



SENIOR CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING JUNE 6, 2025

The Senior Center Committee members convened in person at Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee, WI 53208, with a hybrid option on June 6, 2025.

Members Present

Commissioner Eugene Guskowski, *Chair*
Crocker Stephenson, *Vice-Chair*
Commissioner Mark Behar
Kent Mayfield
Howard Snyder
Alice Steuck Konkell

Members Excused

Ramona Dicks Williams
Amber Miller
Commissioner Terrence R. Moore, Sr.
Ted Rehl

Members Excused Continued...

Cheri Swenson

Staff Present

Daniel Idzikowski *DHHS*
Jill Knight, *DHHS*
Carrie Koss Vallejo, *DHHS*
Ortrialla Paris, *DHHS*

Attendees from the Public

Vera Ford
Lisa Krenke, *SOA*
Michael" Mike" Vanblaricum, *SOA*

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Crocker Stephenson called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. Ortrialla Paris, AAA Administrative Assistant took roll; a quorum was present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 4, 2025, SENIOR CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The April meeting minutes were approved upon the amendment to correct the meeting location, which was at Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee, WI 53208.

MOTION: To accept the April 4, 2025, 2025, Senior Center Committee meeting minutes

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Mayfield Moved, Snyder Second)

III. STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

AAA Director Daniel Idzikowski and Chair of the Senior Center Committee, Eugene Guskowski emphasized the importance of establishing a clear scope and direction for the Senior Center Committee. Their discussion focused on key areas such as programming, development, messaging, and partnerships. Chair Guskowski compiled a summary of the hubs report to highlight the focus areas for the committee's review.

Following a thorough discussion, the Senior Center Committee proposed organizing a strategic planning session to prioritize these areas. The goal is to create a strategic plan that will guide the committee's efforts over the next year.

The committee considered possible dates for the strategic planning session and ultimately decided on July 31, 2025, and August 1, 2025. These sessions will take place at the new Marcia P. Coggs Health and Services Center, offering a conducive environment for in-depth discussions and planning.

IV. PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PROGRAMMING IN THE MILWAUKEE COUNTY SENIOR CENTERS

Director Daniel Idzikowski discussed the need to reissue a "Request for Proposal" (RFP) for programming in the five Milwaukee County senior centers. The Senior Center Committee was tasked with reviewing the current programming guidelines and providing feedback to ensure that the RFP properly reflects the needs and expectations for the operations of the senior centers.

V. UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW SENIOR CENTERS

Chair Guskowski and Director Idzikowski provided updates on various senior center projects, including the McGovern Park Senior Center, Bucyrus Erie, Clinton Rose Senior Center, Washington Park Senior Center, and Wilson Park Senior Center. They highlighted ongoing efforts, challenges, and their commitment to improving these facilities to serve the senior community better.

Mr. Idzikowski and Mr. Snyder provided insights from recent community meetings that were discussed in the committee. Responses from community participants were mixed; some expressed support for new developments, while others raised concerns. These meetings play a vital role in gathering community input and addressing any emerging issues.

The Committee was updated on upcoming hearings related to the McGovern project. The committee emphasized the importance of attending these hearings to support the development, as they are critical steps in the approval process for the new Senior Center.

VI. ESTABLISHMENT OF A FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT SENIOR CENTERS

Director Idzikowski discussed a proposal to create a foundation to support senior centers, like the Parks Foundation. This foundation would focus on securing funding and resources for both the infrastructure and programming of senior centers. Volunteers are needed to help establish this organization, a crucial step in ensuring the sustainability and growth of senior centers.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m. The Senior Center Committee will hold two strategic planning meetings instead of their regularly scheduled meeting. The next regularly scheduled Senior Center Committee meeting will be on August 28, 2025.

Sincerely,

Vonda Nyang
AAA Executive Assistant