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 July 20, 2020

Minutes

- I. <u>Meeting Called to Order by Chair Evan Thompson 12:05 pm</u>
 - a. Present: Evan Thompson, Bobbi Carmona-Young, Louis Carlentine, Onastine Jaramillo, Lucy Lopez, Steve Borbas, and Joie Glenn
 - b. Absent: Allison Weber, Richard Garcia, and Greg Lopez
- II. <u>Approval of Minutes</u>
 - a. Evan motions, Steve and Joie second, June Minutes approved.
- III. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Evan motions, Steve and Joie second, July Agenda approved.
- IV. <u>Public Participation</u>
 - a. No public present during this Zoom meeting.
- V. Introduction of New Staff
 - a. Anna introduced Deby Brinkley, Deputy Director, to her first advisory council meeting. Deb is working towards creating more structure within the Department and she talked about some of the projects she is currently working on.
 - b. Tim introduced the new Meal Site Supervisor Jeffrey Jojola. Jeff has been working on updating the Departments meal site contracts, and he talked a little about his background and that he is happy to be working with the Department.
- VI. <u>Age-Friendly Presentation</u>
 - a. Andrew West gave a presentation to council members on the Age-Friendly Initiative and talked about the preliminary findings with the AF surveys and interviews. He talked about core group meetings and what type of commitments we have received so far. He also mentioned that kids can even develop AF commitments with parents in a family environment. Andrew covered action plan items and identified gaps and needs and goals within the initiative. Moving forward, the team will piggyback with other City departments that are already covering one of the 8 domains.
 - b. Steve asked a question about how long it will take to get the plan out, and what are the next steps? Anna answered stating that since the City is applying for the designation, the Mayor will review the final plan and submit. Anna's goal is to reach 50 community commitments to the cause and mentioned that other cities in NM such as Las Cruces have reached out to ask how to go about receiving the designation. Anthony added that he appreciates Anna and Andrew's huge effort to pushing this to the finish line and is excited to see this fruition.

VII. Administrative Reports

a. Nutrition/Transportation Division - Tim Martinez

- a. Tim reported that his division is producing 1400 meals daily out of CASA Kitchen. The kitchens at the centers are averaging 175-300 meals daily. They are continuing to respond in this manner due to the pandemic and continue to monitor the well-being of staff members through daily wellness checks. Reports on symptoms and travel are handled on a case-by-case basis. Anna added that they are also conducting checks on public in regards to transportation.
- b. Recreation Division Nikki Peone
 - a. Nikki reported that other than grab and go's daily, her team is working on reopening plans. In addition to prepping the centers for reopening, they are using this time to refresh and update the centers and are hoping the members will notice this to welcome them back on their return. One of the updates Nikki mentioned was the Veteran's Wall of Honor in each center. They will have a digital display to honor those that have served.
 - b. Nikki reported that they have launched virtual programming with some Facebook live videos and have been receiving positive feedback. They are working on a fullblown virtual schedule, more details to come. Also, upcoming will be a virtual formal dance where members can attend a dance session just as they would at the center. Steve commented that he is glad to hear about the updates to the facilities and can't wait to see the Veteran's Wall in person.
- c. Social Services Division Agnes Vallejos
 - a. Agnes reported that Aging and Long-Term Services dropped off donated masks which will be delivered to home delivered meals recipients. She also reported that Senior Corp is working with the youth program to start a pen pal program with aging adults and homebound seniors. Their Information and Assistance team has been working to get folks registered for transportation services. The offices of Care Coordination have taken over home services referrals which allows for more thorough assessments on folks to ensure we are meeting their needs.
- d. Deputy Director Anthony Romero
 - a. Anthony thanked the Division Managers for stepping up and keeping things running during this pandemic. He also thanked Deb for stepping into her role and taking over the EOC duties.
- e. Director Anna Sanchez
 - a. Anna thanked Evan, Onastine, and Council members for their efforts in getting information sent out to the City Councilors and for advocating for funding. We were given an additional \$1.5 million to be used by the end of the year which are using on larger projects; we are looking at our facilities as investments and want to make them as inviting to people of all ages and welcome them in.

VIII. Council Reports

- a. Steve reported that he has been going to construction meetings for the expansion of the Palo Duro Fitness Center, he reported that they are ahead of schedule with plumbing going in at the end of July. He also reported that his neighbor is getting citations from the City for overgrown vegetation at her home and is asking what could be done. Agnes addressed this stating that I&A can help run interference with City Planning to help get an extension and help with the overgrown vegetation issue. She advised him to have his neighbor reach out at 764-6400 and let them know there is a citation involved.
- b. Bobbi reported that with the closing of the centers, the grounds at Los Volcanes have not been maintained. A lady by the name of Robin Van Israel, 74 years old, works 2-4 hours

per day to cleaning up the grounds. She does this on her own, but with no other help. Someone on staff at Los Volcanes has asked that she brings this up at the council meeting. Anna asked that Anthony and Nikki look into this situation with Center Manager and Los Volcanes. Onastine spoke up and on behalf of the Senior Affairs staff because she realizes we are an essential department and wanted to ensure everyone is taking care of themselves. Anna spoke about "corona-fatigue" and how many folks are feeling it and that Senior Management is definitely taking the time to check in on staff and make they are being taken care of.

- IX. Advisory Council Business
 - a. None at this time.
- X. Old/New Business
 - a. None at this time.
- XI. <u>Announcements: Upcoming Events, Etc.</u>
 - a. Onastine announced that chair aerobics will be offered beginning 7/21/20 at 9am and folks can call or email her for more information.
- XII. <u>Adjournment</u> Evan calls for motion to adjourn, Joie and Steve second. Meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.