorrow afternoon. The content on the Virtual SCC page is frequently updated.
- Staff continue to meet bi-weekly with paratransit consultants Nelson/Nygaard to coordinate work on the FLEX RIDES expansion plan. The new routes are being tested by vendor MV Transportation, and staff is working with Public Works and Engineering and Transportation on the installation of signs for existing and new stops. The new route and service hours will be launched later this spring. Nelson\Nygaard's program monitoring via surveys began earlier this week.
- Ridership levels for both paratransit services continue to be below pre-pandemic levels. FLEX RIDES Shuttle service provided 3,805 rides in the

4th Quarter of 2019, and 2,786 rides in the 4th Quarter of 2020; a 27% decrease in ridership during the pandemic. FLEX RIDES On Demand provided 571 rides during the 4th Quarter of 2019, and 335 rides during the 4th Quarter of 2020; a 41% decrease during the pandemic. The Shuttle continues to provide rides to many more riders than the Rides on Demand service, and the percentage of decrease in ridership due to the pandemic is significantly less for the Shuttle than for Rides on Demand.

•Staff is also working on the Alameda County Transportation Commission Plan Application for FY 2021-2022 that is due at the end of February.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.A. Age Friendly Initiative - Discuss creation of Age Friendly Action Plan

Woycheshin introduced the topic. Comelo stated that the Commission should wait to ask the AARP presenter scheduled for a future Commission meeting how to prepare an Action Plan. Woycheshin responded that the timeline to submit a completed Plan to AARP is November 2021, and that the Commission should not further delay its efforts. Woycheshin has reviewed several plans posted on the AARP website. She suggested that Commissioners all review the plans posted by Fremont, Berkeley and Corte Madera, CA and Honolulu, HI. She will send links for these four plans to the Commissioners for their review in order to formulate ideas to incorporate in the City's Action Plan.

McHenry questioned what steps the City is taking to prepare the plan. Criswell stated that the first step is for the Commission to undertake surveys and focus meetings as discussed during the Commission's November, 2020 meeting. She will obtain further information from AARP contact Nazarians regarding their survey tools. Nazarians is working with her to schedule a presentation to the Commission at the March meeting. McHenry queried what the position is with the City regarding the budget and whether the Age Friendly Plan could be deferred due to the current economic situation.

Comelo suggested that the City apply for an AARP grant as a source of funds. Criswell explained to the Commission that the correct process regarding grant application opportunities is for Commissioners to make their Councilmember aware of them. Their Councilmember can bring such opportunities to the City Manager's attention. Staff cannot work on a grant application unless they are directed to do so by the City Manager. Comelo also suggested that Commissioners attend the District Town Hall meetings to do a brief presentation about Age Friendly Cities at these meetings. Criswell responded that she will reach out to the City Manager's Office regarding the Town Hall meetings.

Woycheshin suggested and McHenry concurred that it is important to agree what talking points the Commission would like to include if they are agendaized for the Town Hall meetings. Woycheshin also suggested that the Commission consider that a narrow focus might be the best approach for the first Action Plan.

Comelo requested that printed copies of the four action plans mentioned by Woycheshin be sent to her as she is experiencing difficulty with her printer.

Mendoza mentioned that he has background in the arts and entertainment

arena and is in a good position to be more involved in those areas as they pertain to the Age Friendly Initiative.

Criswell stated that Nazarians explained to her that it's not necessary to focus on all eight Domains of Liveability for the first iteration of the Plan. Other cities have included as few as three and as many as twelve Domains in their first Plan cycle. Woycheshin noted that Corte Madera has two unique Domains for a total of ten included in their Action Plan.

8.B. COVID Vaccination - Discussion of community outreach and education

Woycheshin called on McHenry, who had requested that this item be included in the agenda. McHenry stated that she has received both of her vaccines. She is learning from her social networks that the majority of seniors are not receiving any information about vaccinations due to their lack of digital capabilities. Perhaps the Senior Commission is the place to brainstorm ways of communicating this important information to those who do not have online access. She suggested the City's community channel and the San Leandro Times as methods of outreach. McHenry also inquired whether the City's paratransit services could assist seniors to get to their vaccination appointments.

