

CITY OF SAN DIMAS  
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION  
Thursday, May 3, 2012  
San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center  
201 East Bonita Avenue, San Dimas

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wolfe at 6:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Lou Gross  
Paul Hernandez  
Chet Sasaki  
Alta Skinner, Vice Chairperson  
Ed Wolfe, Chairperson  
  
Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager  
Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator

Absent: Lorous "Connie" Brown, excused  
Bee Dallas, excused  
Fred Garcia, excused  
Robbie Williams, excused

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2012 MEETING AS MAILED**

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2012 APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AS MAILED.

**COMMUNITY SENIOR SERVICES COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PRESENTATION**

Sandee Hayden, Community Connections Coordinator for Community Senior Services, presented an overview of services offered by Community Senior Services. She encouraged Commissioners to refer seniors who may benefit from the various programs offered. She described the transportation programs available for residents including Get-About, Dial-a-Ride and Community Connections. The newest addition is Community Connections, a transportation program that provides transportation to qualifying seniors with volunteer drivers. This program is not restricted to the current transportation boundaries and may be used for medical and non-medical transportation needs. Interested participants may complete an application for review and approval by a Community Senior Services Eligibility Determination Committee, which meets monthly. Prior approval is necessary since the program is intended to assist participants who may have physical difficulties utilizing the existing transportation programs. Volunteer drivers are reimbursed 33 cents per mile and up to \$150 per month. She also announced that the Pomona Valley Transit Authority received a grant to offer a new program, *One-Step-Over-the-Line*, which allows Get-About riders to receive transportation to medical centers outside of the current boundaries. This program will have an additional cost depending on the destination with a maximum estimated cost of \$5 per trip, one way. Commissioners thanked Sandee Hayden for the presentation and the services offered by Community Senior Services.

## **SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE**

### **A. Attendance/Participation**

Staff reviewed the quarterly Senior Citizen/Community Center usage and activity comparison report. Staff stated that attendance for the Chuckwagon Lunch and Dinner programs continue to increase and noted that it is due in part to the decrease in participation reported during the 2010 relocation period.

Staff reported that in May the Ballroom Dance program was reintroduced as the Night Club 440 and is now offered on Wednesdays from 4:30-7:00pm. A slight increase in participation was reported by the band leaders.

### **B. Programs and Activities**

Staff reviewed the following programs held in March and April:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| March 09 | Senior Event – All Aboard Dinner         |
| March 10 | Excursion – Shambala Feline Preserve     |
| March 22 | Excursion – Heritage Museum              |
| March 28 | Excursion – Hollywood Trekkers           |
| April 11 | Excursion – Valley View Casino (2 Buses) |
| April 18 | Excursion – Palm Springs Follies         |
| April 20 | Senior Event – Parade of Stars           |
| April 27 | Seasonal – Bunko                         |

Upcoming events and activities include:

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| May 9-11 | Excursion – Laughlin 3-Day Getaway                            |
| May 12   | Seasonal Event – 90+ Birthdays at San Dimas Retirement Center |
| May 12   | Special Event – Game Show Dinner                              |
| May 23   | Excursion – Aquarium of the Pacific                           |
| May 26   | Seasonal Event – 90+ Birthdays at Atria Rancho Park           |
| June 07  | Excursion – Las Brisas  |
| June 08  | Senior Event – Hawaiian Luau                                  |
| June 20  | Excursion – Santa Barbara Bus-1                               |
| June 23  | Seasonal Event – 90+ Birthdays at Emeritus Senior Living      |
| June 27  | Excursion – Santa Barbara Bus-2                               |
| June 28  | Seasonal – Bunko  |

### **C. Miscellaneous**

Staff reported the findings of the Tech Use Survey. A total of 23 surveys were received. Findings revealed that 10 of the 23 respondents go on-line daily or a few times per week. Of the 23 respondents, 20 use their personal computers to access the internet. Twelve respondents stated that they never access the City website. Of those who access the City website, 13 stated that it was difficult or somewhat difficult to navigate and 12 stated that the primary reasons for visiting the website is for senior program information. The respondents

stated that they would like to access excursion information and “fun things to do around town” on line. Staff stated that excursion information is currently posted on the website. Staff will continue to utilize programs such as Tech Thursday to help participants navigate the website and continue to improve the site.

