



SPARKS SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SSCAC) MEETING

Wednesday November 17, 2021, 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Sparks Legislative Building
745 Fourth Street
Sparks, Nevada

In accordance with Emergency Directive 045, masks are required at this meeting.

Committee Members

Ward1

Vacant

Ward 2

John Sebastian

Ward 3

Barbara Stirling

Ward 4

David S. Hall, Sr.

Ward 5

Marsy Kupfersmith, Secretary

Mayor Appointments

Andrea Pelto, Vice Chair

Kyle Waxman

Public Comment may be emailed to jduewel@cityofsparks.us, please type SSCAC PUBLIC COMMENT in the Subject line and submit your comments by 4:00 am on November 16, 2021. Comments received after the cutoff will not be entered into record.

Restrictions on Public Comments — All public comment remarks shall be addressed to the committee as a whole and not to any member thereof. No person, other than members of the committee and the person having the floor shall be permitted to enter into any discussion. No questions shall be asked of the committee except through the presiding officer. No topics may be discussed unless they are on the agenda. Public comment is restricted to three (3) minutes.

Disruptive Conduct — Any person who disrupts a meeting to the extent that its orderly conduct is made impractical may be removed from the meeting by order of the presiding officer.

Supporting Documentation — Supporting document for agenda items is available on the city's website at <https://cityofsparks.us/boards-commissions/sparks-senior-citizens-advisory-committee/> and will be available for review at the meeting. For further information you may contact the staff liaison Julie Duewel at (775) 353-7894 or jduewel@cityofsparks.us.

Order of Agenda — Items on the agenda may be taken out of order; the Sparks Citizens Advisory Committee may combine two or more agenda items for consideration; may remove an item from the agenda or may delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time per NRS 241.020 (3)(d)(6).

This agenda has been posted at Sparks City Hall located at 431 Prater Way, www.notice.gov and www.cityofsparks.us.

If you have questions, you may find additional information at www.cityofsparks.us, call the staff liaison Julie Duewel at (775) 353-7894, or email jduewel@cityofsparks.us.

SPARKS SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SSCAC) MEETING AGENDA

Sparks Legislative Building
745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada
November 17, 2021, 9:00 – 11:00 AM

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Andrea Pelto at 9:00 AM.

2. Roll Call

Present: Andera Pelto, Kyle Waxman, Kim Spoon, Barbara Stirling, David Hall, Sr., Marsy Kupfersmith.

Absent: Marjorie Ball

Council Liaison: Donald Abbott; Staff Liaison: Julie Duewel

3. Public Comment

Donna Clontz greeted the committee and shared that she is an associated member, of the Washoe County Senior Advisory Board and the lead volunteer for Age-Friendly Reno and will always be available to come to these meetings and help with anything needed for the Age-Friendly work that will be done. Ms. Clontz referred to the handouts she brought that reflect some of the work that the Washoe County Senior Advisory Committee has spent a lot of time on, and she discussed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding that is coming in from the Federal Government to our local jurisdictions. Our region is expecting about \$200 million dollars that can be used to improve the community to make up for all the things that went sideways during the pandemic. There are a lot of things that can be done for the senior community, many of whom are still afraid to go out of their houses and are therefore cut off from the community in general. The Washoe County Senior Advisory Committee discussed these topics and wrote a letter to the County Commission, that was sent to them yesterday, in time for their meeting. Ms. Clontz attended that meeting and asked for their support on the ideas. The City of Sparks will have ARPA funding coming to them, so it's best to share ideas - a lot of the same ideas are contained within the Age Friendly work of making our community better for seniors. This is the time to really be creative about things you see that could be made better as this one-time funding is coming into the hands of each of the city councils and the commission. I appreciate your time today and have a great meeting!

4. Agenda

4.1 Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)

Motion: I move to approve the agenda as submitted.

