

# City of Albuquerque

## Department of Senior Affairs

### Advisory Council



Anna M. Sanchez, Director

1 Civic Plaza NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

DSA Advisory Council, In-Person Meeting  
5221 Palo Duro NE, 87110  
Monday January 22, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.  
<https://cabq.zoom.us/j/87002708426>

## Minutes

- I. Roll Call
- II. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Evan Thompson at 12:06 PM
  - a. Present:
    - i. Advisory Council Members: Evan Thompson, Steve Borbas, Henry Shonerd, Louis Carlentine, Dubra Karnes-Padilla, Havens Levitt, Raymond Taylor.
    - ii. Present via zoom: Martha Medina
    - iii. DSA Staff Members: Anna Sanchez, Tim Martinez, Nikki Peone, Agnes Vallejos, Angel Montoya, Maria ReQua, Bernice Chacon.
  - b. Not Present: Sheila Hundley and Theresa Haering.
- III. Approval of Minutes & Agenda (May & June)
  - a. Mr. Shonerd motions to approve minutes, Mr. Borbas seconds. November Minutes were approved.
  - b. Mr. Shonerd motions to approve January Agenda, Mr. Carlentine seconds. January agenda was approved.
- IV. Public Participation- No Public Comment
- V. New Employee Introductions:
  - a. Ms. ReQua introduced Juan Sotres, an Advocate Specialist in Social Services Division. Mr. Sotres started with the department on December 4<sup>th</sup> and is excited to be part of the team.
  - b. Mr. Martinez introduced Eddy Wauneka, Mealsite Supervisor in Transportation/Nutrition Division. Previous from his promotion, Mr. Wauneka served as a driver for multiple years and a meal site coordinator. Mr. Wauneka started his new position on November 4<sup>th</sup> and is excited to facilitate all resources within this division.
- VI. Center Manager Report- David Goode, Center Manager
  - i. Mr. Goode introduced himself as the new center manager for PDSC.

- ii. Mr. Goode advised the center is getting ready to receive capital improvements. One of the classrooms that needs the most upgrades is the stone-making room; all of its equipment is old and needs to be upgraded. Mr. Goode stated he is happy to be in his new role and offered everyone present a tour of the center after the meeting.

VII. Budget Submission- Director Sanchez

- a. Director Sanchez presented highlights of the DSA budget requests that she will be presenting at City Council. She also advised these requests are based on the strategic plan priorities.
- b. Staffing Requests are the following:
  - i. Recreation Division:
    - 1. Five Senior Program Assistants II and one Program coordinator for the Sports & Fitness Program.
    - 2. One General Service Worker, one Sr. Program Assistant II, and one Program Manager for the Center Programs.
  - ii. Nutrition & Transportation Division:
    - 1. Eight Kitchen Aides for Nutrition Program.
    - 2. One Transit Support Service Representative and two Communication Center Specialist for Transportation Program.
  - iii. Social Services Division:
    - 1. Two Information and Referral Specialist, two Case Managers, one Warehouse Worker and one Construction/Fabricator.
  - iv. Administration Division:
    - 1. One System Analyst II.
- c. Reclassification Requests:
  - 1. Information and Referral Specialists to Communication Specialists.
  - 2. Meal site Coordinator to Cook.

VIII. DSA Administrative Updates

- a. Agnes Vallejos, Strategic Program Manager
  - i. Ms. Vallejos announced that her Data Analyst position has been vacant since October of 2023 and has been conducting interviews to fill this position soon.
  - ii. Ms. Vallejos advised she is working on launching surveys for each program in order to collect data to analyze how our programs are operating. Ms. Vallejos stated these responses are set to be received by next month.
- b. Maria ReQua, DSA Social Services Division Manager
  - i. Ms. ReQua reported a new staff has joined the Case Management program and is almost completely staffed.
  - ii. I&A is working on moving back to in-person assistance, however, call volumes are making this challenging.
  - iii. Hiring more contract employees is also challenging as time needs to be invested in the training aspect.

- iv. I&A was on the news delivering fire wood the day after Christmas. Though, this generated a higher call volume, the event was a huge success.
  - v. Home Services is partnering with ABQ fire & Rescue to trim trees and provide winter wood for more seniors.
  - vi. The Home Services unit is currently facing staffing shortages, which has resulted in delays in our ability to provide home services to seniors. Therefore, we are initiating a nomination program aimed at identifying seniors who require urgent assistance.
- c. Angel Montoya, Recreation Division Manager
- i. Ms. Montoya provided updates on manager and coordinator positions across senior centers:
    - 1. Center Manager, America Bencomo, has been relocated to Barelas Senior Center.
    - 2. Center Manager, Julio Santiesteban, and Program Coordinator, Matthew Montoya, have been relocated to Los Volcanes Senior Center.
    - 3. Center Manager, Julianna Brooks, and Program Coordinator, Michael Duran, have been relocated at North Valley Senior Center.
    - 4. David Goode has been promoted from Program Coordinator to Center Manager and is located at Palo Duro Senior Center.
    - 5. Therese Smith has been transferred laterally from the Foster Grandparent Program to the Palo Duro Senior Center, where she will serve as a Program Coordinator.
  - ii. The “Senior I Know” contest is open for 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will write an essay about a significant older adult who has made a positive impact in their lives. Ms. Montoya provided a web link for everyone to check out the KROAT news story.
  - iii. The stats for this month consist of 1,042 new memberships, 1,102 renewals, and 26 trips.
  - iv. Tech events with Teeniors will be posted on social media soon.
  - v. The Blue Zones Event at the legislature will be on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Seniors can sing up at the senior centers.
  - vi. City Councilor Jones dedication at Bear Canyon Multipurpose Room was dedicated for her great work and dedication to the center and the seniors.
  - vii. The free Christmas music concert was very successful, therefore it is something the department would continue to bring to seniors.
  - viii. The Veteran’s Health Administration is providing presentations on their resources at the Highland Senior Center through November, flyer has been provided with more information.
  - ix. The Christmas lunch at Barelas Senior Center was a success with a total of 138 people in attendance.
  - x. The income tax preparations have begun, anyone interested can call 311 to request an appointment.

