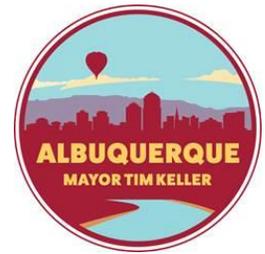


# City of Albuquerque

## Department of Senior Affairs Advisory Council

714 Seventh Street SW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102



Anna M. Sanchez, Director

DSA Advisory Council Meeting  
Zoom Meeting  
June 15, 2020

**DRAFT**

### Minutes

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Evan Thompson – 12:04 pm
  - a. Present: Evan Thompson, Bobbi Carmona-Young, Louis Carlentine, Onastine Jaramillo, Lucy Lopez, Greg Lopez, and Joie Glenn
  - b. Absent: Diann Huddleson, Allison Weber, Richard Garcia, and Steve Borbas
- II. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Evan motions, Greg and Onastine second, February Minutes approved.
- III. Approval of the Agenda
  - a. Evan motions, Onastine and Greg second, June Agenda approved.
- IV. Public Participation
  - a. No public participation, due to meeting held via Zoom as a result of the COVID impact.
- V. New Advisory Council Member
  - a. Chair Evan Thompson welcomed new council member, Louis Carlentine.
- VI. Administrative Reports
  - a. Recreation Division – Nikki Peone
    - a. Nikki talked about the how the grab and go lunches have doing since the Centers closed; averaging about 1,350 meals per day, in total, from each of the 5 sites.
    - b. On June 8<sup>th</sup>, North Domingo Baca and Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Centers opened for the youth program only. They are working with a lower number of kids than normal and ensuring that they are practicing social distancing. Things seem to be going smoothly, the kids are following the rules while the staff is working to make it fun and enjoyable for the kids.
    - c. Sports and Fitness facilities remain closed; however, they are providing classes online and working on pushing out ways for seniors to be active at home. The grand opening for the North Domingo Baca gym will still happen, they are working on a virtual grand opening, more information to come. Anthony mentioned that we just recently had a groundbreaking ceremony at Palo Duro for their expansion project, in which Anna and the Mayor attended to break ground while social distancing.
    - d. Nikki reported that they have started offering tax services at Barelmas Senior Center, Vita tax service has worked out a no contact process in which the seniors can drop off their information and will be called when it is ready for them to drive by and pick up. They are also working with AARP at the closed centers so they can assist folks that had their appointments cancelled. This is expected to run until July 12<sup>th</sup>.
    - e. Lastly, Nikki reported that Silver Horizons is offering food boxes at the closed centers as well. Seniors can drive by on designated days to pick up a box.

- b. Social Services Division – Agnes Vallejos
  - a. Agnes talked about how the social services team has really had to pivot their operations during this time. The I&A staff received 3x the normal call volume and they were operating 7 days a week for a 4-week period; taking nearly 5,000 calls since March 17<sup>th</sup>. In the beginning they were dealing with emergency issues that the seniors faced, such as home delivered meals; now they are seeing that trend down towards normal daily services, such as yard work and air conditioner services.
  - b. Agnes reported that they are receiving donations for seniors as well as for folks in To'hajiilee. To date, they have delivered 1,600 food boxes, 1,400 rolls of toilet paper, as well as 500 care packages to seniors in need. Nearly 700 assessments have been done by the Care Coordinators checking in on homebound seniors. Some of the Senior Corps folks, especially Senior Companions, have been making wellness check calls to offer help or services during this time.
- c. Nutrition and Transportation Division – Tim Martinez
  - a. Tim complimented the staff; they have really stepped up as production has doubled. They have worked together to provide services to the community. During this time, the routes have served another purpose, with the downtick of senior transportation and uptick of emergency home delivered meals, the drivers have pivoted in this area as well. Sun van drivers from Transit have also been helping to provide seniors rides. Staff have changed their roles; meal site coordinators have been working in the Centers to help prepare or hand out meals. Everyone is collectively supporting one another.
- d. Deputy Director – Anthony Romero
  - a. Anthony talked about how proud he is of the DSA team. Pivot is definitely the word to describe how we have been operating recently. He presented slides on a snapshot of the services we have been offering during the COVID pandemic and numbers attached to those services (PowerPoint presentation send to council members via email). Anthony concluded his presentation stating that the Department has really stepped up and has stayed committed to the older adults in our community.
- e. Director – Anna Sanchez
  - a. Anna reported on the relaunching of the Vial of Life program, in which materials are being distributed this week. We are working with AFR on getting more information out about the Vial of Life and ways to keep this program ongoing.
  - b. Anna will have information for the next meeting about the Age Friendly designation. This initiative has been ongoing even in the current conditions. Andrew West has been a huge help in circulating survey information and getting the input from key community members. Jenifer sent council members the link for the Age Friendly website for information and to take the survey.
  - c. DSA has applied for the AARP Grant and requested to rehabilitate the community garden across the street from Barelmas Senior Center– El Camino Rael Gardens.
  - d. Update on a couple of surveys that were recently conducted; AAA commissioned a survey on older adults entitled “Community Conversations” in the last year which offered some interesting insights. Additionally, DSA solicited Home Delivered Meal recipients for feedback on drivers, quality of meals, etc. Anna discussed the importance of these tools in providing information on where we should be going as a department. Evan suggests developing a mini-care assessment asking questions

such as, how often do you get out, who do you have contact with, are you getting meals, in order to get a feel for services we may be able to offer or expand on.

- e. Anna reported on entering phase III of City reopening and how that could potentially impact opening up the Centers to the public. Considerations being taken into this plan is how to implement procedures such as taking temps, requiring masks, putting up barriers and social distancing markers. She is asking council members for their honest feedback on what they have seen in other areas, for example, smaller group sizes, limited days open, lower risk activities. She reviewed a presentation provided by the Mayor which Jenifer emailed to Council members. Joie suggested possibly creating areas, signs, plexiglass, but also understands that the setup may not be easy. Anna also points out the challenge in getting the center members to not move things on their own or all together ignore precautions we establish. Nikki pointed out that these are things they have discussed at meetings with her managers, they are exploring all angles and scenarios. They have even developed committees that are working on how activities will flow. She feels like now they have the time to really think things through and be thoughtful about the reopening and moving forward. Joie also suggested to take a look at CDC guidelines, and replicate what others are doing such as having one entrance door to help monitor the flow of traffic. Onastine suggested having members sign a waiver like salons, gyms, even casinos are having them do. Greg suggested an alphabetic system or having folks sign up. They need to understand the risks involved with being out during this time. Some other suggestions would be to have 3 at a table, wipe down in between each use, but understands staffing is also a hinderance. There will need to be an education to those who also do not have memberships.

VII. Advisory Council Business

- a. None at this time.

VIII. Old/New Business

- a. None at this time.

IX. Announcements: Upcoming Events, Etc.

- a. Evan announced that he is putting together around 200 sanitization bags to hand out to seniors and asked if anyone wanted to drop some collateral about programs in them to let him know.
- b. Jenifer will send council members a copy of the July e-newsletter when it becomes available.

X. Adjournment – Evan calls for motion to adjourn, Onastine and Greg second. Meeting was adjourned at 1:21pm.