Moved by: Committee Member: Marsy Kupfersmith

Seconded by: Committee Member: Kim Spoon

Yes: Andera Pelto, Kyle Waxman, Barbara Stirling, David Hall, Sr.

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: The motion passes unanimously 6-0.

5. **Minutes**

5.1 Consideration and possible approval of the minutes for the August 26, 2021, meeting of the Sparks Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (For Possible Action).

Motion: I move to approve the minutes as submitted.

Moved by: Committee Member: Kyle Waxman

Seconded by: Committee Member: Barbara Stirling

Yes: Andera Pelto, Kim Spoon, David Hall, Sr., Marsy Kupfersmith.

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: The motion passes unanimously 6-0.

5. **Announcements, Presentations, Recognition Items and Items of Special Interest (No action will be taken)**

6.1 Recognition and moment of silence for the passing of Chair LaMerne Koslowski.

Andrea Pelto led the committee in a moment of silence to honor the passing of the Chair of the Committee, Lamerne Kozlowski.

6.2 Update on Washoe County senior services activities, nutrition and case management services: Abby Willrich, Washoe County Human Services Agency/Senior Division.

Abbi Willrich introduced herself gave an update on attendance at the regional senior centers, starting with the Sparks Senior Center, reporting that attendance is down to about 25-30 people coming into the building every day, with 20 people eating lunch. This compares to 40-50 eating lunch per day before the pandemic. These numbers are consistent with all the sites, and they are trying to get more people in for their activities. Three sites have remained closed: Silverada and Sierra Manor are apartment complexes that continue to have COVID outbreaks, so they have chosen to keep the program closed. The Neil Road Senior Center is also closed, with a reopening date of December 20th.

The Washoe County Homemaker Program provides light housekeeping to seniors in need and recently the State of Nevada has decided to dissolve their Homemaker Program, transferring their members into the County program. If you know if someone needs a homemaker – let us know, although the county wait list is 6-18 months and adding the state members will increase that to two to three years out. We do triage the need, so unfortunately those that might not need it as much as someone else may wait a lot longer. I would always recommend that if someone needs our services to call our main number (775) 328-2575, and we can direct people in the right direction. We are currently serving 120 individuals, due to staff shortage that everyone feels, homemakers are experiencing that too - we have 185 on our wait list. On average, recipients receive 2 hours of housework per week. Ms. Willrich let the committee know that she is happy to come into

another meeting and do a full presentation of all the services they offer. Questions followed.

6.3 Recognition of Marsy Kupfersmith as Nevada Senior Citizen of the Year.

Donald Abbott recognized Marsy Kupfersmith as the Nevada Senior Citizen of the Year and shared the events that lead to the nomination and her subsequent win. Ms. Kupfersmith has attended many recognition events and is scheduled to participate in the upcoming Hometown Christmas Parade.

6.4 Presentation and update: AARP Network of Age-Friendly communities, Staff Liaison Julie Duewel.

Julie Duewel provided an update on the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities, letting the committee know that the application was submitted last week, and they expect to hear back soon. Questions followed.

6.5 Discussion on proposed activities during Older Americans Month, May 2022.

Suggestions or comments:

- The Sparks Library is interested in partnering with the committee, and Spanish Springs Library should also be looked at.
- Housing industry.
- Sparks Firefighters.
- Northern Nevada Medical Center –would they consider clinics for the elderly during that month?

7. General Business (For Possible Action)

7.1 Consideration, discussion and possible selection of a liaison from the Sparks Senior Citizens Advisory Committee for the City of Reno's Senior Citizens Advisory Committee from the following pool of Committee members: John Sebastian, Barbara Stirling, David S. Hall, Sr., Marsy Kupfersmith, Andrea Pelto, Kyle Waxman. (For Possible Action)

Discussion regarding the selection of a liaison from the SSCAC to serve in the Reno SCAC followed. The Reno Senior Advisory Committee meets monthly, on the second Tuesday at 2:00 PM at Reno City Hall. It was pointed out that some members feel conflicted about getting involved with the City of Reno Senior Advisory Committee as they do not attend the Sparks meetings or the Washoe County meetings. The City of Reno Senior Advisory Committee also no longer wants to participate in Joint meetings with the City of Sparks and Washoe County. Discussion followed as to whether two SSCAC members could be appointed so that if the time commitment was too much for one, the other could attend. It was clarified that the seat on the Reno Senior Advisory Committee was for one member only, although all Sparks members could attend a Reno meeting at any time, without being a member of the committee.

