

City of Albuquerque Department of Senior Affairs Advisory Council



Anna M. Sanchez, Director

714 Seventh Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

DSA Advisory Council Meeting
Zoom Meeting
February 28, 2022

Minutes

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Co-Chair Onastine Jaramillo – 12:05 pm
 - a. Present: Evan Thompson; Louis Carlentine; Dubra Karnes-Padilla; Lucy Lopez; Steve Borbas; Henry Shoner; and Havens Levitt
 - b. Absent: None
- II. Approval of Minutes and Agenda
 - a. Evan motions for approval of minutes, Chris noted one change; the E18 position should be listed as an E16 position when speaking about the hiring of the new Program Manager in Tim's shop. Jenifer noted the change will be made, Steve seconds. Evan motions for approval of the agenda, Dubra seconds.
- III. Public Participation
 - a. No public participation.
- IV. North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center Manager Report – Angel Montoya
 - a. Angel reported on some of the upcoming activities that the center has been preparing for; first is that they have opened up their new rock-climbing wall and indoor walking track in the new gym. They have recently unveiled their outdoor amphitheater, stop by and check it out after the meeting and they will give a tour. They have staff that have been allocated to help out with developing the activities and programs specifically for this. They recently implemented reading with Grandma in partnership with RSVP volunteer group where one of the volunteers comes and reads to the youth. They have teen dance night once a month that they just started so they will see how well that goes. They also have a program once a month called Traditions where whatever is being recognized that month will be celebrated, for instance this month there will be a St. Patrick's Day celebration. They have also started again family movie night where families can come and enjoy snacks and popcorn while they watch a movie, this month is Brave. They also implemented lunch and a movie for the older adults twice a month to come have lunch and enjoy a movie and some popcorn in the social hall afterwards. They just started their day trips, and took a group to Meow Wolf in Santa Fe in February and will be going to Pie Town in March. They are starting to look at all integrating more all ages intergenerational programming, for example they are collaborating with the Albuquerque Bio Park and they will be bringing stuff to the kids and teaching them on world wildlife day.

V. Welcome to DSA – Patty Keane, Nutrition/Transportation Division

- a. Tim introduced Patty Keane as the new Program Manager. This is her fifth week. Patty is a registered dietician, and he is excited to have her, and her experience join the team. Patty stated that she has spent most of her time, so far, absorbing all of the details of the job. She got a pretty good idea on current happens just by reading the advisory council minutes. She has been a dietician since 2010, and a lot of her previous work dealt with food insecurities, how to combat childhood hunger. She is excited to be here and is feeding off of the energy from the team. Dubra asked what she will be doing in her new role? Patty replied that she will oversee the meal site locations, senior transportation, and kitchens. Basically, she will be supporting Tim and everything that happens at the CASA Kitchen. Steve asked if they had ever considered getting leftover food from restaurants? Anna answered that during the pandemic, they had several restaurants such as The Range Café, and 3 Sisters Kitchen donate food that they were not able to serve themselves. 3 Sisters Kitchen also helped get food out to folks at the height of the pandemic when we needed to reach a much larger population of homebound seniors.

VI. Administrative Reports

a. Social Services Division – Agnes Vallejos

- a. Agnes reported on the volunteer programs, primarily the Foster Grandparent Program for their recent partnerships. In February, they partnered with the State to work with different schools within Albuquerque to enlist students to make Valentine's for the seniors. Overall, there were 780 students that made 916 Valentine's and volunteers helped to distribute to Centers and Senior Companion clients. Also, Bianca, the Program Supervisor rallied a team of FGP to make and deliver some Valentine's to a local Domestic Violence shelter to share with the women and the kids in the shelter.
- b. Agnes reported that the AAA monitoring report went well. Henry asked if FGP volunteer's earn stipends? Agnes responded that FGP is targeted specifically to lower income seniors who receive a stipend. They volunteer at least 20 hours a week in schools with their primary goal to increase literacy in children. She also explained that APS put a limit on the number of volunteers allowed in the schools due to COVID, so they have been looking at creative ways to put them into service.
- c. Agnes reported that they have been working with AAA to develop a prioritization scale which would prioritize services by need rather than a first-come-first-served model. They spent a lot of time trying to find a way to prioritize the need in a fair and consistence way. The referrals would be prioritized based off of demographics such as poverty, nutrition status, and age, if they have had recent falls. For instance, if there is a wait list to have grab bars installed; does the person slip, trip, or fall often? Perhaps their needs outweigh someone else's who may have called first but doesn't fall as often and a younger in age or have more income to get help elsewhere. Steve asked if they consider how well off a person is as part of the criteria? Agnes responded that initially that criteria is not included, it is open to anyone, but now it is built on a poverty scale and where they live and was points-based. They look at the individual rather than household because that

