



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, April 15, 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 Disaster Council 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 City Hall will not be open for the meeting. Disaster Council will be participating telephonically.

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

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1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:59am.

Present 6: Woycheshin, Comelo, Anderson, Knueven, McHenry, Miller

Also in attendance: City staff Criswell, Hamer and Tabilang; guests Kathe Frates and Marci Dillon.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF April 15, 2021

Approved - MSC (Anderson, Knueven) (6 Ayes, 0 Nays)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF March 18, 2021

Approved - MSC (Anderson, Comelo) (6 Ayes, 0 Nays)

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Guest Marci Dillon greeted the Commissioners.

Guest Kathe Frates thanked all for their thoughts, prayers and cards about her husband Al's passing. She looks forward to being sworn in and returning to the Commission.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. PRESENTATIONS

None.

7. ORAL REPORT OF SECRETARY

- Criswell stated that while she can respond to a clarifying question about the information she provides in her report, the Commission cannot engage in a full discussion on items in her report unless they are specifically agendaized. She thanked the Commissioners for their understanding.

- There has been no change to the status of the Senior Community Center; it remains closed to the public.

- Staff continue to distribute Spectrum Senior Meals and Mercy Brown Bags, and to make wellness calls. Community Education Programs topics in April were a presentation on hypertension by County Public Health staff and the Alameda County Fire Department will present on Personal Emergency Preparedness on April 23rd. The content on the Virtual SCC page continues to be 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. Private property owners for new and existing stop locations have been contacted and staff has met with several of them. The new route and service hours will be launched in late spring. Nelson\Nygaard is continuing to survey the membership as part of the project's program monitoring.

- Staff is preparing to present the Paratransit Annual Plan to the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) on April 27 for review and approval.

- The special subsidy to provide free UBER rides for adults 60+ to COVID vaccination appointments in Alameda County was implemented on Monday, March 22. Despite a vigorous PR campaign the week of the launch, the response has been less than anticipated. FLEX RIDES has added 5 new memberships and provided 7 one way trips for vaccinations to date.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.A. Age Friendly Community - Review AARP's Standard List of Survey Questions for Stakeholder Input

Chair Woycheshin introduced the topic by reviewing the Age Friendly Domains of Livability and sharing the preliminary listing of San Leandro's resources for seniors in each domain that the Ad Hoc Committee compiled during their meetings.

Comelo commented that improvements are still needed in the domains of transportation, housing and parks. Knueven recommended the inclusion of Broadmoor Plaza in the senior housing resources listed by Woycheshin.

The Commission discussed the standard AARP Age Friendly Community Survey questions. Comelo questioned the necessity of including questions D14 and D15 which reference political parties. Woycheshin asked Criswell why these specific questions were included. Criswell explained to the Commission that the survey being reviewed is the AARP's standard survey, and commented on the inclusion of demographic questions (ethnicity, income, etc.). The City has embarked in equity and inclusion work; it is important to ensure that all voices are included in the survey responses that will inform the Age Friendly plan. She told the Commission that similar information is requested on the Recreation Department's program registration forms; not everyone chooses to provide an answer. Miller recommended the inclusion of an option "prefer not to answer" to allow those not comfortable with answering demographic inquiries to opt out. It was agreed to make this change.

Knueven liked the specificity of the questions in the survey. She reminded the Commission that the AARP is an advocacy organization and perhaps that was the reason for the inclusion of questions regarding political leanings.

Woycheshin stated that the political questions were a turn off for her. She also said that she felt the income question is also one she would not answer. McHenry remarked that while she agreed the inclusion of questions regarding political preferences seemed invasive, she supported the inclusion of the income query. She stated the importance of understanding the needs of low-income residents. The Commission agreed questions D14 and D15 (political preference) should not be included.

McHenry and Anderson both advocated for the inclusion of question D13 regarding race. It was agreed to include the question.

McHenry queried who will review the survey results. Criswell responded that Nazarians had mentioned in last month's presentation that AARP could compile the results and produce a report for the Commission to review.

Woycheshin asked whether a "not sure" option should be added on question Q13 regarding availability of quality home repair contractors, yard maintenance workers, etc. It was agreed to add the "not sure" option.

Comelo asked whether the survey had questions regarding transportation. The Commission reviewed questions Q16 and Q17, and it was agreed the two transportation questions were comprehensive and needed no revision.

Approved - MSC to accept survey questions with the changes noted above.

(Comelo, McHenry) (6 Ayes, 0 Nays).

Criswell will communicate changes to AARP and ask for a revised version for Commission to review prior to distribution.

8.B. COVID Vaccination Community Outreach and Education

Commissioner McHenry asked whether recipients of wellness calls are receiving information about her partnership with Davis Street. Criswell reported that wellness call staff provide vaccination information, including about Davis Street, when requested to do so by the call recipient. McHenry visited the Mission Bay mobile home park and spoke with local management. She learned that she needs to get permission from the corporate offices in order to coordinate on site vaccinations at Mission Bay with Davis Street. This is currently on hold due to the pause of the Johnson and Johnson vaccination. McHenry continues to connect seniors to receive Moderna vaccinations at the Davis Street clinic and has provided transportation for some. She has made multiple unsuccessful efforts to assist a Spectrum Lunch participant in scheduling his vaccine, but has left her card and the application with lunch staff to provide to him. Woycheshin and Anderson commended McHenry for her efforts. Woycheshin, Anderson, Dillon and others have volunteered to assist McHenry in her efforts.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. ORAL REPORT OF CHAIR

Woycheshin asked for a moment of silence to honor the memory of Al Frates.

Three new Senior Commissioners, Wu, Frates, and Dillon, were nominated by Council on April 5 and will be sworn in at the April 19 Council meeting. Woycheshin also noted that Knueven will be leaving the Commission; this is her last meeting. She thanked Knueven for her service and stated that her expertise, input and presence will be missed by all.

Woycheshin shared a word of caution regarding term life insurance policies. She and her husband recently were informed of an exorbitant increase to their premiums and wound up cancelling the policy with no return. She recommended that everyone carefully review their insurance policy contracts.

Woycheshin was informed by Comelo about a virtual rally sponsored by the California Senior Legislature. It will be held May 4, 9am-2pm, in support of the Master Plan for Aging. More information is available at 4csl.org/senior-rally-day.

Woycheshin has information about a free socially distanced shredding event on Saturday, April 17 that she will share upon request.

Woycheshin noted that Assemblymember Bonta's wife has announced her candidacy for his soon to be vacated Assembly seat, along with four other candidates.

11. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Anderson said that he appreciated McHenry's comments today. He said goodbye to Knueven. Anderson left the meeting at 11:06am.

Comelo conveyed her heartfelt sympathy to Frates. She said she will miss Knueven very much. She asked how to advocate for FLEX RIDES On Demand to be made available 24/7. Criswell responded that 24/7 TNC service is included in the City's Plan Application for the coming fiscal year as it is now required by the Alameda County Transportation Commission. Criswell is currently working on the contract extension that will expand the service hours and she noted this is a positive change to the service. She thanked Comelo for her advocacy.

Knueven thanked all the Commissioners; she's enjoyed her experience and working with people who are advocates for seniors. She plans to visit the Commission occasionally to follow its progress.

McHenry had no further comments.

Miller appreciated all the comments on the survey; progress is being made and she is hopeful. She enjoyed meeting Knueven in the virtual meetings.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Approved - MSC (McHenry, Knueven) (5 Ayes, 0 Nays)

Adjournment: 11:11am