



Senior Citizens Commission Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 9, 2009
2:30 p.m.
Davis Senior Center, Multipurpose Room East
646 A Street

Commissioners: Elaine Musser (Chair), Romeo Favreau (Vice Chair), Shula Blumenthal, Steve Hayes, Mariana Henwood, Kitty Liebhardt, Tansey Thomas, George Hinkle (Alternate) and Janice Bridge (Alternate)

City Council Liaison: None

Staff: Maria Lucchesi, Community Services Supervisor
Danielle Foster, Housing and Human Services Superintendent

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Approval of the agenda was moved and approved by consensus.

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve minutes for the regular meeting of June 11, 2009 was moved by S. Blumenthal, seconded by J. Bridge, and approved by consensus.

3. Public Communications/Comments

Member of the public Brian Johnson from Rancho Yolo addressed the Commission stating that Rancho Yolo is a viable housing opportunity. B. Johnson also invited Commissioners to consider Rancho Yolo as future off-site meeting location. Commissioners thanked B. Johnson for his comments and Commissioner R. Favreau noted that the Commission had met in Rancho Yolo for an off-site meeting in the past.

4. Old Business

A. Final Review of Guidelines for Housing That Serves Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Member of the public and also member of Choices for Healthy Aging, Don Villarejo, read a letter to Commissioners, (e-mailed earlier to Council, Commissioners, and staff), regarding the AARP (formerly known as the American Association of Retired Persons) study cited in the Guidelines for Housing That Serves Seniors and Persons with Disabilities. Mr. Villarejo voiced his concern that the survey's findings were not accurately represented in the main text of the AARP report and that the survey's sample of participants did not accurately reflect the U.S. resident population age 45+. Commissioners reviewed "Guidelines" document. Motion was made by K. Liebhardt to approve revised Guidelines for Housing That Serves Seniors and Persons with Disabilities and to forward to City Council. Seconded by T. Thomas and approved by consensus.

B. Discussion of Transportation Safety Programs

The Commission discussed hosting separate components of past Transportation Safety Exposition throughout the year at the Davis Senior Center. Staff noted that a Mobility Training program has been scheduled for August and that other transportation programs such as Roadwise Review and AARP Driver Safety classes are currently scheduled on an ongoing basis at the senior center. Staff also noted an upcoming Driving Wellness Class, sponsored by Area 4 Agency on Aging, to be held at the senior center July 22. Staff distributed a brochure on Davis Community Transit at the

beginning of the Commission meeting. Commissioners requested staff provide October dates for presentation at the senior center regarding senior driving.

C. Discussion of next Off-Site Meeting Location

The Commission discussed meeting at Davisville Apartment Complex for future off-site meeting and voted to reschedule off-site meeting from November to January. Motion was made by E. Musser to hold off-site meeting at Davisville Apartment Complex in January. Seconded by S. Blumenthal, and approved by consensus.

5. New Business

A. Strategy for Housing Seniors in Davis

Staff Danielle Foster, Housing and Human Services Superintendent, reviewed the Staff Report requesting participation on "Senior Housing Strategy Committee" and Preliminary Draft Work Program with Commissioners. Commissioner S. Blumenthal asked for more information regarding Choices for Healthy Aging. Member of the public, and member of Choices for Healthy Aging, Mr. Villarejo, responded that to the best of his knowledge, the group consisted of about 260 members who wanted to remain in their own home, but in a house they felt was more appropriate. He further stated Choices for Healthy Aging would like space developed for housing and would like to see alternate housing for seniors move forward. Commissioner S. Hayes commented that as a private citizen, he spoke during Public Comment at the June 2, 2009 City Council meeting but reiterated that he was presenting his personal perspective only and was not speaking for the Commission. S. Hayes also stated that housing projects should incorporate "Universal Design." M. Henwood voiced her support in incorporating universal design into future housing projects. Commissioner T. Thomas expressed that the "Housing Strategy Committee" be a multi generational effort and that the senior community not block interests of other communities but instead be open and aware that "we're all in this together." Commissioner R. Favreau suggested adding U.C. Davis to informational presentations, noting the growth of the University is fundamental as this housing is all-inclusive. E. Musser stated she had been appointed to the "Housing Strategy Committee" as a representative of the Yolo County Commission on Aging and Adult Services. The Commission, by confidential vote, appointed Romeo Favreau and Shula Blumenthal to the "Senior Housing Strategy Committee." The appointees confirmed attendance to the tentatively scheduled meetings.