can affect the scale. Eventually, they would like to create a sliding scale in which perhaps folks can pay a small fee and they would change the scale and help them qualify when they may not have before.

b. Recreation Division – Nikki Peone

- a. Nikki reported that it has been interesting to see how folks have responded to the masks coming off. There has been some difference of opinions, some members have stopped coming because they don't feel safe, some are still wearing their masks, and some have returned, especially to the fitness centers, they are glad not to have to wear masks anymore while working out.
- b. Nikki reported that the loaner tablet program is officially launched. They have loaned out approximately 14 to the community so far and will be partnering up with DiverselT to provide training on how use them. Dubra mentioned that one of her friends got one and she excited to see how it works out.
- c. Nikki reported that they continue to offer COVID and flu vaccines and will rotate through the centers on a monthly basis as long as the need is there. It will run from March 15 – March 25 this month and they will continue to share that information as it is released. Lastly, Nikki reported that they have officially begun planning for an upcoming event in May for Older Americans Month called the "Ageless Artisans Craft Fair" in which folks from the centers who are part of crafting clubs, like stained glass, wood work, tin work, quilting, and art can come out and showcase the items they have been working on. It will only be extended to them at this point but could expand in the future. The event is slated to take place at North Domingo Baca in the parking lot under tents.

c. Nutrition/Transportation Division – Tim Martinez

- a. Tim reported that they continue to work on applying again for the NM Grown grant for next year. They just replenished their shelf stable meal inventory and are preparing to get those delivered in the coming weeks.

d. Associate Director – Alan Armijo

- a. Alan reported that they plan on holding a town hall meeting at each of the centers to discuss the billiard rooms. Each center has been experiencing some issues and their first town hall meeting was at Los Volcanes Senior Center. They discussed the rules with the members especially surrounding gambling and betting. The members were able to voice their concerns about no food or drinks being allowed in the pool hall. They talked to them and are working toward finding a solution to their issues together. Alan and staff are working to make things better overall that each party can live with moving forward.

e. Deputy Director – Chris Sanchez

- a. Chris reported that the AAA monitoring report went really well. He is very proud of the whole team not only for being prepared but also for the work they do throughout the year. Chris also mentioned that they will be distributing a health survey to folks and that they should have the results for the council members at the next meeting. Henry asked how time consuming the accreditation preparation before you actually have the visit? Chris

responded that throughout the year, they are consistently providing monthly data to them and are in constant communication as the need arises, but this is one time a year that they come to formally monitor us so there should not really be any surprises when the time comes.

f. Director – Anna Sanchez

- a. Anna reported that they held the quarterly manager’s meeting last Friday where each of the department’s supervisors come together for some type of training and are given departmental updates. This past meeting, they were trained on the importance of the talent management system and regularly meeting with their employees to provide feedback on job performance. Anna also reported that they are working on filling some pretty significant vacancies for the department. They will be holding interviews for the E18 Strategic Program Manager, the Fiscal Manager, and the Associate Director so if the council knows of anyone that might be interested send them to apply.
- b. Anna reported that they will be applying for the AARP Challenge Grant, they would like to build a housing resource guide for folks where they could get all senior housing needs in one place. They are working on the annual report and will hopefully have the community impact report ready to share with the council members at the next meeting.

VII. Council Member Reports

- a. Henry reported that they are working on getting the Village of Los Ranchos to issue a proclamation to declare the village an Age-Friendly community.

VIII. Advisory Council Business

- a. None at this time.

IX. Old/New Business

- a. With the new advisory committee members starting, it will be a good time to revisit the subcommittee assignments, Jenifer will send that to everyone to review.

X. Announcements: Upcoming Events, Etc.

- a. None at this time

XI. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 1:12 pm.