- xi. Lastly, Ms. Montoya concluded on a high note by highlighting the celebration of Mr. Ken Baugh. At 94 years old, Mr. Baugh has dedicated 11 years to volunteering with the department. He has been nominated for our Naming Tribute Program to dedicate a room at the North Domingo Multigenerational Center in recognition of his devoted years of commitment to the members and community. The celebration is scheduled for January 23rd, and all are cordially invited to attend.
- d. Tim Martinez, Nutrition & Transportation Division Manager
  - i. Mr. Martinez provided an update on food production activities, which include the preparation of 2100 meals per day; these include 600 home-delivered meals, 600 meals prepared at center kitchens, over 400 meal sites, and approximately 300 frozen meals distributed on weekends and holidays.
  - ii. Next month, CASA will host various events, including dances at Los Duranes with attendance ranging from 100 to 150 people. The upcoming events include Sweetheart, Prom, and holiday parties.
- e. Nikki Peone, DSA Associate Director
  - i. Ms. Peone reported successful events regarding volunteerism. Pinning ceremonies have been hosted to honoring approximately 80 individuals who have volunteered for five years or more as well as those who have dedicated 20 and 25+ years to volunteering.
  - ii. The Senior Companion program recently held its kickoff event with a total of 15 attendees. The focus of the event was on program expansion and the recruitment of additional participants.
  - iii. Regarding facilities, funding requests were made for meals equipment and fitness facilities. Unfortunately, NDB experienced HVAC failure last summer, requiring a system replacement that exceeded \$1 million. Fortunately, City Councilor Bazan allocated \$200,000, and an emergency request through Long Term resulted in the approval of the remaining \$800,000 for the project.
  - iv. Progress is underway for the renovation of the Highland kitchen and is expected to commence shortly.
  - v. A meeting for the renovation of the front counter area at Barelas Senior Center is scheduled for the coming month.
  - vi. Lastly, Ms. Peone provided a quick update on SBMT; the ribbon-cutting event has been scheduled for April. Additional details will be provided soon.
- f. Anna Sanchez, Director
  - i. Ms. Sanchez provided an update on the \$15 million Cibola Loop project, mentioning that soil testing is scheduled for next month. She expressed excitement about the progress and advised she will share more information soon.
  - ii. Ms. Sanchez advised the department created clip buttons bearing the phrase "Amazing has no Age" for distribution on Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup>, during Senior Day at the legislature. The morning

session is invitation only, therefore, everyone interested in attending can reach out to Bernice. Ms. Sanchez advised the department is promoting and hoping to utilize this day to be visible and advocate for senior resources.

IX. Advisory Council Business

- a. 2024 Schedule of meetings: The schedule of meetings was presented to the board for the rest of 2024 incorporating a zoom link for the public.
- b. Nominations/Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair: Director Sanchez confirmed that Mr. Thompson has agreed to retain his position, pending a vote or nomination. Mr. Borbas advised he would like to nominate Ms. Karnes-Padilla for vice chair. However, Ms. Karnes-Padilla expressed readiness to step down and nominates Mr. Taylor for co-chair instead. Mr. Taylor is amenable to the nomination and, in turn, nominates Mr. Thompson for Chair. Mr. Borbas motions to approve Mr. Thompson for Chair and Mr. Taylor for Vice-Chair, Mr. Shonerd seconds.
- c. City Council Agenda: Ms. Lorey Esquibel and Mr. Borbas are on the agenda for tonight's City Council meeting to be approved. Ms. Lorey is a new member, and Mr. Borbas has re applied for a second term.
- d. Status of Board Membership: Director Sanchez advise DSA Advisory Council Member, Teresa Hareing, has more than three unexcused absences. Therefore, Ms. Karnes-Padilla, Mr. Taylor seconds. A letter will be emailed to Ms. Hareing requesting a response by February 16, if no response is received, the board will proceed to liaise with the Mayor's office to initiate the recruitment of potential applicants to fill Ms. Haering's position on the Board.
- e. DSA Subcommittees: Director Sanchez advised a refresh of DSA subcommittees will be coming soon.

X. Council Member Reports (Optional)-

- a. Ms. Levitt announced that the Pie Fundraiser will return to the Balloon Museum on March 16th, with no additional fees.
- b. Mr. Borbas inquired about the availability of venues for nationality groups and band practices at senior centers. Ms. Montoya informed Mr. Steve that these groups could use community centers instead of senior centers, as these activities may not align with DSA's mission for private rentals. She also offered to provide Mr. Steve with contact information for arranging rentals.

XI. Announcements

- a. Tour of Palo Duro Senior Center by Center Manager, David Goode: Mr. Goode will provide everyone with a tour of the center.

XII. Adjournment

- a. Mr. Shonerd motioned to adjourn meeting, Mr. Borbas seconds. Meeting adjourned at 1:37pm.