



Commission on Senior Issues

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 505-8563

Meeting Minutes – University City Commission on Senior Issues

February 20, 2018

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Sue Slater, Margie Diekemper, Elaine Henton, Marcia Mermelstein (Senior Coordinator)
Excused: Wayne Flesch, Gloria Nickerson
Absent: Councilwoman Paulette Carr
Guest: Mary Hart

Ms. Margie Diekemper called the meeting to order at 6:14

Roll call was done by Ms. Marcia Mermelstein

Ms. Diekemper explained that the Senior Commission currently does not have a chairperson. She explained that we have been given permission for one of the commission members to conduct the meeting, and said that she would be willing to play that role. Ms. Slater moved to allow Ms. Diekemper to lead the meeting, Ms. Henton seconded, and the motion was passed.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Henton moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 16, 2018; it was seconded by Ms. Slater. The motion passed.

Election of Officers

Ms. Diekemper asked if anyone was interested in running for the office of commission chairperson. No one volunteered, so we will discuss electing a new chairperson at the March meeting. It was discussed that there are still two open seats on the commission, and Ms. Mermelstein said that she would contact Ms. Carr to ask if there are any new candidates for either of those seats.

Unfinished Business

- May 6 “Engage At Any Age” Program – Ms. Mermelstein reported that a planning committee had met, determined the name of the program, and was working on details of the program. Commissioners were encouraged to consider becoming involved as one of the 16 older adults who will be interviewed by the high school journalism students.
- ITN – Ms. Diekemper reported that May 9 is the official start date for the new transportation service. Fundraising and recruitment of volunteer drivers is happening, and there will be information shared in an upcoming ROARS about the new service.
- Older Adult Survey Update – Ms. Mermelstein said that more than 100 surveys had been returned to Mr. Adam Brown so far, and that UMSL students were beginning to interview randomly selected residents in person.

New Business

- New home maintenance assistance request process – Ms. Mermelstein said that Mr. Brown has met with representatives of the organizations that provided volunteers at the last Make A Difference Day, and they have each provided him with a contact name/email so that in the future if a request for assistance comes in, we will try to see if we can get one of the organizations to create a work team more immediately, rather than simply waiting until the next work day.
- Possible Senior Commission subcommittees – Due to the absence of several commission members, it was decided to table this discussion until the next meeting.

Senior Coordinator Update:

Ms. Mermelstein provided the following updates on activities, meetings, and programs related to older adults:

- The senior mailing list is up to 563 names.
- She is continuing to get frequent phone calls about making appointments for tax assistance at the U-City Library. Many of those callers are U-City residents, enabling her to add many new names to the database.
- A group of Washington University social work graduate class are doing research about best methods of engaging older adults in programming in their community.

Council Liaison Update:

Ms. Slater moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Diekemper seconded. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:00 PM. – Heman Park Community Center