



Agenda

**DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES
SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center
1121 Alto Street
Wednesday, October 17, 2018 (Time: 9:30 a.m.)

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 19, 2018
- VI. DSS DIRECTORS REPORT
- VII. UNFINISHED OTHER BUSINESS
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
- IX. COMMENTS FROM FLOOR
- X. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

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DATE: 09/24/2018

TIME: 4:52 PM

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

October 17, 2018

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ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned at 10:45 a.m.	6

MINUTES OF THE
DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 17, 2018

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Division of Senior Services Advisory Board of Directors was called to order by Andres Romero, Chairperson at 9:30 a.m. on this date at the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center, Board Room, 1121 Alto Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum present for conducting official business as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andres Romero, Chairperson
Mary Louise Giron, Vice Chairperson
Rosemary Trujillo-Gonzales, Secretary
Bernardo C de Baca
Toni Ann Gallegos
Dennis Gonzales
Virginia Lucero
Corrine Sanchez
Rod Winget

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Lugi Gonzales, Division of Senior Services
Gino Rinaldi, Division of Senior Services Director

OTHERS PRESENT

Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

INVOCATION

Invocation led by Dennis Gonzales.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Corrine Sanchez and recited by all.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made by Dennis Gonzales, seconded by Rosemarie Trujillo-Gonzales to approve the agenda.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 19, 2018 meeting

MOTION: A motion was made by Mary Louise Giron, seconded by Corrine Sanchez to approve the Minutes of the September 19, 2018 meeting.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT-Gino Rinaldi

Gino Rinaldi said he is getting ready for the winter season and they want to make sure they have safe entry ways for the seniors. He noted that the Division of Senior Services received an appropriation to do a slow-melting area in the back of the kitchen. This has been a problem area because it is on the north side of the building and in the past, the snow and ice has built up and this can be dangerous. The Division of Senior Services now has a design for this area and will be working on it.

Vacancies

Gino Rinaldi said the Division of Senior Services is making progress in filling the vacancies. He said they will be moving a bus driver position into the homemaker and respite arena. This individual will be assisting with the assessments and case management. This leaves the bus driver position vacant.

Gino Rinaldi noted that Fran Rodriguez's former position has been filled and they are reclassifying one of the positions in transportation to a program manager. This person will drive; do vehicle maintenance; inventory and other types of things related to transportation.

Gino Rinaldi said they have been able to address the issue of day trips; even though they are not doing the out-of-state or overnight trips. They have done 30 day-trips since the month of March.

He mentioned that they were not prepared to take seniors to the Balloon Fiesta this year but they will try to address it next year. He explained that they have to pay drivers overtime because they have to leave early and this affects the budget.

Units of Services

Gino Rinaldi said in the first two months of the year, the Division of Senior Service exceeded the projected units of services. They are doing well with all services, including: transportation; respite (in-home) services; congregate and homebound (meals-on-wheels) services.

Assessments/Membership Cards

He noted that his article in the October 2018 newsletter talks about senior services membership registration cards and/or the assessment form. Anyone age 60 or over who participates at any of the City of Santa Fe Senior Centers, uses the transportation or other services is asked to register with the Division of Senior Services.

Seniors are asked to make sure that the date on their senior membership card is not expired. If so, they are asked to meet with a staff member to get reassessed and update their membership information. This is important because the Division of Senior Services receives reimbursement for the services they provide to individuals who have a current assessment. The Division of Senior Services is making progress on getting people reassessed and up to date. Gino Rinaldo acknowledged staff for doing a great job with this.

Toni Ann Gallegos asked how often people need to get reassessed.

Gino Rinaldi said presently, it is every year for some; every six months for others and every three months for others. He said it depends on the assessment that is done and the services that are needed.

Capital Outlay Projects Update

Gino Rinaldi gave an update on the capital outlay projects noting that there are a lot of projects going on and he could have a staff member put together a matrix of all of the projects and distribute it at the next meeting. The matrix can include information on each project such as the time of completion, etc.