Comelo asked whether it's possible to include the topic of vaccinations in the wellness calls being made by Senior Center staff. She mentioned that LIFE ElderCare is offering assistance to seniors to schedule vaccinations and transportation.

Anderson reported that there were no other African Americans at the site where he was vaccinated. He took a neighbor to Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center and it went very smoothly but it didn't seem like there were many people there. He stated it's important to get the message out to those without technology, and to reduce skepticism about the vaccine.

Criswell reported to the Commission that she's attended the Senior Services Coalition Forum and a second presentation by a disability group that both addressed vaccine equity. 2-1-1 is providing vaccine information by phone. Staff is preparing a newsletter with vaccination information that will be mailed out to a select list in addition to being emailed. The newsletter lists several phone numbers in addition to website links. Staff is regularly sharing information as quickly as it can be gathered.

McHenry questioned whether there are opportunities to partner with other City Departments to include vaccination information in any mailings that are going out. She also asked whether the newsletter is being translated. Criswell stated that the Newsletter will be sent in English. It may be possible to have just the vaccination information translated. She explained that the great number of Chinese dialects makes translation a huge challenge. The City is utilizing verbal and written translation in Simplified Chinese, but this is not universally understood.

Mendoza has expertise in marketing and advertising and is certified. Criswell asked for clarification about Mendoza's certification. City documents must be translated by a translator that is certified for written translation in the language. Mendoza responded his certification is in the area of marketing, not

translation. Criswell welcomed Mendoza's offer of assistance to review Spanish translations of documents.

Miller questioned what are the social networks of those who do not use computers. McHenry responded that many people have lost their social networks since shelter in place began, as their network and social interaction was in person at the Senior Community Center.

McHenry questioned the source of the City's mailing list. Criswell responded that the list was culled from adults 50+ that had registered for any City programs or activities from January 2019 through present.

Woycheshin said that the pandemic has brought the issue of seniors not having internet access to the forefront. She wishes that the medical profession was being more proactive in assisting their most vulnerable patients in accessing vaccine.

Knueven stated that it's important to encourage people to ask their family members and friends to advocate for them to receive vaccine.

Comelo stated that Kaiser was doing a poor job of getting their patients vaccinated. Knueven responded that Kaiser was not receiving adequate supplies of vaccines from the state.

McHenry concluded that the Commission needs to keep this issue at the forefront of its efforts and requested that this topic remain on the agenda under Unfinished Business for the remainder of 2021.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. ORAL REPORT OF CHAIR

Woycheshin commented that she received her first vaccination at Kaiser, and her husband received his first vaccination at Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center. Both had a positive experience with their appointments.

Woycheshin also shared information about Aging Unlonely, an initiative of The Foundation for Art and Healing, created to empower its partners with programs that use the arts as an accessible and effective public health tool for older adults to create meaningful connections and improve health and well-being. She will send the link to the Commissioners.

11. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Anderson stated that he is considering leaving the Commission; he has sent a letter to the Senior Community Center and will also send to Councilmember Cox. He has a lot of time commitments between his Oak Knoll project and the assistance he is providing his neighbors during the pandemic.

Comelo said she is sad about the commissioners that are leaving the Commission. The Commission will need to reorganize and regroup. She has received both of her vaccinations; her husband Ernest is stable and will

receive his second dose next week if all goes well.

Knueven remarked that she possibly had a reaction to her first dose of vaccine. She and her partner have had several health problems recently and this reminded her of the importance of having a plan B.

McHenry reported she is looking forward to the research of the Age Friendly Plans that Woycheshin will be forwarding. She will miss Anderson and Knueven when they leave the Commission. She thanked staff for preparing the Senior Newsletter.

Mendoza said that he is pleased that the Commission is addressing equity issues and loneliness among seniors. He is fully committed to learning and to making a contribution. He noted that Councilmember Azevedo is discussing the possibility of nominating him as the District 2 representative to the Planning Commission; otherwise he is committed to his full term as a Senior Commissioner.

Miller remarked that she enjoyed the meeting very much and has learned a lot. She received her vaccination at Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center and was impressed by the diversity of their vaccine recipients. It was a pleasant experience.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MSC - Approved (McHenry, Anderson) (7 Ayes, 0 Nays)

Adjournment: 11:25am.