

MINUTES

SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION

March 21, 2024

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Denise Barnes, Vice-Chair
Kandee Beas
Frances Noteboom
Victor "Vic" Real

STAFF PRESENT:

Brian Chwan, Community Services Superintendent
Maureen Richardson, Community Services Supervisor
Beth Lapkowski, Administrative Assistant

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Janet Brown, Chair
Sue Baltazar
Steve Brio

AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice-Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Vice-Chair Barnes led the Commission in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Vice-Chair Barnes presented the minutes of the February 15, 2024, meeting. Commissioner Beas made a motion for approval of the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Noteboom. The minutes were accepted by Vice-Chair Barnes.
4. **UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:** None.
5. **SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMUNICATION:** None.
6. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.
7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
 - A. **Commission Name Change Proposal** – Vice-Chair Barnes stated Commissioner Noteboom had suggested changing the name of the commission to Active Older Adult Commission or Older Adult Commission. Maureen Richardson commented that they have surveyed other cities but there is no consensus on the names they use. Commissioner Beas noted that her concern about the name change is because she feels they should represent all senior citizens, not just the active older adults. Commissioner Noteboom appreciated another discussion on the subject, and she agrees they should see the results of the survey; Vice-Chair Barnes would like the name to align with what the county is using, and the second priority would be what other cities in Orange County are using.
 - B. **Anaheim Senior Citizen Strategic Plan** – No discussion.
 - C. **Senior Center Signage Update** – Maureen Richardson reported that the quotes are in, and they plan to have the signage installed by the end of June.
 - D. **Blue Zones & Aging** – Commissioner Real stated that there is work to be done regarding food distribution, and they need to learn how they can get a Blue Zone certification. Brian Chwan has reached out to various school districts in Anaheim; the elementary school district didn't have any programming related to Blue Zones and he is waiting to hear back from the High School District. If

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they confirm they have something in place related to Blue Zones, he will invite them to a future meeting. Commissioner Real noted that the City of Torrance is working on becoming a Blue Zone and he would like to see Anaheim become one. Vice-Chair Barnes asked if Commissioner Real wanted to partner with the schools that are providing produce. Commissioner Real stated that seniors get meals, and he would like to see if they can get at least one meal that would qualify in a Blue Zone. Maureen Richardson stated that the meal program is a Federally funded program and there are not a lot of choices they have; they buy in bulk and provide the food to the city to distribute. Brian Chwan stated they will continue the dialogue and look for ways to educate active older adults about nutrition related to Blue Zones. Vice-Chair Barnes asked how the city could create a program to collect and distribute extra fruit that residents have on their trees before it goes to waste. Commissioner Noteboom suggested speaking at a City Council meeting on the topic; Maureen Richardson suggested contacting local faith-based organizations for assistance with the project. Brian reported that the next meeting of the Anaheim Religious Council will be held on May 21, and they could attend to make that suggestion if they wished.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Senior, Families and Youth Needs Assessment – Brian Chwan noted that the needs assessment will open upon Monday, March 26 through April 26. It will be available through Survey Monkey with hard copies available as well. The survey will be for seniors, families and youth. Commissioner Noteboom asked if they would be allowed to set up a table at a church to attempt to get surveys completed; Brian Chwan stated that would be okay. Vice-Chair Barnes stated that she would like to begin with care facilities. Brian Chwan stated that they had a meeting where some assisted care facilities stated they are hesitant to allow their residents to complete the survey because they already provide services within their facilities to them. Staff will be reaching out to them, assisted living facilities and the community.
- B. Commissioner Real reported that he read an article that AT&T is planning to stop supporting hard line telephone service in homes. Maureen Richardson suggested that they could reach out to the Public Utilities Commission.
- C. Maureen Richardson reported that the County Agency SCAC is now being called Older Adult Advisory Commission. On April 12, an EID celebration is being held at Brookhurst Community Center, and April 20 is the Active Older Adult Health Fair.
- D. Commissioner Noteboom reported that City Council is looking for recommendations for community volunteers that could be recognized by City Council.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Vice-Chair Barnes adjourned the meeting at 2:39 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 18, 2024**, at 2:00 p.m.