He mentioned that they are expanding/remodeling the Consuelo Senior Center and the anticipated completion date is the first part of the year. However, they do not have anyone to manage the Center because they do not have the funds to staff it; therefore, they are going to have to figure out how to address this. Presently, there are only volunteers who help at the Center.

He noted that the Luisa Senior Center has been shut down for remodeling also. They are doing tile work in the bathroom and the laundry room. They will be doing a trench for the grease trap in the kitchen and the tile will also be replaced. The Luisa Senior Center will not be open for another 2-3 weeks.

He said the work at the Pasatiempo Senior Center is also undergoing some work. They will be doing various things there; for example, they are putting in new doors.

He noted that the bids for the expansion of the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center came in too high and over budget. The state funding for the expansion project of the Mary Esther Gonzales dining area/social hall fell short of what is needed. He mentioned this to the Acting Director and was told that the City is considering doing a bond to fund capital projects.

The Division of Senior Services put in an application to fund and complete this project. They identified the project as critical to the MEG operation; therefore, they applied and have been included in the City of Santa Fe gross receipts tax improvement revenue bonds packet. This is a very important bond because it supports many of the critical infrastructure needs in the City of Santa Fe, including the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center. This will be a match: The State will put in \$200,000 and the City will put in \$235,000. This will be going before City Council for approval within the next couple of weeks.

Gino Rinaldi said the Division of Senior Services put in a request for State Severance Tax Bond funding for two projects. Both projects made it through however, the Division of Senior Services will only get one-third of the money they need for vehicles. They are planning to ask the City to make up the difference.

Consumer Feedback

Gino Rinaldi said the Division of Senior Services would like to get feedback from the individuals they serve. He said maybe they can do this with a suggestion box. He asked the Board to think of ways that they can get feedback.

Chairman Romero suggested that they have a brainstorming session with staff and Board Members to think of ways to do this.

Gino Rinaldo asked Chairman Romero to set up the brainstorming session.

SAC

Gino Rinaldi said the SAC is at the end point of dissolving and everything has been squared away with the legal and finance departments. He said they will come up with policies and procedures on how this funding will be allocated. It will have to be approved by City Council.

Gino Rinaldi was asked where the money from the SAC was now and he said it is in the bank.

Area Agency on Aging

The Division of Senior Services received letters from the Acting Cabinet Secretary of the Area Agency on Agency. At the last Board meeting, Mr. Rinaldi

requested that Lugi Gonzales send a copy to the Board Members and this was included with the Board Members' packets.

Mr. Rinaldi said the Division of Senior Services has not received the \$153,000 in funding for the Senior Employment contract, which was only funded for one quarter. He said if they do not receive a new contract from the State, they will have to stop the senior employees' funding for four employees.

Re-appointments of Board Members

Virginia Lucero asked Gino Rinaldi if he has heard anything about the reappointments for the Board Members whose terms are expired. She noted that there was an advertisement in the local newspaper and in the Neighborhood Watch newsletter that the Mayor is looking for people to serve on various boards.

Gino Rinaldi said the Mayor is addressing other boards and not the seniors.

Chairman Romero mentioned that he sent the Mayor a letter about three months ago but he has not had a response.

Retreat for Division of Senior Services Advisory Board

Gino Rinaldi would like to have a retreat for the Board and staff members to establish a framework and strategic direction or plan for the Senior Programs. He said he knows an individual who can work with the Board and facilitate the retreat. He is putting together a scope of work for the facilitator and hopes to bring it back to the Board at the next meeting.

Virginia Lucero asked where the money for the retreat is coming from.

Gino Rinaldi said it was budgeted for strategic planning.

The location and date of the Retreat will be determined at a later time. The theme for the Retreat was briefly discussed.

UNFINISHED/OTHER BUSINESS

There was no unfinished or other business.

NEW BUSINESS

Dedicated Employee

Chairman Romero acknowledged Romella Glorioso-Moss, the Special Projects Administrator for the Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Program. He said she is a dedicated employee who arrives to work early every day.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:

Article for *In and Around the Roundhouse* newsletter

Chairman Romero suggested that the Division of Senior Services consider having an article in the above newsletter that shows the different activities for seniors.

