

**VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON
SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 – 3:30 PM
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER**

MINUTES

Members Present: Jose Soto, Jerry Springer, Mary Kastner, Sampson Nebb, Glenn Bennett & Henry Brodie

Absent Members: Howard Trager

Village Staff: Paulette Edwards, Jenifer Brito, and Geneeka Morris

I. Call to Order/Opening Comments

Mr. Soto, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Mr. Bennett and Mr. Brodie introduced themselves to the Senior Advisory Committee

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Soto led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Soto called for a motion to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Ms. Kastner, seconded by Mr. Nebb to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously 6-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Approval June 13th, 2019 minutes were deferred to December 12th, 2019.

V. Staff Updates

Ms. Edwards welcomed the three new Senior Committee Advisory Members and asked them to state a few words on how long they lived in Wellington and what they would like to do on the committee.

Mr. Brodie stated that it has been a dream of his to be able to help the community in any way he could. He has been a wellington resident for 30 years and a member of the Wellington's Seniors Club. He cares about people and wanted to help in any way he can.

Mr. Springer has been a Wellington resident for 35 years. He met a lot of wonderful people. He loved the town and the people. He stated that he is pleased to everyone on the board and to everyone in the Village. Thank you.

Mr. Bennett has been a Wellington resident for 26 years, served in the community on other boards like Park and Recreation and Planning and Zoning and honored to serve on the Senior Advisory Committee. He appreciated being appointed by Councilman McGovern.

Ms. Edwards welcomed back Ms. Kastner and Mr. Nebb. She congratulated Mr. Soto for being appointed as the new Chair. She informed the Senior Advisory Committee that Ms. Brito and herself act as liaisons between the Senior Advisory Committee and Village Administration to bring forth programming and services that are needed. The Senior Advisory Committee is to advocate on behalf of the seniors and come to meetings to inform everyone what is going on with the senior community, what the needs are that the Village can help support and Ms. Brito will provide the Senior Advisory Committee the staff updates like programming activities that are going on, and any other services that are available to the seniors in Wellington.

Ms. Brito informed the Senior Advisory Committee that Community Services had added several programs. Ms. Brito reported that over 80 seniors attended the Senior Volunteer Fair. The Senior Luau on September 24th was moved to Village Park (lunch and entertainment would be provided) at 11:30am and the seniors would have to sign up for the event. The Senior Health Fair will be held on October 24th from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Community Center with about 45 to 50 vendors expected to attend. Community Services newest initiative our Feel Good Fridays through a partnership with Baptist Health South Florida. They will provide dance instructors every Friday. Every Friday there will be multiple programs for seniors.

Mr. Bennett asked if there was a charge for the vendors to participate in the Health Fair

Ms. Brito replied the Village is only asking for the vendors to bring a \$25 gift card or gift to raffle off for the seniors.

VI. Old Business

None

VII. New Business

Mr. Springer would like to add more rides to the S.T.A.R program

Ms. Edwards stated that staff will prepare a report on ridership for the program.

Mr. Brodie would like to have someone available to answer questions and concerns for seniors.

Mr. Springer suggested that the board should meet every month.

Ms. Edwards explained that all Village of Wellington Committees meet quarterly.

Mr. Bennett requested more meetings for the Senior Advisory Committee.

Ms. Edwards stated that all Village of Wellington Committees meet quarterly.

Mr. Brodie requested to have a sub-committee of the Senior Advisory Committee.

Ms. Edwards stated that the committee would have to request this action and the committee would need to ask for a special meeting.

Mr. Springer mentioned that this will take staff time

Ms. Edwards said our programs and services are growing to align with our growing senior population.

Mr. Brodie said he would like to serve the seniors who are upset.

Mr. Bennett said that the Village of Wellington staff should have the seniors fill out a comment card and bring it to the senior meeting

Ms. Edwards suggested the committee put together their top five concerns, so the committee could work on them.

Mr. Brodie would like to see more volunteer involvement from the senior advisory committee in the events that we have currently. The seniors would like to have volunteer opportunities within the community.

