



MINUTES

North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission

October 28, 2019 | 3:00 PM

Hays Center

The Senior Citizens Commission meeting was called to order by Dick Blankenbeker at 3:00 PM.

Present were: Dick Blankenbeker, Jim Lewis, Dorothy Romes, Dick Giddings, Robert Barnes, Belinda Snow, and Marleene Calvin, and Beth White. All were present. Ed Coleman attended as a visitor.

A motion was made by Dick Giddings to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Marleene Calvin. Motion passed unanimously.

Belinda Snow gave an update on the NLR Housing Authority. They have closed on Willow House and Campus Towers, which are now named Maple Place and Oak View. The Hays Center will need to sign a new contract with BCG to provide resident services. The proposed contract is currently under review in the City Attorney's office. The Hays Center is developing a proposed contracts focuses on senior residents and includes transportation, Hays Center memberships, and resident activities.

Director Bernadette Rhodes gave a financial overview, reporting that financials are in good order. She projected that at year end, the Center would have \$60,000 remaining in its budget to buy things that the center needs. \$35,000 of that total has already been allocated to the purchase of two Scifit bikes, a seated elliptical, a Keiser seated butterfly machine, and a carpet cleaning machine. The 2020 Budget has been amended due to the anticipated contract for services at the senior housing facilities. Additions were added to vehicle needs, salaries and supplies. A motion was made by Jim Lewis to accept the financial report. The motion was seconded by Marleene Calvin. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Rhodes gave a program update, including a review of her staff report to the Mayor. The program memo and staff report are enclosed below. We have a few upcoming events; Halloween on October 31st, Thanksgiving Lunch on November 12th, and Christmas Lunch on December 17th. Currently we have 83 tickets sold for Halloween. Ms. Rhodes will attend the fall symposium of the Arkansas Gerontological Society to learn about issues regarding long-term care in the state.

Ms. Rhodes gave a facility and equipment update. The audio-visual equipment in the ballroom is coming to a final review. Staff has collected proposals from at least two vendors to replace the DesertAire HVAC in case it needs to go out to bid.

Ms. Rhodes discussed a safety concern of non-members entering the building and creating better crowd management in the lobby area. Staff is exploring the option of relocating the reception desk to the middle of the entryway.

No open comments.

Jim Lewis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dorothy Romes seconded. Dick Blankenbeker adjourned the meeting at 3:52 pm.

Prepared by Chera Sbait, Hays Center Staff

Reviewed by Belinda Snow, Secretary

Approved by Senior Citizens Commission on November 18, 2019

Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center and Mayor's Office of Volunteer Services
Monthly Report – September 2019

Member Statistics

- Our members logged 11,560 visits to the Hays Center (987 less than last month).
- 74 new members joined the Hays Center this month for a total of 3,550 active members (25 less than last month).
- New member demographics:
 - 67 new “Core Hours” members, 7 new “Extended Hours” members.
 - 36 African American, 34 Caucasian, 4 other/unknown.
 - 50 females, 24 males.
 - 23 from North Little Rock, 51 from outside NLR.
 - The youngest 5 members to join this month were 50. The oldest was 89.

Deposits

- \$ 3,360.00 in new member fees
- \$ 9,588.84 in renewal fees
- \$ 4,425.00 in rental fees
- \$ 1,326.00 in trip fees
- \$ 1,063.50 in lunch/event/activity fees
- \$ 82.00 in other revenue
- **\$ 19,845.34 Total (↓ 19% over last month)**
- \$ 66,047.15 in PILOT funds from NLR Housing Authority

Activities (Susan Russell)

- Took 78 people on a cruise to Alaska
- Arkansas Heart Hospital Strong Hearts Clinic in Lobby with info
- Chronic Pain Webinar in computer lab
- NLRPD promotions
- 20 teams from all over the state in the center for a beanbag baseball tournament

Facility (Bruce Vang)

- Started replacing LED panels in the lobby area.
- Ordered parts to fix Keiser and Octane machines.
- Sand replaced for filters in aerobic pool.
- Working with Ecolab to get a carpet cleaner machine.
- Worked with Wirges on Ballroom A/V upgrade.
- Replaced water spigot for sprinkler system.
- Replaced swimsuit wringer in men's locker room.
- Replace ground electrical plugs in exercise room.