Gino Rinaldi said he was actually talking to Triston Lovato-Armstrong about that. He said maybe they can also reach out to the State employees and tell them about the services that they provide.

Letter from Congressman Ben Ray Lujan

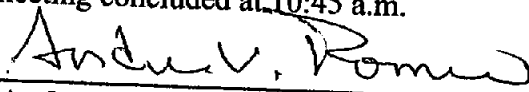
Toni Ann Gallegos shared a letter she received from Congressman Ben Ray Lujan dated October 4, 2018. The letter talks about the impacts of opioid addiction; creating more health care jobs in the State of New Mexico; expanding the treatment capacity of Medicaid; monitoring opioid prescriptions; facilitating treatment and care; expanding non-addictive pain management; supporting comprehensive treatment and recovery services and addressing the full spectrum of substance use disorder. Please see Exhibit "A" for the specifics.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

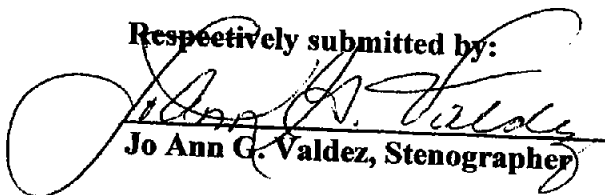
The next meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 10:45 a.m.


Andres Romero, Chairperson

Respectively submitted by:


Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

BEN RAY LUJAN
3RD DISTRICT, NEW MEXICO

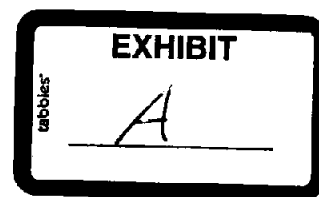
WASHINGTON OFFICE
2231 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 202-225-6190
FAX: 202-226-1528

SANTA FE OFFICE
1611 CALLE LORCA SUITE A
SANTA FE, NM 87505
PHONE: 505-984-8950
FAX: 505-986-5047



ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515



October 4, 2018

Dear Friend,

In every corner of America, from coast to coast, families are suffering under the scourge of opioid addiction. Everyone is susceptible to the impacts of substance use disorder. Whether it's friends or family, maybe a neighbor or a coach, or even yourself, addiction does not discriminate.

I have worked with my colleagues in Congress for years now to address the opioid crisis and provide robust funding to support treatment and prevention programs.

In addition to broad state funding, I have also worked on many bills that tackle public health challenges in an effort to combat the opioid crisis.

Last week, the Congress passed the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act (H.R. 6). H.R. 6 included ten bipartisan bills that I authored.

What drives my work on this issue is the conversations I've had with people across the state. I have sat down with hundreds of New Mexicans over dozens of meetings. One thing that has been clear to me is that there is no one size fits all solution to this epidemic. What works in other states might not work in New Mexico. That's why the policies that I authored were born out of New Mexico's communities. Each and every one of my bills is uniquely suited to address our state's opioid crisis.

I would like to share a few of my bills that are part of the SUPPORT Act, and the problems that they would address in New Mexico.

Creating More Health Care Jobs

New Mexico needs more health care workers but there are simply are not enough doctors and nurses to go around. One way health facilities are bolstering their workforce is through peer support specialists. Peer support specialists are people who are in recovery themselves with specific training to help others who are struggling with substance use disorder. These peer support specialist programs effectively provide vital, life-saving services, and they also save the health care system a lot of money. New Mexico is a leader in using peer support specialists. I have met with peer supporters at Presbyterian Medical Services in Farmington, New Mexico and

