City of Santa Fe



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**DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES** SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center 1121 Alto Street, Santa Fe, NM Wednesday, April 20, 2011 9:30 a.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 11. INVOCATION /PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 111. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES March 16, 2011 V.
- DSS DIRECTORS REPORT Ron J. Vialpando, Interim Director VI.
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- VIII. **UNFINISHED OTHER BUSINESS**
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS**
- X. COMMENTS FROM FLOOR
- XI. DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING
- XII. **ADJOURNMENT**

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# **DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES**

# **ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

# **April 20, 2011**

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#### MINUTES OF THE

#### **DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES**

# ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS April 20, 2011

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 in the Board Room, 1121 Alto Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Andres Romero, Chairperson Rosemarie Trujillo, Secretary Ray Chavez Mary Louise Giron Elaina K. Gonzalez Connie Medina Doug Schocke Ken Scott Olivia Trujillo

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

#### MEMBERS EXCUSED

Janet Amtmann, Vice Chairperson Bernardo C de Baca Virginia Montoya Susan S. Warren

#### STAFF PRESENT

Lugi Gonzales, Division of Senior Services Ron Vialpando, Division of Senior Services Interim Director

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Gilbert Alarid, Chairperson of In-Home Support Services Advisory Committee Ron Pacheco, Santa Fe County Senior Services Program Director Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

#### INVOCATION

Invocation was led by Ms. Giron.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of Minutes of the November 18, 2009 and December 15, 2009 meetings was added to the agenda under Unfinished Business.

Ms. Olivia Trujillo moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Gonzalez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** March 16, 2011

The following change was made to the Minutes of the March 16, 2011 meeting:

Page 1, Connie Medina was present.

Ms. Giron moved to approve the Minutes of the March 16, 2011 meeting as amended. Ms. Olivia Trujillo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### DSS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Vialpando reported as follows:

- In an effort to save money, staff from DSS will be hosting the RSVP Volunteer Banquet on May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Community Convention Center. The Board Members were invited to attend.
- Following a meeting with the residents and management of the Ventana de Vida Senior Center; and consideration of the in-kind services at the Ventana de Vida Center, the City determined that it was not cost-effective to close the Center, especially based on the need. Half of the residents that live at Ventana de Vida Senior Center receive Section 8 assistance; therefore they are on a fixed income.
- In another effort to save money, there has been discussion about privatizing the senior citizen program; however given the great track record and personalized care that the DSS has provided, there is agreement that the program should remain in-house.

AAA met with staff recently and discussed what they can do to bring the unit cost down. Mr. Vialpando met with Isaac Pino, the Department Director regarding the program and he agreed that the program should remain in-house. Mr. Vialpando also met with Theresa Gabaldon to let her know that they need

to look at the program to see how it can be improved-in terms of how the City can meet their goals.

- Mr. Vialpando noted that it costs \$882,000 to fund the senior program. This employs 7 respite providers, 4 homemakers, a part-time clerk and a supervisor. Currently, based on the Direct Purchase Agreement, the City has an obligation to the State to provide 8700 units/hours a year of respite servicers and 7,256 hours in homemaker services. Presently, the City is having a hard time meeting these goals: year-to-date is running approximately 22 hours short in homemaker services and approximately 200 hours short in respite services. If the City cannot meet the obligations they will be at risk of losing the reimbursement of federal and state funding. Mr. Vialpando explained that they are working on some ideas to fill the gap and accomplish/meet the goals.
- The City will be entering into a new contract this upcoming fiscal year and is looking at providing 16,057 units between both services (respite and homemaker). Mr. Vialpando plans to meet with DSS staff next week to ensure that they meet these goals.
- Mr. Vialpando thanked the Board Members for their continued support and assistance. He also acknowledged and thanked Isaac Pino for supporting the recommendation to keep the senior program in-house.

Ms. Olivia Trujillo asked if the employees are aware of the goals when DSS is putting together the budget for the upcoming year, so that they can meet the goals.

Mr. Vialpando said yes, prior to preparing the budget they will be doing a production and time study to see how, or if the goals are getting done. This will show where they need to make improvements and they also plan to monitor each employee's performance on a monthly basis.

Ms. Olivia Trujillo suggested that the clients provide feedback on the services provided, possibly through a written evaluation.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The written Committee Reports were submitted and distributed. {Please see Exhibit "A" for the details.}

Chairperson Romero noted that some of the Committees meet on a quarterly basis. There was a suggestion that the Committees meet on a monthly basis (to provide written reports to the DSS Advisory Board).

#### **UNFINISHED/OTHER BUSINESS**

a. Approval of Minutes: November 18, 2009 December 15, 2009

Mr. Schocke moved to approve the Minutes of the November 18, 2009 and December 15, 2009 meetings. Ms. Gonzalez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### a. Service dogs

Mr. Schocke noted that a senior citizen had a problem coming into the MEG Center because he has a service dog. He asked if they are allowed to bring in their service pets.

In response, Mr. Vialpando said this is a food service facility and bringing in pets could be a problem. However, they can bring their service pets into the community/activity room but this could create a problem in the dining area.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mr. Pacheco gave a brief update on the transition of the senior centers to the County noting that they held a meeting with the State this week and both city and county staff attended the meeting. Mr. Pacheco explained that the City has agreed to continue respite and homemaker services for 11 county residents when the transition takes place.

Mr. Pacheco reported that there was a water heater leak at the Chimayo Senior Center and mold was discovered; therefore the facility was closed. This now becomes a remediation issue and the County put out a Request for Bids to start the remediation process. Senior citizens are being transported to the Santa Cruz Senior Center and the Meals on Wheels services are continuing. The County is also working on replacing the floor, adding a water fountain and the floor of the community/activity room will be replaced, if there is any money left. The proposed open date is May 2<sup>nd</sup> but they hope to open the facility for the activities next week.

Mr. Pacheco reported that the kitchen at the Rio en Medio Senior Center is being expanded to make a place to store foods, produce, etc. The kitchen will be closed for the remodel once the County takes over the Center.

Ms. Giron asked about the status of defibrillators.

Mr. Pacheco said this is stalled, and he is not sure why.

Mr. Pacheco concluded his report noting that the County Senior Services Division budget went before the Board of County Commissioners for approval and it was

Division of Senior Services Advisory Board Meeting: April 20, 2011

approved. The County has approved 14 positions and the positions will be posted at the County in the next two weeks. The positions range from cooks, drivers, activity coordinators, secretary and a clerk.

Ms. Gonzalez asked for an update on a possible discount for medical alert medallions for senior citizens. There was no update. Mr. Pacheco offered to research this.

Ms. Olivia Trujillo said that some Alzheimer non-profit organizations may help to pay for these.

Mr. Pacheco and Mr. Vialpando thanked the Board for the letters written on behalf of the Board.

[Copies of the letters to Mayor David Coss and Chairperson of the Santa Fe County Commissioners, Commissioner Virginia Vigil were distributed. Copies are attached to these Minutes as Exhibit "B".]

Chairperson Romero introduced Mr. Gilbert Alarid.

### TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Schocke moved to adjourn, second by Ms. Olivia Trujillo, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

	Approved by:
Respectively submitted by: Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer	Andres Romero, Chairperson