

Senior Center Committee Meeting January 8, 2019

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair, Meg Coffin, Dick Pinkes, Caroline Sullivan, Paul Johnson, Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters.

The meeting was called to order at 4 pm by Robin who welcomed four new members appointed by the City Manager. The next meeting was confirmed for Tuesday February 12th at 4 pm.

Operations: Amy and Patty reported on and discussed with the committee the following: A break-in occurred at the Senior Center on Thursday Jan. 3rd which resulted in broken equipment and glass as well as the loss of MABVI's computer which was in the lab; The Police are involved in addressing this incident and other security issues; Human Resources provided impact counseling for a group of 18 staff and co-locators; Staff continue to work with Police, Energy and Asset Management Division and co-locators to tighten security; Staff worked with the City's Diversity Officer and HHS Commissioner on implementing various changes in January to help maintain a welcoming ambience, improve safety of participants and streamline management; Changes involved fitness programs, card games, transportation, and tax aide; the transition has been easier for some more than others and issues are continuing to be addressed.

Finances: Amy and Patty reported on and discussed the following with the committee: The State Council on Aging (COA) contract has been signed, thus confirming an FY'19 increase of \$58,380; Various operational needs were presented to utilize the additional funds, budgeted as follows:

\$ 4354	Chinese Elder & Respite Group Coordinator
\$ 600	St. Paul's Elder Outreach
\$ 5537	Elder Services Nutrition Program
\$ 2700	Older Americans Month Fitness Vouchers
\$ 1500	Fitness equipment (e.g. balls, bands, weights)
\$ 5000	Fitness programs (Primetime Health-English/Vietnamese etc)
\$ 5355	Interpreters
\$ 494	Receptionist
\$ 3000	Outreach to elder housing etc.
\$ 5280	Lunchroom Chairs
\$ 150	Projection Screen
\$ 2040	Card Tables
\$ 2000	Lighting (ballasts)
\$ 1500	Senior Center Guidebooks
\$ 6768	Age/Dementia Friendly Initiative
\$ 1600	Walking Club incentives
\$ 2000	Picture Hanging system
\$ 1168	2% City Admin Fee
\$ 7334	Contingency
\$58380	Total

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The Senior Center Committee also approved a rental range for Amy to continue negotiations with a potential new tenant to provide personal fitness training for seniors. And, the Committee discussed the progress of plans for renovations as well as the development of the vacant building, as presented by Robin, Amy and Patty who are attending meetings with the City Manager and other departments.

Other Business: Paul brought to the Committee's attention, an editorial in the Telegram in which Roberta Schaeffer, former Director of the Regional Research Bureau, mentioned her decades old recommendation that the City should not be in the business of operating a senior center. If deemed necessary, a response will be presented to the City Manager.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.