

# *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  
North Valley Senior Center  
February 22, 2016

### **Minutes**

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Debby Knotts – 12:06 pm
  - a. Present: Debby Knotts, Marianne Chiffelle, Greg Lopez, John Romisher, and David Vargas
  - b. September 2015 Minutes were approved.
  - c. February Agenda was approved.
- II. Center Manager: Introduction & Comments
  - a. America Bencomo is the Program Coordinator at the North Valley Senior Center. During February the center hosted a dinner dance and a Mardi Gras celebration.
- III. Public Participation
  - a. Gil Torrez said he enjoys the dances at North Valley.
  - b. Louisa Martinez said people are cutting in line for the dances at North Valley on Sundays. People are lining up before the doors open because only a certain number of people are admitted.
  - c. Mr. Marquez said the dance entrance system needs to change and they should open the doors earlier.
  - d. Joan Hershler attended the meeting.
  - e. Marie Lopez has issues with the Sunday dances at North Valley. She would like to know who develops the rules, are the rules available to everyone to be aware of, are the rules changed, who justifies the rule changes, are health considerations taken into account, and can there be a waiting area set up? She said profanity was used toward one of the members by center staff this past Sunday. A meeting will be set up with Ms. Lopez and DSA Administration.
  - f. Jake Griego showed up for the dance at North Valley at 11:15 am. When he asked a staff member why they were late opening the doors he said the employee told him that she wasn't ready. He said an employee used a "foul word". He also said an employee told him "and if you keep it up, I'll have you thrown out."
  - g. Cheryl Hunt is a senior advocate who also advocates for UNM and the City Council.
  - h. Judy Hatfield is learning about senior advocating.
  - i. Ms. Ortega has attended the North Valley Senior Center for 23-24 years with her husband. She said the employees are very courteous. She believes problems are with newer members attending the dances who don't respect the older members. She said

this Sunday tickets were given out to get in the dance. She suggested maybe a guard could be posted at the doors to check numbers.

#### IV. Administrative Reports

##### a. Director Report

- a. Jorja went to Alabama along with the Mayor, CAO, and two representatives from ACVB to give a presentation to the National Senior Olympics board. The presentation went great and everyone did a wonderful job.
- b. \$2.6 million for a new Westside multigenerational center was not passed, instead DSA was given \$25,000. There was also no funding given for North Domingo Baca's plans.
- c. Due to a recent incident at Barelvas, new procedures are in place for safety. There is one entrance and one exit being used by members, and this will soon be done at all centers. DSA is increasing security and trying to make sure there are practices in place for safety. Facility assessments have been done. Debbie suggested signs be posted for members with an explanation for the new safety procedures.

##### b. Associate Director Report

- a. There will be a meeting with George Cappannelli with AgeNation to finalize the blue print to be submitted to the WHO sometime in April.
- b. New DSA tri-fold brochures were passed out to council members.
- c. Vial of LIFE packet and explanation was given to council members.
- d. City is working on ABC to Z. The document can be found on the city's Planning Department website. Public comment will be taken until March 15, 2016.

##### c. Division Reports

###### a. Recreation – Rhonda Methvin

1. 948 surveys were returned and entered into a database. Renovations at Los Volcanes are going great. The new membership card system should be out in all centers in April. Some centers will be trying to renew their national accreditation.

###### b. Social Services – Joy Klotz

1. FGP Supervisor, Maria ReQua, has been selected to be on the National Advisory Council for Senior Corps. She will officially start in July. The supervisor for SCP has retired and the position will soon be advertised. Case Management is down 2.5 case managers. A new case manager will start March 7, 2016 and the other vacant positions will soon be advertised. The I&A Program Coordinator has moved to Highland Senior Center that that position will soon be advertised. I&A started a new system in October where they are taking live calls and it is working great. The new Quick Guide should be ready for print in about one month.

###### c. Nutrition/Transportation – Danny Holcomb

1. The meal sites had a Valentine's Dance on February 12, 2016 at the South Valley Multipurpose Senior Center that was attended by 185 members.

Working on expanding the parking lot at CASA. The new inventory control system should be going live July 1<sup>st</sup>. There are lots of vacancies.

- d. Fiscal – Karen Lopez
  - 1. DSA is in the middle of the budget process for FY/17 and will be having their hearing on February 25, 2015. There is \$6.8 million from the General Fund, \$7.1 million from Fund 250, and \$984,000 in grants. The DSA portion of the budget will be heard before the Committee of the Whole on April 21, 2016 at 5:30 pm. Other dates public comments can be made regarding the budget are May 5 and May 16, 2016.

## V. Council Business

- a. Council Member Reports
  - a. Marianne Chiffelle said everything is fine at Manzano Mesa.
  - b. Greg Lopez said everything is fantastic at North Domingo Baca. They celebrated “Love Month” in February.
  - c. Debby Knotts said the High-Toners are very popular at Highland. She was not able to attend Highland’s Chinese New Year celebration.
  - d. John Romisher met with Maria on January 6, 2016. He said there are problems with the grease traps at Los Volcanes.
  - e. David Vargas is a new member and will be representing the Meal Sites. He is interested in rights for grandparents raising grandchildren.
- b. Advisory Council Business
  - a. Elections
    - 1. Nominations were taken for Chair and Vice Chair
      - a. Greg Lopez nominated Debby Knotts for Chair. John Romisher seconded the nomination. Debby was elected unanimously.
      - b. Debby Knotts nominated Marianne Chiffelle for Vice Chair. Greg Lopez seconded the nomination. Marianne was elected unanimously.
  - b. Changes to By-Laws
    - 1. Changes to Article III will be submitted for approval from Advisory Council
  - c. Discussion: Initiating a “Thank You” event for DSA Partners
    - 1. There will be more discussion on the possibility of hosting an event in late August or September.
- c. Old/New Business – No Old/New Business

## VI. Announcements – No Announcements

## VII. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 1:42 pm.

**Next meeting will be March 21, 2016 – North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center  
7521 Carmel Ave NE**