Mr. Soto stated that there could be a helpline for the seniors to call and have volunteers assist with the phone calls for the Village of Wellington.

Mr. Brodie would like to start a group to respond to seniors who have complaints. He suggested that the telephone could be provided by the Village.

Ms. Edwards stated that staff will schedule a meeting with Mr. Brodie to develop the program of seniors helping seniors.

Mr. Bennett stated the seniors all want more but are unsure of what exactly they are looking for, the Village of Wellington created the senior lounge in hopes that seniors would go there for a place to play games, drink free coffee and socialize.

Mr. Bennett recommended sending a survey to the Seniors Club.

A motion was made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Nebb, to send a survey to the senior club for needs assessments of programs and services. Motion passed unanimously 6-0. Mr. Trager was absent.

Ms. Edwards stated that they need to come up with the three most important categories for the survey and present those at the next meeting. At the next meeting they are able to request an update on that particular category.

Ms. Kastner stated that a previous survey had been prepared. We already have the survey for the seniors and we continue to re-invent the survey.

Mr. Soto said the three most important topics are Communication, Transportation and Volunteering.

Mr. Brodie stated we just had a survey by the Village on program needs and we want a copy of the report.

Mr. Soto would like to request the information that was surveyed by the Village.

Ms. Edwards stated she will get a copy from the Planning Department.

Mr. Brodie requested the information to be emailed to the committee

VIII. Public Comment

Ms. Caliendo asked where the public is for this meeting and why aren't they here to have public comment. The Senior Club has a trip today and that is why most seniors are not here for the meeting.

Ms. Torrasi stated she was also present at the meeting for Parks and Recreation and spoke about the needs for the seniors. She had been told it was summarized and that we would have the results. She congratulated the new members on the senior committee. She wanted to know if we do anything for seniors during the hurricanes.

Ms. Edwards stated that prior to the hurricane Ms. Brito went out to do home visits for seniors who are homebound or have multiple medications.

Ms. Brito stated that she went out and checked on those seniors who needed assistance. The list of seniors in need has been compiled. Ms. Brito asked if the committee knows of any seniors who needs assistance to let her know.

Ms. Torrasi asked about the volunteer fair and what volunteer opportunities were available.

Ms. Brito stated there were 14 different non- profits and local businesses that attended such as the Palm Beach County Sheriff's office, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and all of the hospitals. The volunteer fair made it easy to find senior volunteer opportunities.

Mr. Brodie asked if he would be available to speak at the Seniors Club about the needs of the seniors.

Ms. Torrasi stated that Mr. Brodie could speak at the next Senior Club luncheon.

Ms. Torrasi asked if this meeting is publicized anywhere like the Town Crier. Perhaps addressing the Town Crier to assure the meeting gets out into the community.

Ms. Torrasi stated the Senior Club is now at Village Park

Mr. Brodie stated he would like to have the Senior Advisory Committee Meeting in the Golden Banner.

Mr. Soto asked when the next meeting will take place.

Ms. Brito stated that the next meeting will be on December 13, 2019 at 3:30 pm.

Mr. Bennett is going to ask the Town Crier to put the meeting notice of the Senior Advisory Committee in the community calendar.

Mr. Bennett asked Ms. Brito is she sends out the meeting notice by email

Ms. Brito stated that normally yes we do send it out by email

Ms. Edwards stated if anyone wants a subject on the agenda please email to let us know.

Mr. Bennett stated he would like transportation added to the agenda for the S.T.A.R program.

Mr. Brodie would like to put on the agenda to coordinate an event with the Senior Club to put on a show to the public and everyone would pay for this show to attend.

Mr. Nebb stated that everyone cannot speak about topics outside the meeting

IX. Board Comments

Mr. Nebb stated he is happy to have a full committee and stated the two ladies do a great job.

X. Closing Comments

None

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Soto called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion was made by Ms. Kastner, seconded by Mr. Nebb. Motion passed unanimously 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Approved and Adopted:

Jose Soto, Chairperson

Date

Geneeka Morris, Recording Secretary

Date