



City of Albuquerque

Department of Senior Affairs Advisory Council

714 Seventh Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Jorja Armijo-Brasher, Director

Richard J. Berry, Mayor

DSA Advisory Council Meeting
Bear Canyon Senior Center
April 21, 2014

Minutes

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Debby Knotts – 12:00 pm
 - a. Present: Marianne Chiffelle, Susan White, Debby Knotts, Agnes Vallejos, and Mabel Padilla.
Absent: Yumi Johnson and Tina King
 - b. November 2013 Minutes were approved.
 - c. April Agenda was approved.
- II. Public Participation
 - a. Heidi Marshall – Volunteer at Bear Canyon and CASA
 - a. Does not feel the centers are promoted/advertised enough
 - b. Cheryl Hunt – Advocated Coordinator at Encino Terrace
- III. Elections
 - a. Chair
 - a. Debby Knotts was elected Chair
 - b. Vice-Chair
 - a. Marianne Chiffelle was elected Vice-Chair
- IV. Discussion of Membership
 - a. There are openings for representation at Palo Duro, North Valley, and North Domingo Baca.
 - b. Skills which would be of asset to new board members are business, marketing/advertising, social work, and/or gerontology.
 - c. Susan feels we need board members who are committed to attending meetings.
 - d. Debby feels we need to work on recruiting new board members.
 - e. Anthony Romero
 - a. Invite Emily Larsen with the Mayor's office to a meeting
 - b. There needs to be a purpose for the council
 - c. Have a yearly retreat
 - d. What does the council want and need to hear from DSA Administration
- V. Council Business
 - a. Council Member Reports

- a. Marianne Chiffelle reports she will go and meet with James Mader, the new Manager at Manzano Mesa. She also handed out flyers for the Children's Freedom Festival and asked for volunteers for the day of the event.
- b. Mabel Padilla reports Bear Canyon is running smooth and precise. Staff is doing a great job.
- c. Agnes Vallejos did not have anything to report.
- d. Susan White reports Barelmas is going smooth. She has been working out of a satellite center in the South Valley. The Meal Site Coordinator is working hard to get in new people, but having a difficult time. They are trying to start an exercise program, membership numbers are up, and the art program is going good. Susan also feels a lot of money is being spent on transportation to and from centers and wishes it could be made more efficient.
- e. Debby Knotts reports Highland's "Puttin' on the Ritz" event was delightful and had a good turnout. They are now doing movies and popcorn on Friday's. Debby thinks Highland got a "shot in the arm" when the department hired Jody. It is a pleasure to see her interact with the seniors. Debby also mentioned the possibility of having DSA presence at the SE Heights Neighborhood Association's family event.
- b. Advisory Council Business
 - a. The Senior Olympics proposal was put together by Joel Mahoney, Program Supervisor for DSA. There will be a meeting today at 2:30 pm with DSA and an Albuquerque representative, Bill Wiley.
 - b. The 2014 Advisory Council Meeting Schedule was approved.

VI. Administrative Reports

- a. Director Report – Jorja Armijo-Brasher
 - a. Jorja wanted to reiterate the importance of having representation at City Council meetings. It is important that the councilors know the senior population is growing and more will be needed to take care of this growing population. DSA is still working on gathering information for the 2030 initiative. The department would like to have a 2030 summit to develop a plan regarding the growing senior population. DSA has met with UNM School of Medicine. A questionnaire will be developed to ask about things that are will impact the city as we age, transportation, etc. DSA is working to build a partnership with Family & Community Services.
- b. Division Reports
 - a. Fiscal – Karen Lopez
 - 1. The General Fund Budget was sent to the City Council - \$6.5 million for the General Fund, \$7.6 Grant funding, for a total of \$14.2 million. The budget will be presented to the Council of the Whole on Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 5:00 pm. The Capital Outlay was submitted to the State on April 11, 2014 – this includes funding for fitness equipment, Los Volcanes, Home Services, and safety equipment. The G.O. Bond request is due May 1, 2014. DSA was allocated \$600,000 out of \$125 million.
 - b. Nutrition/Transportation – Kathy Black

1. Kathy has been working on new policies for volunteer drivers and staff. She will be setting up a meeting to present the findings to DSA Administration. The findings include training materials, emergency policies, and check lists. More volunteer drivers need to be recruited or service rides instead of trips. Things are going well at the meal sites. Nutrition/Transportation has lost two Meal Site Coordinators and has vacancies in the kitchen.
- c. Recreation – Rhonda Methvin
 1. The four centers who are working on accreditation will have site visits the second week of June. The centers got through tax season. North Domingo Baca will be closed for a week and a half. DSA is working on the opening of the Spray Park, repairs to the restroom, and repairs to a shade structure at Manzano Mesa. A survey will be going out asking what the department’s future needs are, what we have, and what we need.
- d. Social Services – Anthony Romero
 1. The department is working on submitting the Senior Corp. grants. FGP has already submitted their grant. The new Senior Personnel/Labor Relations Officer, Leanne Martel, started today. DSA has a lot of vacancies. May is Older American’s Month. We will be kicking off the Stop Senior Hunger initiative. Please encourage members to donate. Social Services has undergone 3 audits for RSVP, FGP, and SCP. All did well on the audits. There was also the AAA audit over divisions Anthony and Kathy oversee. The new Quick Guide should be printed by June 2014. It is already available on-line at the DSA website. Anthony reminded council members to look at the activities catalog for upcoming events at their centers. Also, look at the city website regarding the City’s Step It Up program on the Mayor’s page.

VII. Upcoming Events

- a. “A Senior I Know” Essay Contest Awards Ceremony and Reception on 5/1/14 at 4:30 pm at Manzano Mesa.
- b. Tarde de Oro on 4/30/14 at 1:00 pm at the National Hispanic Cultural Center.
- c. RSVP Breakfast on 5/23/14 at Hotel Albuquerque from 8:00-11:00 am.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Next meeting will be Monday, May 19, 2014 at Los Volcanes Senior Center, 6500 Los Volcanes NW