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Motion: I, Kyle Waxman, move to not recommend a permanent official liaison from the Sparks Senior Citizens Advisory Committee to the City of Reno's Senior Advisory Committee.

Moved by: Committee Member: Kyle Waxman

Seconded by: Committee Member: Kim Spoon

Yes: Andera Pelto, Barbara Stirling, David Hall, Sr., Marsy Kupfersmith.

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: The motion passes unanimously 6-0.

7.2 Consideration, discussion, and possible direction on topics for the committee's newsletter. (For Possible Action)

- Tribute to Lamerne Kozlowski
- Sparks Heritage Museum
- Truckee Meadows Community College, upcoming classes.
- "Did You Know" section to include "Dispatch Health" and "Smith's Grocery Store's egg-free flu shot."
- Advising readers to call the "Washoe County Meal Reservation Line" to order lunch by 8:30 in the morning to for the local Senior Centers (every site except the main location at 9th Street).
- Announce vacancies for alternate positions on the SSCAC.
- Remind readers that the Sparks Senior Center is at 97 Richards Way, Sparks, NV.
- Next newsletter: Census Results and invite participation in Older American's Month, Survey results from past newsletter.

Motion: I, Marsy Kupfersmith for the record move to have the above items on the next newsletter.

Moved by: Committee Member: Marsy Kupfersmith

Seconded by: Committee Member: Kim Spoon

Yes: Andera Pelto, Kyle Waxman, Barbara Stirling, David Hall, Sr.

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote: The motion passes unanimously 6-0.

8. Comments from Committee Members (No Action will be taken on items 8.1 – 8.3)

8.1 Committee member announcements.

Barbara Stirling – there is an Ageless Expo at the Atlantis this Saturday, from 9:00 – 3:00 PM.

Marsy Kupfersmith – our next Senior Coalition Meeting will be via Zoom on December 3rd, at 8:30 AM. The guest speaker will be the Medicare representative from Senator Cortez-Masto's Office out of DC, and she will speak about all the Medicare changes. If you are interested in attending, reach out to Marsy Kupfersmith for all the details. The Senior Coalition is also trying to get County Manager Brown to speak at a future meeting about seniors.

8.2 Staff liaison general and board vacancy announcements.

Julie Duewel announced that Kim Spoon joined the Committee by moving up from the Ward 2 alternate position, as did Marjorie Ball from her position as the Ward 1 alternate. Currently we have all our member positions filled, but four vacancies are available for Wards 1-4 alternate positions. I love the idea of putting that in the newsletter, and I will put in social media.

Also – our next meeting is Feb. 23rd, we will hold our elections for our Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary positions. Think that through and don't forget to put your names in.

Also, our committee meetings occur the 4th Wednesdays at 9:00 AM, and next years' meeting dates are Feb. 23rd, May 25th, Aug. 24th, and we will move our November meeting up a week due to the holiday, to November 16th.

8.3 Request for future agenda items and potential guest speakers.

- Abbi Willrich (is available in May)
- RTC Transportation representative – perhaps Susan Trinidad regarding the Flex Ride program, or Amy Dewit Smith, who is the Executive Director for N4, the Northern Nevada Neighborhood Network. She is very progressive with transportation for seniors, offering concierge services for seniors to use Uber and Lyft.
- Next newsletter – we will make a standing agenda item to discuss what should go on future newsletters.

9. Public Comment

None.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 AM.