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 October 19, 2020

Minutes

- I. <u>Meeting Called to Order by Chair Evan Thompson 12:04 pm</u>
 - a. Present: Evan Thompson, Bobbi Carmona-Young, Louis Carlentine, Greg Lopez, Lucy Lopez, Joie Glenn, Steve Borbas, and Onastine Jaramillo
 - b. Absent: Richard Garcia, and Allison Weber
- II. <u>Approval of Minutes</u>
 - a. Greg points out a correction in September's minutes under Council Reports; to change name from Greg to Evan. Jenifer takes note to make the amendment. Evan motions for approval of September minutes, Steve seconds. September minutes approved.
- III. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Evan motions, Onastine seconds, November Agenda approved.
- IV. <u>Public Participation</u>
 - a. No public present during this Zoom meeting.
- V. Administrative Reports
 - a. Recreation Division Nikki Peone
 - a. Nikki reported that virtual programming in up and running for recreation. October was the launch of how-to videos, lifestyle videos, staff is dabbling in live interactive bingo on Facebook Live. There will be a Halloween Bingo on 10/28/20 which seems to be the hit right now. Participants can pick up a bingo card during lunch at any of the five lunch sites on the Monday before and join Facebook Live to watch and listen as numbers are called out. Nikki talked about the article that came out in the Journal under Staying Connected, and it reported on how the Department is using technology to bring these programs in a COVID-safe way. She also reported that folks are staying connected by joining drive thru coffee events at each of the Centers. It's been about finding safe, creative ways to connect and check in with our community seniors.
 - b. Nutrition/Transportation Division Tim Martinez
 - a. Tim reported that the Nutrition and Transportation Division continue to be busy averaging around 1500 home delivered meals and 1500 meals out of the kitchens in the Centers. He mentioned that Saturday, October 17, his team transported seniors to an early voting site to helps folks register and vote early. They will continue to promote this effort up to election day. Tim also reported that his team has been preparing for the upcoming holidays and that is definitely keeping his folks busy. Anna added a big kudos to his staff for pulling together and making this happen;

one gentleman they were transporting said it was his first time voting and it shows how important this endeavor was.

- c. Deputy Director Anthony Romero
 - a. Since Agnes could not attend this meeting, Anthony reported on what has been happening in her division. On October 17, homes services folks teamed up again with UA Local 412 Plumbers and Pipefitters Union to turn on the heat in the homes of 90 seniors. He also reported that the RSVP teamed up with the Ombudsmen Program with the state's Aging and Long-Term Services Department to visit the site of an assisted living facility. The volunteers safely distanced themselves while a mariachi band serenaded the seniors outside. They were also able to get some cars to parade in front of the building from Drifters Car Club. This was a very successful event and Anna gave Katrina some ideas on ways we can collaborate in the future.
 - b. Anthony reported that Senior Corps is now called AmeriCorps. They were able to continue to give their volunteers a small stipend which definitely helps them out during these times. The volunteers are finding ways to reach out a home while continuing to comply with the public health order.
- d. Director Anna Sanchez
 - a. Anna reported that DSA and Senior Corps was on the City Council agenda at 3pm on October, 19 to recognize the Senior Corps volunteers for their service during the pandemic. Anna encouraged the council members to join the meeting and Jenifer sent the information by email following the meeting. Anna also reported that Councilor Pena added another priority objective in which they are asking the department to put together a study on how the City is preparing to provide services for the growing aging population.
 - b. Anna reported that the department was given additional funding and some of the projects include; culturally relevant gift cards, food bag program, intergenerational snacks, and shelf stable meal. There is also additional funding for protective equipment for transportation and more personnel to help with extra meal delivery.
 - c. Anna announced that the Thanksgiving meal is scheduled for Thursday, November 25, at each site currently serving lunch, and invited the council members to join. We are working on getting City leadership at one of the meal sites and other special guests.
- VI. Council Member Reports
 - a. Onastine invited others who would like to join her at work for the advisory council meetings. They have a 35-person board room, with plenty of room to socially distance 5 people. They also have N95 masks they could provide, please let her know if anyone is interested. She also mentioned that the new quick guides that the department offers should be arriving within the month and will be available to those who want one. Lastly, she has been hearing a lot of positive feedback regarding the virtual dances, bingo, and was wondering if there was a way for folks to call in who don't have access to Facebook or internet.
 - b. Steve reported that though he has not been able to attend every meeting update at Palo Duro regarding the construction, he follows up with Jesse and the latest report is that they hope to be done by the end of the year and seem to be on schedule.
 - c. Evan mentioned that if we have anymore events such as the senior serenade or anything that needs good, fun entertainment he knows of a really good Elvis impersonator that he can refer.

- d. Steve asked Nikki of the Senior Law Office would be doing any presentations, he would like to learn about making a will. Onastine advised that he could also check in to prepaid legal services as they may be a little cheaper. She said she would send him the information.
- VII. Advisory Council Business
 - a. None at this time.
- VIII. <u>Old/New Business</u>
 - a. None at this time.
 - IX. <u>Announcements: Upcoming Events, Etc.</u>
 - a. Joie announced that after 50 years of living in New Mexico, she has decided to move closer to her grandkids in Denver at the end of October. This will be her last meeting of the advisory council and she said is has been a joy working with everyone and getting to know everyone. She will truly miss everyone, but is excited about this new chapter in her life.
 - X. <u>Adjournment</u> Evan calls for motion to adjourn, Steve seconds. Meeting was adjourned at 12:59pm.