



SENIOR CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING MARCH 6, 2026

The Senior Center Committee members convened in person at Wilson Park Senior Center, with hybrid options.

Members' Present

Commissioner Eugene Guskowski,
Chair
Crocker Stephenson, *Vice Chair*
Commissioner Mark Behar
Cheri Swenson
Ramona Dicks Williams
Commission Chair Denise Callaway, *ex officio*

Members Excused

Amber Miller
Howard Snyder
Alice Steuck Konkol

Ted Rehl
Kent Mayfield

Staff Present

Daniel Idzikowski *DHHS*
Ortrialla Paris *DHHS*
Emily Kenney *DHHS*

Attendees from the Public

Mike Vanblaricum *SOA*
Vera Ford
Maxine May

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Eugene Guskowski called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Administrative Assistant Ortrialla Paris called the roll; a quorum was not present.

No actions were taken.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 6, 2026, SENIOR CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The review of the February 6, 2026 minutes was tabled until the next Senior Center Meeting due to a lack of quorum.

III. ACTION/ INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. REPORT ON DISCUSSION WITH DIRECTORS OF DHHS AND DAS

Commissioners Denise Callaway and Chair Eugene Guszowski met with DHHS Director Shakita LaGrant-McLain and DAS Director Aaron Hertzberg, who reaffirmed their long-term commitment to the five senior centers and to partner with COA on the MKE Hubs vision. Members were also encouraged to keep their County Supervisors informed about senior programming needs.

B. MARCH COUNTY BOARD REPORT FROM DAS REGARDING MCGOVERN SENIOR CENTER

Director Daniel Idzikowski reported that DAS and DHHS outlined three options for the McGovern Senior Center: 1) investing \$1,950,000 to address mold issues, 2) establishing a temporary site, or 3) requesting \$100,000 to continue searching for a permanent northwest area location, with the intention of having a new facility in place within the next 3-5 years.

C. MARCH HEARING'S REGARDING FUTURE OF SENIOR CENTER AT WASHINGTON PARK SENIOR CENTER

A discussion regarding the long-term future and potential operational changes at the McGovern Park Senior Center is scheduled to move forward in March. The item will be presented to the Finance Committee on March 12, 2026, where committee members will review budget impacts, operational considerations, and community feedback received to date. The first session will be held in the evening of March 12, and the second session will take place at noon on March 13, 2026.

D. PLANNING INFORMATIONAL SESSION

There was discussion regarding the development of a Power Point illustrating our Vision, putting together a brief leave behind summary of our mission, vision, and key asks for partnership and support.

E. FORMATION OF A SUPPORTING FOUNDATION

There was an ongoing discussion about recurring concerns regarding the lack of clear proof of concept demonstrating both the need for and genuine interest in the broader MKE HUBS senior center vision.

F. DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-RANGE PLAN FOR PRESENTATION TO THE COUNTY BOARD

The committee discussed the development of a long-range plan for presentation to the County Board. The plan will outline the need for permanent county funding to support senior programming and nutritional services, demonstrate that older adults strongly support and will continue to use senior centers, and present a detailed assessment of each senior center building, including deferred maintenance costs, future capital improvements, and renovations aligned with the MKE HUBS Report. Additionally, the plan will introduce a Coalition of Champions to help secure long-term supplemental funding and promote financial independence for senior centers.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Sincerely,

Ortrialla Paris
Administrative Assistant