



SENIOR ADVISORY COMMISSION
Agenda for March 20, 2025 – 9:00am
NYA City Hall Council Chambers

SENIOR ADVISORY COMMISSION and PARTNERS

Communicating the social, economic, recreational, cultural, and personal needs of the senior portion of the City's population.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Carolyn Durbin*, LaVonne Kroells*, Tom Simmons*, Kay Hampshire*, Cathleen Williams*, Mary Spille*, Elroy Latzig*, Betty Settergren* Colleen Pawelk*, Eloise Swanson*, Darlene Smith-Lehrman*, Rosemary Solheid*

SENIOR HOUSING ADVISORS

Ranemma Walker – Haven, Laurie Hilgers – Harbor, Brenda Schmitz – Peace Villa, Ryker Anderson– Oak Grove

COMMUNITY/CITY REPRESENTATIVES

City Council Representative – Brooke Allen*, Karen Hallquist – City Hall, CC Sheriff Office Jesse Lee, CC Public Health Kara Cassidy, CC Library Syrena Ethier, NYA Fire Chief Scott Blom

(*) voting members

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1. **Call meeting to Order**
 2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
 3. **Adopt Agenda**
 4. **Approve minutes from February 20, 2025**
 5. **Introductions, Presentations, and Public Comment**

(Citizens may address the Senior Advisory Commission about any non-agenda item of concern. Speakers must state their name, address, and limit their remarks to three minutes. The Senior Advisory Commission will take no official action on these items but may refer the matter to staff for a future report or direct that the matter be scheduled for a future meeting.)

6. Updates

Monitor and expand housing options for seniors –

- 6.1 Senior Residence Updates
 - 6.1.1 Harbor / Haven
 - 6.1.2 Peace Villa
 - 6.1.3 Oak Grove

Provide safe options for seniors to get around –

- 6.2 Transit Link Circulators

Identify and promote education and social options for seniors -

- 6.3 NYA Senior Center
- 6.4 Carver County Public Health
- 6.5 Carver County Sheriff's Department
- 6.6 NYA Fire Department
- 6.7 Carver County - NYA Library

7. Old Business

7.1 "Golden" Spring Fling Dance – May 4, 2025, Committee: Colleen Pawelk, Mary Spille, LaVonne Kroells, Rosemary Solheid, Elroy Latzig – DJ is booked! **Meeting at Central High School at 10:00am after the Senior Advisory Meeting!

8. New Business

8.1 MoveMindfully

8.2 Raider Field House

8.3 Carver County Parks

8.3.1 Lunch & Learn – Nordic Walking at Prairie Dawn Park

9. NYA City Council Update

10. Adjournment – Next Meeting April 17, 2025 9am

April 1 st	Planning Commission Meeting	6:00 PM
April 9 th	NYA Food Distribution	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
April 14 th	Economic Development Authority (EDA)	4:30 PM
April 14 th	City Council Meeting	6:00 PM
April 16 th	Park and Recreation Commission Meeting	5:30 PM
April 17 th	Sr. Advisory Commission Meeting	9:00 AM
April 28 th	City Council Workshop/Meeting	5:00 PM/6:00 PM

Senior Advisory Commission
February 20, 2025, 9am
Minutes

Commissioners In Attendance: Kay Hampshire, Betty Settergren, LaVonne Kroells, Darlene Smith-Lehrman, Tom Simmons, Rosemary Solheid, Colleen Pawelk, Eloise Swanson, Carolyn Durbin, Cathleen Williams, Elroy Latzig, Mary Spille, Eloise Swanson

Absent: Lois Schultz

Community/City Representatives: City Council Representative – Brooke Allen, Karen Hallquist – City Hall, Brenda Schmitz – Peace Villa, Syrena Ethier – NYA Library, Kara Cassidy – CCPH,

Others – Jessica Kurschner - CC Parks

1. Call meeting to Order
 - Kroells called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
 - All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adopt Agenda

Motion: KH/CD with the addition of 5.1 Carver County Parks. Motion passed 12-0.
4. Approve minutes from October 17, 2024

Motion: TS/BS to approve the minutes with the correction of the next meeting date. Motion passed 12-0.
5. Introductions, Presentations, and Public Comment
 - 5.1 Carver County Parks –
 - Jessica Kurschner with CC Parks shared recreational opportunities for older adults. Two programs that were of interest were the Maple Syrup Festival at Baylor Park and the Nordic Walking. The city will include information on the Maple Syrup Festival in the next newsletter as the event is in March. The Nordic Walking could be a lunch and learn held at Prairie Dawn Park in late May/early June. Kurschner will find out costs. Cassidy (CCPH) mentioned that SHIP may have available funds for the per person fee.
6. Updates
 - 6.1 Senior Residence Updates
 - 6.1.1 Harbor/Haven – 3 open, 3 reserved, Haven has 1 open, 1 reserved, Memory Care has 1 open, 1 reserved.. Hiring for Resident Assistants for AM/PM, overnight, and on-call positions.
 - 6.1.2 Peace Villa—Occupancy is 100% and the list is growing to about one year wait. There were 14 turnovers in 2024. Schmitz commented on the generosity of the community during Valentine’s Day.
 - 6.1.3 Oak Grove – One bed/one den apartment open.
 - 6.2 Transit Link Circulators – Will add transportation options in the next City newsletter. Former city bus riders/current commissioners commented that they are not using this program as the options for shopping are limited and would like more hands-on help with bags, etc.
 - 6.3 NYA Senior Center – 27 people
 - 6.4 Carver County Public Health—
 - Cassidy shared that Influenza A and Covid are all elevated in Carver County. There are free vaccines available on March 4th and 8th at the government center in Chaska. There are new Carver County Resource Guides that will be available at City Hall. Cassidy shared that this is the year for the Community Health Assessment. She commented that there is no bird flu in MN. The newsletter will share that Covid tests are available for free at city hall and the library

