

Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2021

Chair JF McCullar called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1.1. Roll Call

Present: Chair JF McCullar, Vicechair Jacqueline LaVoie, Committee Member Sharon Holley, Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler, Committee Member Tom Burrous, Assistant to the City Manager Trisha Conner, City Attorney Brandi Jensen, Deputy City Attorney Aaron Mouritsen, Deputy City Clerk Brenda Gosser

1.2. Public Forum

There were none.

1.3. (For Possible Action) Approval of The Agenda

Motion: MOVE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Vicechair Jacqueline LaVoie, **Seconded by** Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler, **Vote:** Motion carried by vote (**summary:** Yes = 5). **Yes:** Chair JF McCullar, Vicechair Jacqueline LaVoie, Committee Member Sharon Holley, Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler.

1.4 (For Possible Action) Approval of Minutes

Tom Burrous Committee member noticed that item #6 Public Forum the meeting was adjourned 10:56 PM though it should read 10:56 AM.

Chair JF McCullar stated the Minutes showed an incorrect date of Wednesday, October 12th.

Motion: MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMMENDED. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler, **Seconded by** Committee Member Tom Burrous, **Vote:** Motion carried by vote (**summary:** Yes = 5). **Yes:** Chair JF McCullar,

Vicechair Jacqueline LaVoie, Committee Member Sharon Holley, Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler.

2. (For Possible Action): Discussion and Possible Action to Amend Resolution #21-011 By-Laws for the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.

Trisha Connor Assistant to the City Manager explained the resolution for the By-Laws and how committee members' terms are staggered.

Motion: MOVE TO APPROVE THE BY-LAWS WITH THE ADDITION OF THE 2 MEMBERS THAT HAVE 1 YEAR TERMS AND THE THREE THAT HAVE 2 YEAR TERMS. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Committee Member Sharon Holley, **Seconded by** Committee Member Jacqueline LaVoie, **Vote:** Motion carried by vote (**summary:** Yes = 5). **Yes:** Chair JF McCullar, Vicechair Jacqueline LaVoie, Committee Member Sharon Holley, Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler.

3. Presentation, discussion and possible action on the goals, mission & vision of the City of Fernley Senior Citizen Advisory Committee including, but not limited to the following topics:

- A. Lyon County Human Services, Senior Services Division presentation**
- B. Possible Senior Citizen Advisory Committee Projects & Ideas - What are other SCAC doing?**
- C. SWOT Analysis**
- D. Goals, mission and vision for the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.**

Trish Connor Assistant for the City Manager introduced the presentation and presenter Rebecca Williams from Lyon County Senior Services.

Rebecca Williams Lyon County Senior Services Program Director presented stating there are 4 locations in Lyon County that provides senior services such as caregiver support services that offers a caregiver training course about caring for those with dementia, as well as support for older caregivers taking on the role of parents again. She mentioned there are resources such as ADRC available to help people apply for support programs including SNAP benefits enrollment and energy assistance programs that reduce water bills and reduced Waste Management fees. These programs would also have case management support to ensure at least one visit would occur every month for someone with cognitive challenges. There is a new program available for hard-of-hearing and deaf services. Homemaker services are also available to maintain cleanliness in the home.

Meal delivery services are available and include check-ins with the recipient to make sure they are doing well. The transportation program has hired another driver to service Lyon County with more routes. Dementia friendly Lyon County information is available online at dementiafriendlynevada.com. The Fernley Senior Center has community rooms available for meeting, conferences, classes and many more activities.

Trisha Connor Assistant to the City Manager informed the committee that there is a section on the City of Fernley website dedicated to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee that gets updates about the schedule and activities of the Committee. She proposed to include more information on that page to better inform and engage the community. The city of Sparks publishes a newsletter for their citizens so the city of Fernley may consider doing the same to increase outreach. An annual Senior Fest could be implemented to provide information and assistance for senior services and promote senior connectivity. The City of Fernley can put out a survey to the community about which services are needed in the community. She summarized the different services provided by the City of Fernley and the different departments. The SWOT analysis showed that the strengths and weakness are internal in the city such as the strength of knowledgeable, experienced committee members and a weakness of a poor flow of communication. Opportunities were shown as having a community with high volunteer spirit with a threat example being the Covid-19 Pandemic. This report can help maximize the strengths and mitigate the weaknesses for the city. Trisha requested to know what the committee sees an internal strength.

Committee member JF McCullar felt a strength was the willingness people have in this community to help each other of all ages. Another strength noted was the ability to bring different elements of the community together to help each other.

Committee member Tom Burrous said one strength is the Lyon County services for the City of Fernley.

Trisha Connor Assistant to the City Manager said this Committee itself is a strength.