Commissioner Sasaki stated that he had a difficult time navigating the City Website when he first was searching for Senior Center information. He also stated that not many programs are promoted on the local cable station. He stated that in his experience older senior users do not feel comfortable utilizing computers and hopes that printed material will continue to be available for seniors. Commissioner Skinner also stated that although younger seniors are more tech savvy, many seniors continue to access information through printed materials.

## **SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION FOUNDATION QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Staff reported that the current Senior Citizen Commission Foundation Money Market account balance is \$5,027.49. The Certificate of Deposit account balance is \$5,065.44. Staff stated that during the July Senior Citizen Commission meeting direction will be requested to address the Certificate of Deposit account which will mature on August 19, 2012. The total combined balance for the Money Market and Certificate of Deposit accounts is \$10,092.93. There are currently no recommendations for expenditures from the accounts.

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

### **A. Staff**

1. Staff announced that Linda Groth was officially announced as the Older American Honoree by the City Council on April 10.
2. Manager Raya stated that the Senior Citizen Commission currently has one position open and he encouraged Commissioners to motivate potential candidates to contact the City Clerk for applications. He announced that Commissioner Brown has completed her eligibility, and Commissioners Garcia, Gross, Sasaki and Wolfe were just re-appointed for another term, and Commissioners Dallas, Hernandez, Skinner and Williams will term-out in May 2013.

Manager Raya stated that a City Council Retreat is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8 at 5pm in the Council Chambers. The retreat will focus on the 2012-2013 City Budget and the impact of the elimination of Redevelopment funds.

Manager Raya updated Commissioner Hernandez on his inquiry regarding conducting a voter registration at the Senior Center. Manager Raya reported that he may contact the Los Angeles County Voter Registrar to register as a volunteer registrar.

### **B. City Council Liaison**

No City Council report.

### **C. Members of the Commission**

Commissioner Skinner reported that many seniors are concerned with high school students accessing unhealthy snacks from vending machines at the Swim and Racquet Club and approaching seniors for change.

Manager Raya stated that staff is currently reviewing the items available at vending machines, and the request for change was an isolated incident and will be supervised.

Commissioner Skinner stated that the Festival of Art Spring Show was a success and the transformation of the Community Building into a gallery was impressive. She invited everyone to the Second Story Art Gallery on the second and third weekend of the month at the Walker House.

Commissioner Gross reported that he used Meals on Wheels for the past four weeks during his recovery from knee surgery. He stated that the staff, punctuality and the quality of food was great. He thanked the Commissioners for the card sent which lifted his spirits.

Commissioner Hernandez recommended having a section in the *SilverTimes Newsletter* listing symptoms for possible ailments, so seniors can contact their doctors if they are feeling any symptoms. Staff stated that the newsletter is mainly to promote programs offered at the senior center and should not be used as a medical guide. Staff stated that medical advice is not listed on the *SilverTimes Newsletter* because staff are not medical professionals. Articles submitted by medical professionals may be accepted but are often not included due to space limitations. Commissioner Skinner stated that those types of articles may lead to dangerous self-diagnosing. Staff stated that programs such as Ask the Doctor and other screenings are offered by medical experts to address those needs.

Commissioner Sasaki inquired if the Swim and Racquet Club is self-sustaining and if usage statistics are maintained. Manager Raya stated that a portion of the club maintenance and operations are subsidized and statistics are maintained on the usage of the facility and participant demographics. Manager Raya stated that staff is currently reviewing the program structure and usage of the facility. Commissioner Sasaki inquired on the purpose of the volunteer meeting since the attendance is low. Staff stated that the monthly volunteer meetings are geared toward new volunteers interested as a preliminary screening process. Existing volunteers attend orientation prior to events or on specific orientation days for citywide special events.

Commissioner Wolfe encouraged everyone to stop by to see the Clydesdales on Friday, May 4 and visit the Heroes Memorial to continue supporting their fundraising efforts. He also invited everyone to attend the Music in the Park concert on June 13 to see his band perform a tribute to big bands featuring 22 musicians.

## **AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION**

No Audience Communication.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. to July 5, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

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Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator