



**Commission on Aging
Senior Center Select Committee Meeting
Tuesday January 24, 2023**

The **Select Committee on Senior Centers** convened virtually on Tuesday, January 24, 2023. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting with video conference and or conference call options.

Members Present:

Vice Chair Gene Guskowski
Commissioner John Griffith
Lorraine Jacobs
Kelsie Lyons
Howard Snyder
Alice Steuck Konkel
Cathy Wood, SOA
Paula Pennebaker

Members Excused:

Chair Gloria Pitchford-Nicholas
Leon Davis
Patricia Delmenhorst
Sandra Dotson
Sharron Fitak
Deborah Lewis
Sally Lindner
Kent Mayfield
Commissioner Cherie Swenson
County Supervisor Sequanna Taylor

Milwaukee County Staff

Andrew Bethke, DHHS
Peter Bratt, Parks
Timothy Christian, DAS
Michelle Allison, DHHS
Daniel Idzikowski, DHHS
Dominique Klett, DHHS
Jill Knight, DHHS
Vonda Nyang, DHHS
Paul Williams, HACM
Carrie Koss Vallejo, DHHS
Darryl Whyte, DAS

Attendees from the Public:

Diane Chillinski
Harold Oemig
Miriam Kaja
Commissioner Gloria Miller

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Guskowski called the meeting to order in the absence of Chair Pitchford-Nicholas. DHHS Aging Services Director Daniel Idzikowski called the roll and a quorum was not present.

II. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF CHARGE

Guskowski reviewed the Committee's charge with the members.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 10, 2023, NOVEMBER 10 AND DECEMBER 13, 2022, SENIOR CENTER SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES.

Minutes were not available for review at today's meeting. They will be available for review at the next Senior Center Select Committee Meeting in February 2023.

IV. UPDATE ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (Information).

-Tim Christian went over capital projects that were approved through ARPA funding at the Milwaukee County Senior Centers.

- An Excel spreadsheet was displayed to show which buildings are getting changes and how and what they're being funded as well as an anticipated timeline.

-Discussion of improvement projects include fixing the façade and interior firewall at Clinton Rose, a new roof at McGovern Senior Center, as well as multiple senior centers that will have exterior lighting replaced to increase security.

-In addition, \$500,000 is allotted for miscellaneous improvements and a committee will work together to identify priorities for these smaller projects.

-Snyder wants to know the longevity of the solutions being applied to McGovern senior center and how much money the County is willing to spend to keep it in good condition.

V. Update on Senior Center Initiatives through Affordable Housing Development

-Paul Williams provided updates on the Westlawn Garden community wellness center project.

-In partnership with Milwaukee County and UWM the Housing Development Committee put in a community funding project request for a Congressional appropriation for \$3 million. They were granted \$750,000 to support the concept of a community wellness center. Deciding how they can utilize this amount.

VI. REVIEW DRAFT OF FINAL REPORT

-A draft document was not available for consideration.

VII. RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS & PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES

-Cathy Wood from SOA talks about what partner would best fit within the senior centers and what type of programming would be good to partner with the current programming.

- What type of business do we want to partner with that will serve a dual purpose for the Senior Centers.
- We cannot keep continually looking for grant money, it's too challenging so a revenue generated partner would be the best option.

- SOA is also looking into how the Senior Centers themselves can generate revenue.
 - i.e. memberships, small fee for classes, existing gift store
 - John Griffith suggested utilizing tour operators and employing hair stylists and barbers to generate revenue.
 - A membership fee for Senior Centers is being proposed to try to offset the gap of costs for funding.
 - A sliding fee or scholarship program would be in place for those who might not be able to afford a membership fee.

VIII. NEXT STEPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

-The next Senior Center Select Committee will include a review of the Final Draft. Kent Mayfield will edit the Final Draft once it has been drafted.

-The next Senior Center Select Committee meeting will be Tuesday, February 24th at 1 p.m., a virtual meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

MOTION to adjourn.

ACTION: approved unanimously (Griffith, Snyder seconds).

Respectfully submitted,

Domonique Klett
Clerical Specialist I