Trips (Chera Sbait)

- We provided 21 trips, transporting a total of 174 people and collecting a total of \$1,115 in trip fees.
- Hays Center day trips went to Murry's Dinner Playhouse, Heber Springs, Searcy for lunch & bingo, and Hot Springs. The Red Hat Society traveled to Harrison for the Balloon Festival.
- Public senior housing residents traveled to medical appointments (9 riders), grocery stores (10 riders).
- Our Bean Bag Baseball teams traveled to Conway, Benton, and Greenbriar for away games.
- Still awaiting the Fuelman report in order to calculate net program expense.

Rentals (Angela Wirt)

- 3 paid rentals
- 1 co-sponsored event: Police Promotions
- Total rental income: \$3,875

Mayor's Office of Volunteer Services (Angela Wirt)

- Hays Center volunteers reported 1,339 hours this month.
- Received 6 new volunteer applications.

Memo To:**North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission****From: Bernadette Gunn Rhodes****Memo Date: October 21, 2019**

With the cooler weather and fall festivals going on all over central Arkansas, things have quieted down somewhat at the Hays Center, but we are gearing up for some fun seasonal events.

Average attendance in the last four weeks has been up 15% compared to the same period in 2018, and up 1% compared to the previous four weeks. We have been logging an average of 2,746 visits per week so far this year. 505 members visit the Center on an average weekday. We had 3,550 active members in September. That is a net loss of 25 members over the previous month.

Financial Update

I re-ran my forecast through the end of 2019, and stand by my estimate that we will have \$60,000 remaining in our budget at the end of the year, which will allow us to purchase a few needed items. We have replaced the sand in our aerobics pool filters and will get the lap pool done, as well. Our conversion to LED is moving along steadily. We have purchased a portable commercial carpet cleaning machine and it has already brightened up and removed stains in our hallways and ballroom. We will price out new exercise equipment such as new SciFit bicycle and/or seated elliptical.

Our 2020 budget has been submitted to Finance and is included in your packet. I did not make any major changes other than a significant increase in our building maintenance budget, to \$200,000. With looming HVAC replacements and an aging building, I feel the increase is needed to keep the facility operating efficiently. It is also time to renovate our ballroom. The wallpaper is peeling and some of the sheetrock underneath will need to be replaced once the wallpaper is removed.

Program Update

Angela and Susan had 17 participants in their pour paint class (with pumpkins!) last week and Angela had 7 in her metal clay class in September.

Our Bean Bag Baseball tournament on Sept. 27th in partnership with CareLink was a big success. Next year we plan to include even more teams. Our October 7th health fair was well-attended, with 131 members handing in prize drawing sheets. Our kick-off meeting of the “We Can Do It!” ladies’ home repair club will be on Oct. 24th.

We are gearing up for our Halloween luncheon, having sold 35 tickets so far. We have secured a \$500 sponsorship from Fox Ridge Senior Living to cover costs. We will have a Thanksgiving lunch on Tuesday, Nov. 12, and a Christmas luncheon/party on Tuesday, Dec. 17. We are in the process of securing sponsorships for both.

Transportation Update

We are still waiting to hear from ARDOT regarding our transportation grant application. Awards will be announced in March 2020. Chera attended this month’s Arkansas Transit Association’s conference.

Facility Update

The Ballroom A/V upgrade is 99% finished. We are waiting on a light switch by the ballroom doors and are making notes if we notice anything not working as expected. The vendor is on-site at least once a week addressing any notes we have.

Regarding our Aerobic Pools DesertAire HVAC unit, this past month we had \$430 in repair expenses. That puts our 2019 YTD repair cost at \$14,083. In 2018, we spent \$10,997 repairing the unit.

Policy Update

Thank you for your careful deliberations and decision on our membership fee increase. So far I have encountered very little feedback about the change. I think by now most members already know thanks to word of mouth. Just to be sure, we will publish a notice in our November newsletter advising members of the change.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, October 28th.