The Commission reviewed the Preliminary Draft Work Program. E. Musser submitted a list of informational documents to staff, requesting this information be made available for the first meeting of "Housing Strategy Committee." Commissioners voiced concern that the timeline for the "Housing Strategy Committee" was too ambitious. A motion was made by K. Liebhardt respectfully requesting that the City Council extend the targeted end date of the "Housing Strategy Committee" through the end of March 2010. The motion was seconded by S. Blumenthal and passed by a vote of 7-2.

J. Bridge and R. Favreau opposed the motion.

B. Discussion of Senior Discount Card

Commissioner T. Thomas discussed creation of a Senior Discount Card and suggested Commissioners work with Davis Wiki website to create a senior friendly section highlighting businesses offering discounts to seniors. T. Thomas noted pages already established on Davis Wiki such as "Living Cheaply." Commissioners discussed possible project to schedule a workshop at the senior center explaining Davis Wiki. T. Thomas and G. Hinkle will research this project further and report back to Commission at September meeting.

C. Discussion of Senior Column

Commissioner J. Bridge distributed document summarizing meeting with Debbie Davis of Davis Enterprise and reviewed outcome of that meeting. Commissioners decided not to pursue project of developing a column for the Davis Enterprise on topics related to senior life. However individuals, not speaking as Commissioners or on behalf of Commission, may write information regarding senior issues and submit to the Davis Enterprise.

D. Universal Design Discussion

Staff D. Foster gave an overview and background regarding work done on “universal design” and housing accessibility by ADA Subcommittee, Social Services Commission, and Planning Commission. D. Foster also explained that Council did not want to pursue universal design as a policy at this time. Commissioners decided not to pursue universal design as work has been done by other Commissions on this project.

E. Resource Binder for Senior Housing Communities

Commissioners postponed discussion on Resource Binder to September meeting.

6. Commission Announcements/Comments

This time is set aside for Commissioners to report on issues or meetings attended, but not listed on the agenda. No formal action may be taken on matters not listed on this agenda.

- A. Shula Blumenthal, Liaison to the Climate Action Team
- B. Janice Bridge, Liaison to the California Senior Legislature
- C. Mariana Henwood, Representative to the Yolo County Commission on Aging & Adult Services
- D. Kitty Liebhart, Representative to the Social Services Commission/ADA Sub-committee
- E. Tansey Thomas, Liaison Representative to the Unitrans Advisory Committee
- F. Maria Lucchesi, Representative to the Yolo County Focal Point Coordinating Council

7. City Council Liaison/Staff Comments

This time is set aside for Council members and staff to report on issues and/or events of interest not listed on the agenda. No formal action may be taken on matters not listed on this agenda.

- A. City Council Liaison Update
- B. Staff Comments
- C. Information & Assistance Report –June 2009
- D. Upcoming Events & Activities

8. Written Communications

Written correspondence, such as letters and/or messages for Commission members will be distributed in the agenda packet and listed on the agenda. Regular monthly meeting agendas, publications/newsletters will be distributed at the meeting.

9. Future Agenda Items/Review of Long Range Calendar

Chair E. Musser requested discussion of California Association of Nursing Home Reform be added to September agenda. Discussion on Davis Wiki page for seniors also requested for September agenda.

10. Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner T. Thomas to adjourn meeting. The motion was seconded by S. Blumenthal and passed by consensus.

The Davis Senior Citizens Commission is an appointed advisory body to the Davis City Council, and is facilitated through the Community Services Department.

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