TUCUMCARI OFFICE
404 W. RT. 66 BLVD.
TUCUMCARI, NM 88401
PHONE: 575-461-3029
FAX: 575-461-3192

GALLUP OFFICE
110 WEST AZTEC AVE.
GALLUP, NM 87301
PHONE: 505-863-0582
FAX: 505-863-0678

RIO RANCHO OFFICE
3200 CIVIC CENTER CIRCLE NE
SUITE 330
RIO RANCHO, NM 87144
PHONE: 505-994-0499
FAX: 505-994-0550

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FARMINGTON OFFICE
800 MUNICIPAL DRIVE
FARMINGTON, NM 87401
PHONE: 505-324-1005
FAX: 505-324-1026

LAS VEGAS OFFICE
P.O. Box 1368
LAS VEGAS, NM 87701
PHONE: 505-454-3038
FAX: 505-454-3265
OFFICE LOCATION:
NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY
903 UNIVERSITY AVENUE LAS VEGAS, NM

talked about their skills and how much they help people. I wrote legislation to provide more money and technical assistance to support these programs. One of New Mexico's very own peer support specialists even came to Washington, DC to testify before Congress in support of this bill.

Expanding the Treatment Capacity of Medicaid

Medicaid is the largest payer of substance use disorder treatment in New Mexico. However, while I was traveling across the state recently, I learned there are not enough treatment facilities who accept Medicaid to be able to take care of all those enrolled. I have legislation that would expand treatment capacity for current and new Medicaid providers and allow these providers to receive enhanced reimbursement rates. This will help treatment providers keep their doors open and hopefully help more facilities open throughout the state.

Monitoring Opioid Prescriptions

New Mexico, like all states across the country, has a real problem with people taking both legitimate and illegitimate opioid prescriptions to multiple pharmacies and having multiple pharmacists fill the prescription. I authored both the Medicaid Pharmaceutical Home Act and the Medicare Pharmaceutical Home Act to keep certain high-opioid-utilizers 'locked-in' to one pharmacy so they will be unable to fill prescriptions at multiple locations.

Facilitating Treatment and Care

Moms in New Mexico are suffering from substance use disorder at alarming rates. Certified Nurse Midwives across New Mexico have told me that they want to be able to prescribe certain medications to their pregnant and postpartum patients that will help them manage their opioid addiction. I authored the Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act of 2017 to expand medication assisted treatment prescribing authority to Certified Nurse Midwives, Clinical Nurse Specialists, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. This bill also further expands providing privileges for Nurse Practitioners and Physicians Assistants.

Expanding Non-Addictive Pain Management

There are a lot of New Mexicans suffering from chronic pain. There will always be people who need pain medications, and if we are going to truly stop the scourge of addiction in our country, patients need access to non-addictive pain medications. I authored the Better Pain Management Through Data Act to provide the FDA additional data that will help bring non-addictive opioids to the market more quickly.

Supporting Comprehensive Treatment & Recovery Services

New Mexico needs more substance use disorder treatment facilities. I authored the Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers Act which will establish Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Centers (CORCs) that will serve as models for comprehensive treatment and recovery. CORCs would utilize the full range of FDA-approved medications and evidence-based treatments, have strong linkages with the community, generate meaningful outcomes data, and dramatically improve the opportunities for individuals to establish and maintain long-term recovery.

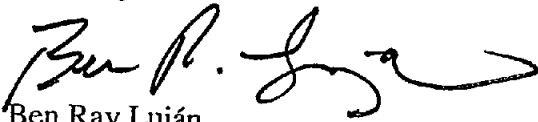
Addressing the Full Spectrum of Substance Use Disorder

New Mexico's substance use epidemic is not only drugs, but alcohol. This past year I met with the Duno family who lost their son to alcoholism. We discussed that alcohol is often overlooked in the conversation about drugs. For this reason, I am proud to say that all of my bills included in the SUPPORT Act package addresses the full spectrum of substance use disorder – both alcohol and drugs. We cannot lose sight of the fact that alcoholism is also harming New Mexico's families.

I want you all to know that I care. That I see families hurting and our communities struggling. I am working to make things better. While none of these efforts alone will fix things overnight, my hope is that we can continue to make progress toward more healthy communities.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or thoughts on this or any issues you care about.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben R. Lujan", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress