



MILWAUKEE COUNTY
Department on Aging

**Select Committee on Senior Centers
Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2021**

Members Present

Chair Gloria Pitchford-Nicholas
Commissioner John Griffith
Patricia Delmenhorst
Sharron Fitak
Gene Guskowski
Dain Maddox
Howard Snyder
Jim Piontek
Cathy Wood

Members Excused

County Supervisor Jason Haas
Ruth Bevenue
Leon Davis
Alice Steuck Konkel
Deborah Lewis
Sally Lindner
Kelsey Lyons

Members Excused

Kent Mayfield
Debra Jupka

Milwaukee County Staff

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

Guests

Ana Castaneda
Maureen Conrad
Lisa Gross
Laz Jackson
Lee Sprengel

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Pitchford-Nicholas called the Senior Centers Select Committee to order on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at 1:05 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 with the Senior Center Select Committee before the start of discussion.

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 OCTOBER 5 AND OCTOBER 19, 2021, AND NOVEMBER 2, AND NOVEMBER 16, 2021 SELECT COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CENTERS MEETING MINUTES

Minutes were approved upon two amendments to the November 2, 2021 minutes. First Correction: Add Dain Maddox's name with Gene Guskowski and Howard Snyder as a presenter to Item 3, page 2, the first sentence. The second correction is on the same page and item, revise the third sentence.

MOTION: To approve the October 5 and October 19, 2021, November 2, and November 16, 2021 Senior Center Select Committee meeting minutes as amended.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Griffith, Snyder seconded).

IV. TRANSLATING THE FUTURE OF SENIOR CENTERS VISION STATEMENT INTO ACTION

Gene Guskowski reviewed the document titled "A Path Forward," which gives six steps to their call to action executing the Select Committee on Senior Centers vision statement. It is a step-by-step process plan to implement their vision statement for the future based upon the Committee's charge.

Laz Jackson shared the Program & Promotion workgroup work plan, which outlines the prioritizes of their assigned categories by long term and short-term goals, assignments of tasks, and the progress made on each category. The Committee members discussed the need for a matrix document to track all the subgroup's progress (short and long-term goals).

The Committee discussed agenda items, meeting dates, and times for 2022. The Chair would like the committee to keep the current meeting schedule for each month's second and fourth Tuesdays from 1 – 3 p.m. However, the committee decided to wait until their January meeting to discuss the 2022 schedule, which is on January 11, 2022, at 1 p.m. Chair Pitchford-Nicholas had to leave the meeting, so Dain Maddox assumed chairmanship of the meeting.

V. ARPA FUNDING REQUEST

Idzikowski advised the Committee to submit their proposals for utilizing County ARPA funding now to Milwaukee County's ARPA Task Force for consideration; otherwise, they will lose the opportunity. If they choose, they could include in their request the five-year Capital plan improvement project proposals for Milwaukee County's five-owned senior centers for ARPA funding.

The Committee discussed new and current projects and the criteria for the projects to be considered for ARPA funding. All projects must be short-term, no longer than three years, because ARPA funding is only available for three years.

In summary, the consensus of the Committee was to ask the County to allocate \$30 million dollars towards the County's five owned senior centers and its programming for Capital expenditure and improvement, prioritizing Clinton Rose, Washington Park, and Wilson Senior Center and to include expenditures that ensure full accessibility for people with disabilities, access to public transit (A connected bus route incorporated at all five County-owned senior centers), renovations to senior centers, the possibility of new or rebuilt senior centers along with funding for a market study to determine the feasibility and desirability of new or renovated facilities.

The next Senior Center Select Committee is scheduled for December 15, 2021 at 11 a.m. to take up the final recommendations.

VI. SUBGROUP MEETINGS DISCUSSION

A subsequent subgroup meeting discussion will be on "Creating Healthy Communities" the DHHS Strategic Plan for 2020-2025.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chair Pitchford-Nicholas thanked Senior Centers Select Committee members Gene Guskowski, Howard Snyder, and Dain Maddox for presenting on behalf of the Senior Center Select Committee to the Commission at the November COA meeting.
- Idzikowski thanked the Senior Centers Select Committee for their hard work and commitment.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:10 P.M.

The next Senior Center Select Committee meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, January 11, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

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>

Respectfully Submitted,

Vonda Nyang
Executive Assistant