Tom Burrous committee member thought the ability to connect with the seniors in the area is a weakness because not everyone in that community uses social media.

Committee member JF McCullar noted a major weakness is a lack of knowledge surrounding retirement and medical care for seniors. He expressed there isn't a clear

understanding of what steps need to be taken when one retires such as looking at social security.

Sherryl Wheeler mentioned that not all seniors go to the senior center to help guide them in those processes JF McCullar spoke of and agreed it is difficult to know what to do.

Committee Member Jackie LaVoie added that it is important to help make the senior community aware of the different utility programs that can reduce cost for fixed income seniors. It is a weakness that many do not know about it.

Trisha Connor Assistant to the City Manager presented an opportunity for the Committee which would be to publish the weaknesses mentioned to bring vital information to the Seniors of Fernley.

JF McCullar contributed an opportunity where we can establish a process so the seniors can ask for help. He went on to add that partnerships should be established within the community for senior citizens to reach out to. The high school could offer an opportunity for community service to the seniors.

Jaqueline LaVoie identified an opportunity to educate the seniors on how to identify different types of scams that perhaps the high school could assist with.

Councilman Albert Torres cited the Senior Advisory Committee as an opportunity and suggested they have the state head of cyber security to present to the seniors. Perhaps post notices of the presentations around town.

Trisha Connor Assistant to the City Manager added that there was a Medicare meeting held at Roundtable and saw an opportunity in expanding those meeting with a larger venue and providing more outreach for meetings such as that.

Rebecca Williams Lyon County Senior Services Program Director said they could model the help system for seniors after their mental health programs to decrease the stigma of asking for help. It would be a great opportunity to partner with senior center for those programs and outreach.

Susan Lopez offered the idea of bringing high school students and seniors back together at the library where there is public computer access to educate them about social media or other technological questions.

Committee member Jaqueline LaVoie would like to see volunteer opportunities such as that expanded to all community members, not just high school students.

Tom Burrous wanted to add that the Fernley Pool is a great resource for the seniors. Outreach about the pool could be another opportunity.

Trisha Connor Assistant to the City Manager read the mission of the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee which is to provide an informational resource to senior citizens on matters of concern to those citizens and promote volunteer programs for the benefit of senior citizens. She asked if any changes should be made.

Jaqueline LaVoie voiced a concern about the term “volunteer” in the mission statement. Councilman Albert Torres agreed and suggested that the word “volunteer” be struck from the statement.

Tom Burrous committee member contributed the vision that Northern Nevada would be looking to Fernley as the place to live for seniors and be a senior friendly community.

Jaqueline LaVoie committee member said her vision would be that everyone in the community would be aware of the existence of the committee and all of the opportunities inscribed in the mission statement.

Trisha Connor Assistant to the City Manager asked for future goals of the committee.

JF McCullar saw a goal to create a system to get more information out to the senior citizens about services.

Tom Burrous set a goal to collaborate with community members of businesses to help disperse information.

Susan Lopez offered a goal of local businesses in Fernley to have brochures available of local businesses and doctors’ offices for Seniors to easily access.

JF McCullar added the goal to partner with local government agencies that offer services to the seniors to promote their available services.

Motion: MOVE TO APPROVE THE GOALS AS WRITTEN. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler, **Seconded by** Committee Member Tom Burrous **Vote:** Motion carried by vote (**summary:** Yes = 5). **Yes:** Motion carried by vote (**summary:** Yes = 5). **Yes:** Chair JF McCullar, Vicechair Jacqueline LaVoie, Committee Member Sharon Holley, Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler.

4. Address request(s) for future agenda items

Jaqueline LaVoie wanted to talk about the public forum section that listed a 4 pm deadline to read comment while there is not yet a specific time, so that must be modified per meeting.

JF McCullar said the seniors are reluctant to go out in public for events and suggested a safety presentation could be warranted as a future agenda item.

Councilman Albert Torres suggested he could reach out to the Sherriff's office to give a presentation to the Seniors in Fernley.

Motion: MOVE TO SET THE FUTURE MEETING ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2022, AT 9 AM. **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Committee Member Tom Burrous, **Seconded by** Committee Member Jaqueline LaVoie **Vote:** Motion carried by vote (**summary:** Yes = 5). **Yes:** Motion carried by vote (**summary:** Yes = 5). **Yes:** Chair JF McCullar, Vicechair Jacqueline LaVoie, Committee Member Sharon Holley, Committee Member Sherryl Wheeler.

5. Public Form

Susan Lopez wanted to thank the volunteers that helped staff the food bank during the pandemic. She would like to see a long-term bus system for low-cost transportation.

AYES: _____ NAYS: _____ ABSTENTIONS: _____ ABSENT: _____

Chair JF McCullar

ATTEST: