



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, March 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:

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1 (877) 853-5247

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Enter Meeting ID: 895 4764 4696

International numbers available: Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (510) 577-3366

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 10:00am.

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

Also in attendance: City staff Criswell, Hamer, Tabilang, Guest speaker Rafi

Nazarians, Guests: Marci Dillon, Kathe Frates

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF March 18, 2021

Motion to move Item 6, Presentation prior to Item 5, Correspondence

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF February 18, 2021

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Criswell read an email addressed to Mayor Cutter and to her from former Commissioner Tamura, stating she has relocated to Alexandria, VA. Tamura stated she enjoyed serving on the Commission and will miss the other commissioners.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.A. AARP's Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities - Rafi Nazarians, Associate State Director, AARP California

Rafi Nazarians, Associate State Director of AARP California, presented information on the topic "AARP's Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities".

7. ORAL REPORT OF SECRETARY

- No change to the status of the Senior Community Center to report; 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. Community Education Programs topics in March were a presentation from HICAP on finding financial help for medical expenses on March 5, with 15 in attendance; a presentation from a representative from the Social Security Administration is scheduled on March 19. The content on the Virtual SCC page is frequently updated.
- Staff is working on the annual application for Alameda County Measure A funding which partially underwrites health services of the Senior Community Center, including the Community Education Program Series and senior food programs. The application is due the first week of April.
- 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 in late spring. Nelson\Nygaard is continuing to survey membership as part of the project's program monitoring.

- Comelo requested daily ridership averages at the February Commission meeting. FLEX RIDES Shuttle averaged 62 riders daily in the 4th quarter of 2019 and 45 riders daily in the 4th quarter of 2020; a 27% decrease. FLEX RIDES On Demand averaged 9.5 riders daily in the 4th quarter of 2019 and 5.5 riders daily in the 4th quarter of 2020; a 41% decrease. The daily figures show that during the pandemic the shuttle served approximately 8 times as many riders as the Rides on Demand service per day during the three-month period. 6.5 times as many riders were served by the shuttle per day as by Rides on Demand during the comparable pre-pandemic period.
- Staff submitted the 2021-2022 Paratransit Plan Application at the end of February and are preparing to present the plan to the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) on April 27 for review and approval.
- Staff is working on the rollout of a plan to provide free rides for San Leandro residents 60+ to get their COVID-19 vaccinations.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.A. Age Friendly Community - Discuss Creation of Action Plan and next steps

Chair Woycheshin reminded Commissioners to avail themselves of the opportunity to view the recording of today's meeting on the City's website to review the information presented by Rafi Nazarians. Criswell will obtain copies of the AARP stakeholder survey mentioned in the presentation and distribute to the Commission to give time to study the standard questions prior to the April meeting.

Miller questioned whether anyone had preliminary ideas what the City should focus on in the stakeholder surveys. Knueven suggested that the Commission review the entire survey prior to identifying areas of focus. McHenry's recollection was that the Ad Hoc Committee had discussed pursuing all eight of the Domains of Liveability.

Comelo asked the Commission's thoughts regarding submitting an application for this year's round of AARP grants; applications are due in mid-April. Woycheshin commented that the Commission did not have a specific project in place to pursue a grant application at this point. McHenry asked Comelo what she had in mind. Comelo stated that funds could be used for a homeless project. She asked Criswell for help. McHenry referred Comelo to the Community Challenge Grants page on the AARP website to review the qualifications. Woycheshin pointed out that the Commission would not be meeting again prior to this year's deadline. Comelo concluded it would be too challenging to meet this year's deadline. Woycheshin stated that the stakeholder survey results would educate the Commission regarding what might be a good area of focus for any future grant writing efforts.

McHenry gave a brief overview of the City's pending Proposition 68 grant application to renovate Memorial Park to all-inclusive design standards, making it accessible to all ages, all abilities. Woycheshin commented this project would fit right in with the Age Friendly Community domains.

Comelo suggested that Commissioners make a presentation to Council regarding Age Friendly. Woycheshin asked Criswell about the process to be added to Council agenda. Comelo responded that she was referring to public comment rather than a formal presentation. Criswell explained that anyone

could submit a request to be recognized for public comment, however recommended that it would be more appropriate for the Commission to schedule a formal presentation after the results from stakeholder input are compiled. Woycheshin agreed that this would be an excellent method of gaining the Council's buy-in for funding, whether from the City's budget and/or grant writing.

8.B. COVID Vaccination Community Outreach and Education

Woycheshin introduced the topic and called on McHenry to report on her endeavors.

McHenry stated that she has made a good connection with Davis Street Resource Center to refer seniors to their COVID-19 vaccination clinic. She will focus on assisting individuals over the age of 65 who have had difficulty scheduling their vaccinations. She is pleased about the FLEX RIDES program being implemented to give free rides to vaccination appointments. She thanked Acting Chief Torres for helping her make a personal connection with the Executive Director and as well as a doctor at Davis Street's clinic. Her personal experience connecting with these contacts went very well. However, she noted that current infrastructure (staffing, phone systems, etc.) is being overwhelmed by demand for vaccination appointments.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. ORAL REPORT OF CHAIR

Woycheshin noted that the March 18th edition of the San Leandro Times included information about City Dash - a new page on the City website that compiles information about permits, police call outs, etc. as well as an article about the history of the East 14th Street Bridge over San Leandro Creek. Woycheshin noted that the current bridge was built in 1901.

The recent AARP magazine had an article about Tony's Bennett's recent Alzheimer's diagnosis that mentions the benefits of music for brain health. The magazine also had an article with useful information about identity theft.

Criswell interjected to request that all commissioners turn on their cameras to confirm that the meeting retained a quorum, and thanked the commissioners for doing so.

11. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Anderson reported that he will be remaining on the Commission and that he enjoyed the presentation very much.

Comelo commented that it was a good meeting and thanked everyone for their great comments and support. She inquired when the Senior Community Center will reopen. Criswell responded that she has not received clear direction regarding a specific reopening date.

Knueven stated that she really appreciated receiving the Senior Newsletter via

both mail and email. She is gaining personal experiences regarding the challenges of aging and is grateful that she had her "Plan B" in place. She asked about Commissioner Mendoza's status. Criswell replied that Mendoza has transitioned to the Planning Commission at the request of his councilmember, and that three Senior Commission vacancies should be filled by the May Commission meeting.

McHenry expressed her thanks for the Senior Newsletter that was filled with good information. She asked whether there was a date for City Hall to reopen to provide City services. Criswell responded that the City's Safety Committee is working on reopening plans, and shared Interim City Manager Robustelli's recent comment in the All City staff meeting that reopening will be a gradual process, not like "flipping a switch" and all services immediately resume to pre-pandemic levels.

Miller is excited to have a good path forward and also complimented the Senior Newsletter.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

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

Adjournment - 11:38am.