



Commission on Senior Issues

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Meeting Minutes – University City Commission on Senior Issues

February 19, 2019

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Wayne Flesch, Gloria Nickerson, Karl Reid, Councilman Stacy Clay, Senior Services Coordinator, Marcia Mermelstein
Absent: Elaine Henton
Guests: Sandra Hewitt, Diane Clark

Mr. Flesch called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.
Roll call was done by Senior Services Coordinator, Marcia Mermelstein

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Nickerson moved to approve the minutes of the January meeting as written. Mr. Reid seconded, and the motion passed.

Unfinished Business

- **Senior Commission Members -New Member Recruitment/Current Member Re-appointment/Mayoral Appointment** – Ms. Mermelstein will find out who is next in rotation to appoint new Senior Commission members, and Mr. Clay will contact that person to encourage him/her to look over applications that the City Clerk currently has.

Mr. Flesch needs to be reappointed, and Mr. Clay said he would take care of that process.

Mayor Crowe is waiting to make any new appointments, because the City Council is in the process of reviewing all of the commissions at individual study sessions. He wants to wait to make any new appointments until that process is completed. Mr. Clay will let Ms. Nickerson and Mr. Flesch know the date of the Senior Commission's study session so that they can plan on attending, along with Ms. Mermelstein.

- **ITN Update** – Mr. Flesch announced that riders are increasing in the county's new program, but that drivers are needed. Ms. Mermelstein said that she would send a copy of an ITN driver recruitment flyer to all of the church/synagogue representatives she has on an email list, asking them to share the information with their congregants. One of the guests asked for an explanation of what ITN is, and Mr. Flesch gave a short background of the new transportation service.
- **Senior Services Coordinator Job Description** – Ms. Mermelstein passed out copies of a list of her current job responsibilities. Ms. Nickerson suggested that commission members review the

information after the meeting, and send comments to Mr. Flesch, so that those comments can possibly be shared with Ms. Mermelstein's new supervisor when he/she is hired.

- **U-City Foundation** – Ms. Nickerson reported that the profits from Fair U-ty go into the foundation's account, and grants are given out to people who want to do things that can enhance our community. It is possible that the Senior Commission could request funds. Ms. Nickerson will bring an application to the next meeting.

New Business

- **2019-20 Senior Services Budget** – Ms. Mermelstein passed around a copy of a proposed budget that she would like to present to her current supervisor, Mr. Clifford Cross, who is the Director of Community Development. She will ask him to share that budget request with her new supervisor, the Director of Parks and Recreation, when that person is hired.
- **Meeting Time of Senior Commission Meetings** – Mr. Flesch asked if commission members would be interested in possibly scheduling the commission meetings during the day. Ms. Mermelstein mentioned that she thought one of the reasons the meetings had been scheduled in the evening was to accommodate any commission member who might still be employed and unable to get away from work during the day. There was no consensus about making an immediate change, and Mr. Flesch said that the group can talk about it again next fall when the weather starts getting colder and daylight savings time ends, making it dark when people arrive at 6:00 p.m.

Senior Coordinator Report

Ms. Mermelstein reported that there are 16 current scholarship recipients, with two additional applications. She is waiting for approval to be able to continue giving out additional scholarships, since we are almost at the halfway point of using the \$5500 that was allocated for this purpose.

She indicated that there will be a letter sent out to invite all of the city council representatives, department heads, mayor, and City Manager to the May 5 program celebrating Older Americans Month. The planning committee for the program has asked if it can be signed as being sent by both the Senior Commission and their committee.

The senior mailing list currently has 769 names on it.

Council Liaison Report

Mr. Clay stated that an error had been made by the consultants who worked out the Olive & 170 development proposal. Projections had been made as if University City was a "point of sale" city, instead of a "pool city," which is what we actually are. A citizen caught the numerical error, which lowered the amount of revenue that the city would be receiving from the TIF agreement by a considerable amount.

The position of Mr. Clay and his colleagues is that they won't approve a deal that injures the city. More discussions are needed, and he says that the council hopes to resolve this issue sooner than later because of homeowners in the affected area who are living in limbo right now since the offers they have received on purchasing their homes will expire in May.

Other Updates/Topics of Concern

Mr. Flesch asked that commission members send him any comments they have related to this evening's discussion by March 1.

Mr. Reid moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Nickerson seconded, and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned by Mr. Flesch at 7:09 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Heman Park Community Center