



MILWAUKEE COUNTY  
Department on Aging

**Senior Center Select Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2021**

**Members Present**

Chair Gloria Pitchford-Nicholas  
Commissioner John Griffith  
County Supervisor Jason Haas  
Patricia Delmenhorst  
Sharron Fitak  
Gene Guskowski  
Sally Lindner  
Dain Maddox  
Kent Mayfield  
Alice Steuck Konkel  
Howard Snyder  
Cathy Wood

**Members Excused**

Ruth Bevenue  
Leon Davis  
Deborah Lewis

**Members Excused**

Jean Sobon  
Sandra Dotson  
Victoria Jensen  
Debra Jupka

**Milwaukee County Staff**

Michelle Allison  
Daniel Idzikowski, *DHHS*  
Pam Matthews  
Vonda Nyang, *DHHS*  
Carrie Ross Vallejo, *DHHS*

**Guests**

Ann Cook  
Laz Jackson  
Gary Mikolajczyk  
Jim Piontek  
James Sheridan

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – 21 present**

Chair Pitchford-Nicholas called the Senior Centers Select Committee to order on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 1:01 p.m. DHHS Division on Aging's Program and Policy Coordinator Dan Idzikowski took roll call.

**II. WELCOME AND REVIEW OF CHARGE**

Chair Pitchford-Nicholas reviewed the charge listed below and informed the Senior Center Select Committee what items are to be discussed at today's meeting.

1. Evaluate suggestions presented in the "Envisioning report
2. Categorize suggestions as long or short term
3. Review programming and infrastructure needs at each Milwaukee County Senior Center
4. Develop and monitor short and long-term plans for senior centers and senior center programming.
5. Ascertain resources necessary to carry out these plans.
6. Report findings and recommendations to the Advisory Council.

### **III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 20, 2021 SENIOR CENTER SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

MOTION: To approve the August 20, 2021, Senior Center Select Committee meeting minutes.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Wood Moved, Delmonhorst second).

### **IV. FUTURE OF SENIOR CENTER VISION STATEMENT (DISCUSSION)**

Gene Guskowski provided an overview of the “2021 proposed Senior Center Vision Statement, and “The MKE Hubs” concept he and Howard Snyder authored. Guskowski discussed the purpose of the vision statement, explained each listed senior center “attribute”, and reviewed changes they made to the statement after consultation with other members. There was discussion as to whether to accept the Vision Statement as presented as “final” or in “draft” form.

MOTION: To accept the Vision Statement as a draft document.

ACTION: Motion prevailed. (Mayfield, Griffith second; 9-Yes 1-Abstention).

### **V. RESOURCES AND COMMITTEE PARTNERS FOR FUTURE ACTION**

Idzikowski reminded the committee of their SharePoint site which contains records of proceedings and information from other jurisdictions as resources they can work with as they proceed in re-envisioning the senior centers.

Idzikowski encouraged the Committee members to review the resources on their SharePoint site for additional ideas to contact some of the organizations for more information on their senior centers. Idzikowski suggested that the Committee purchase a membership to the National Council on Aging \ National Institute of Senior Centers for Professionals. He will ask if the Division Director could assist them with obtaining membership on the NCOA.

Chair Pitchford Nicholas asked Idzikowski to email the Senior Center Select Committee members requesting them to volunteer to find additional resources and contact the organizations to obtain more ideas to present to the Senior Center Select Committee.

### **VI. SUB-GROUP MEETINGS**

Laz Jackson presented to the entire Senior Center Select Committee on the Programming and Promotion subgroup work plan (they divided their workplan into four categories: Local Outreach, Advertising, Improving Access, and Differentiating and Designing Attractive Programming). Chair Pitchford Nicholas liked the template they designed to track their work and progress and suggested that the Committee as a whole use their template for their work. A committee

member acknowledged that Cathy Wood, who is working in the Funding and Partnerships subcommittee, also had a great template to utilize. Ms. Wood presented her template to the committee as well. The committee decided the subcommittees should use both templates discussed and presented today.

**VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – NO ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Broke into subcommittee groups to discuss upcoming meetings.**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT: THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3 p.m.**

The next Senior Center Select Committee meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 1:00 pm.

**Note:** All reference Materials and Reports are Located on the Milwaukee County Division on Aging Webpage: “Envisioning Our Senior Centers”:  
<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Department-on-Aging/Senior-Centers-Dining/Envisioning-Our-Senior-Centers>