6.5 Carver County Sheriff's Department - none

6.6 NYA Fire Department - none

6.7 Carver County—NYA Library—Ethier shared that there is a Zoom session on March 11th at 6:30pm about online security and making good passwords. Music Bingo will be at the Waconia Library. They are hiring for a new branch manager and new NYA manager.

7. Old Business

7.1 Spring Dance - May 4, 2025—the DJ is booked. The committee will meet after the regular meeting.

8. New Business

8.1 MoveMindfully is coming back!

- Hallquist was notified by Chrissy at MM that there are still SHIP funds available for more sessions. It was suggested to have the sessions at Peace Villa to try to increase attendance. More information to come.

8.2 Raider Field House hours

- Commissioners commented on the request for walking hours only so balls/equipment would not be interfering with those walking.

9. NYA City Council Update

- Allen shared updates from the February 10th Council meeting.
- Simmons shared the NYA Library book sale is on March 20-22nd. The NHS students are helping.

10. Adjournment - Motion: KH/BA to adjourn at 9:45am. Motion passed 12-0.

Next Senior Advisory Meeting—The Next meeting is Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall.

Submitted by:

Karen Hallquist, Community & Economic Development Director

Monthly Commissions/Advisory Committees Report February 2025

Each month, five communities in Carver County (Chanhassen, Norwood Young America, Victoria, Waconia, and Watertown) convene a commission or advisory committee meeting focused on issues relevant to aging (55+) residents. Below is a summary from each of the five communities monthly meeting. Senior Center and activity calendars are, also, included at the end of the document.

Victoria Senior Advisory Committee – Monday, February 3

Mission – *Focuses on providing recommendations and advocating for resources, programming, and education for Victoria residents age 55+.*

- Considered options for the 2025 Senior Advisory Committee Workplan.
- Discussed the need to identify ways to reach Victoria's population of residents who do not have access to the internet and the City's digital communication.
- Highlighted the importance of providing community engagement opportunities for the Committee in 2025.
- Noted several upcoming City programs, including the Victoria Citizen Academy, the Victoria Community Builders Award, and the upcoming RoadWise Drivers events.

Waconia Senior Center Advisory Committee – Tuesday, February 4

Mission – *To provide a centralized location for seniors to connect with other seniors and stay engaged in active living. We strive to establish a setting that is inviting and promote social, emotional, and physical well-being, as well as lifelong learning.*

- Reviewed calendar of events, including scheduled presentations, outings, games, crafts, exercise programs, and book club.
- Shared that there is now a notebook that has instructions for all card games.
- Noted that if schools are closed due to weather, then the Senior Center is, also, closed.
- Mentioned that Mackenthun's has a great newspaper resource called *Senior Perspectives*.
- Discussed adding a decorative frame in a designated location to announce obituaries.
- Reported on the budget, including donations collected and food spending.

Watertown Commission on Aging – Wednesday, February 5

Mission – *To ensure that the city and surrounding townships are prepared to offer growing numbers of older adults the possible environment in which to live and retire with vitality, dignity and safety.*

- Review/acceptance of 2025 Commissioner applications.
- Discussed the current by-laws for the Commission of Aging which state that all members need to be over 45 years of age. After some discussion regarding the age requirements, it was passed that a wording change should be presented to the City Council so that the by-laws read "The Majority of Seated Members over 45 years of age"
- Review of the Senior Dinner and proposed date for this year is December 11, 2025.
- The Westwood Senior Dance will be held on April 5, 2025. This event will be held at Westwood starting at 12 pm.
- Suggested a learning event called "You're Getting Old Now What" giving information on what to expect as you are getting older.

Norwood Young America Senior Advisory Commission – Thursday, February 20

Mission – *Communicating the social, economic, recreational, cultural, and personal needs of seniors in the City of Norwood Young America.*

- Received updates from local senior residences.
- Talked about the concern about lack of ridership on the Transit Link Circulators.
- Listened to presentation from Carver County Parks about daytime programming.
- Spring Dance is May 4, 2025.

Chanhassen Commission on Aging – Friday, February 21

Mission – *To address relevant topics like transportation, information, assistance, independent living in the home, social and recreational programs, and senior housing.*

- Discussed publication of articles in new online newspaper, Carver County Local News. There's a "Seniors & 55+" section.
- Listened to a presentation by Wendy Abbey regarding a new group she's formed called Age Well Discussions to encourage local engagement of seniors.
- Talked about community voting and suggestions on the naming of the new Senior Center.
- Reviewed Senior Center "Year in Review" document.
- Discussed 4th of July Bingo fundraising event and the selection of a charity.
- Noted that the goals/strategic plan and on-boarding documents are being updated by staff and will be ready for approval in May.