

**CITY OF DUBLIN**  
**SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF May 6, 2010**

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Baron called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

**Roll Call:**

Committee Members (CM) Present: Martin Baron, Al Edge and Diane Bonetti

Absent: Tim Pedersen and Delilah Vanderpool

Parks and Community Services Commission Liaison Present: Rich Guarienti

Staff Present: Paul McCreary, Assistant Director of Parks and Community Services; Anna Hudson, Recreation Coordinator

**Oral Communications**

Chairperson Baron introduced the City Historian, Georgan Vonheeder-Leopold, who gave a brief overview of her background and presented her goals as Historian as follows.

- a. Need for official archives to obtain history
- b. Establish where to keep the archives
- c. Look for ways to obtain and gather historical information, photos and stories from seniors who lived in Dublin
- d. Continue to collaborate with Heritage Center Staff

The Committee Members discussed their interest in supporting the City Historian's goals and the oral histories program, by identifying volunteers who are interested in history, and gathering information from seniors through the interview process.

The Committee Members recommended that Ms. Vonheeder-Leopold make a presentation to the Dublin Senior Center Foundation to gain financial support as needed for the oral histories program.

Rich Guarienti suggested the Department look at the pricing for the activity fee. He recommended rounding the fee to the nearest \$1 so people did not have to be inconvenienced with finding change. He shared that for the Trail Trekkers program it was difficult for hike leaders to carry around change and that it would be easier to handle bills rather than change.

CM Baron suggested that Staff investigate the use of a punch card method, similar to the one used at the driving range.

**Approval of the Minutes**

The approval of the April minutes was deferred. There were not a minimum of three eligible Advisory Committee Members who attended the April 2010 meeting needed to approve the April minutes; CM Al Edge had not attended the last meeting and was not eligible to vote. Staff was asked to update the minutes as recommended. Changes were made by CM Baron in the second paragraph on Page 2 of 3 and requested that "awaited and anticipated" be added after "has been long"

**Written Communication – None**

**Unfinished Business - None**

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**New Business**

**2010 WINTER QUARTERLY REPORT**

Hudson gave a brief summary of the Winter Quarterly Report.

Guarienti commented that he was pleased to see changes in attendance listed on the Attendance Report attachment. He recommended Staff continue to explore ways to use volunteers to sustain existing services and create new programs and activities.

CM Baron stated that he thought the summary of the monthly activities was wonderful. He felt that the testimonial comments made by the patrons were a great addition to the report. He wanted Staff to continue to look for ways to increase attendance. He thought Melanie Triantos the new leader of the volunteer program is well-informed, and doing a great job. He wanted Staff to concentrate on the Ambassador Program to help promote the programs offered at the Senior Center. CM Baron asked Staff to include a narrative in future quarterly reports about how new programs were publicized through the Ambassador Program.

**SENIOR CENTER PROMOTIONAL BROCHURE**

The tri-fold brochure will be used by the Advisory Committee Members, Ambassadors and Greeters to help promote the Dublin Senior Center.

CM Bonetti stated the brochure draft looked great.

Guarienti recommended taking out the photos of the van trips, and reword the notation related to travel.

CM Baron thought that the overall information was good. He felt that the photo of the Bingo caller in the front of the brochure did not match the word "connect", and recommended selecting another photo to reflect the meaning.

**FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 BUDGET REDUCTIONS**

McCreary gave a brief report on the budget reductions planned for next Fiscal Year as outlined in the Staff report.

Guarienti agreed with Councilmember Biddle's statement during the City's budget hearing that people won't likely understand the changes until they are directly affected by the programs and services that were reduced.

CM Baron asked the current population of the City of Dublin. McCreary stated that is was about 46,000.

CM Bonetti asked about the reduced frequency of the newsletter and if the calendar section could be reduced in size by placing two or three calendars onto one page since it was viewed more as a planner.

CM Baron recommended looking for new ways for providing services, or share services with other agencies. He asked Staff to look for new ways to offer van trips, and be cost effective.

CM Bonetti asked if we were losing the existing cooking staff. McCreary reported that although the Senior Center will no longer have the cook for the daily lunch program, it is hoped that the cook will remain to prepare the meals for the 18 special luncheons planned for the year.

CM Edge asked if Staff had considered raising the supporter fees to make up for the loss in revenue. Staff stated that the entire supporter program will reviewed and overhauled during Fiscal Year 2010-2011 to provide more value for supporters and enhance revenue generation for the Senior Center.

Guarienti asked if there was a correlation between the fees charged to the true cost of the printing and mailing the newsletter. He shared that since many people have not purchased the plaques on the donor wall that he was not sure if the seniors would be supportive of any increase to the supporter fee. He wondered if the Foundation would be willing to support programs at the Dublin Senior Center, instead of only purchasing items for the Senior Center.

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Guarienti recommended Staff rely more on volunteers as a more cost effective way to sustain programs offered at the Senior Center, including the Trips and Tours Program. He shared that the Urban Explorers utilize volunteers to offer the trips; the volunteers visit the sites, select where to eat, and obtain travel information. He felt that other programs could utilize this as a model to provide more volunteer based activities. He said that the Urban Explorers have agreed to pay a \$5 fee to reimburse the expenses of the leader's BART tickets and meals.

Guarienti praised the City for a great job of minimizing the impact of the reduction and for not fully eliminating any program areas. He shared that the City has great Staff who are willing to go and beyond the call of duty to provide services to the senior community.

CM Baron addressed the "involvers", and explained that there should be a percentage of patrons who should be sought to become future volunteers. He urged Staff to look for ways and opportunities to urge patrons to become more involved, or risk losing programs.

Guarienti felt that the people who are actively volunteering should get some priority or special benefits over people who are not active. He stated that "to get something, you need to give something back."

Guarienti recommended raising the supporter fee and provide discounts for those becoming a supporter. He also recommended revisiting the Saturday Program to see if it is really serving seniors who can not make it to the Senior Center on weekdays.

CM Bonetti asked if the intergenerational event discussed with the Youth Advisory Committee will be still offered. McCreary said it is still in the budget. CM Bonetti shared that the teens seemed thrilled to work together to provide a joint event with the seniors.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

McCreary will be creating a Power Point presentation for the Advisory Committee on its Annual Report to the Parks and Community Services Commission and the City Council.

McCreary said he will draft a presentation based on the input of all Committee Members, and will present the draft to the Advisory Committee in July. All Advisory Committee Members should plan to participate in one or more sections of the oral report at the night of the City Council meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

CM Edge gave a report on behalf of the Foundation. The Foundation is trying to obtain at least one Fireworks Booth this year in partnership with the Women's Club and Lion's Club. CM Edge reported the Foundation agreed to sponsor \$100 in prizes for the Picnic at the Park bingo activity.

Guarienti gave a brief report on behalf of the Parks and Community Services Commission. Guarienti reiterated his request that Staff add an item on the progress of the Ride Match Program to the next agenda.

Guarienti commented that the Senior Center Volunteer Luncheon went well and that the Trail Trekkers had three tables full of volunteer hike leaders in attendance. He recommended attending the new Heritage Center exhibit to learn about Dublin's Minnie Martin.

CM Baron reported that he was disappointed on the lack of attendance at the Senior Assistance Workshop that was held at the Dublin Senior Center in late April. Staff reported that flyers were made and posted at the Senior Center, and announcements were also made by greeters to several classes.

CM Baron reviewed the Parks Commission presentation schedule. Instead of CM Bonetti, CM Edge will cover the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. CM Vanderpool acknowledged that she will attend the June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

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**Adjournment**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11: 45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Anna Hudson Recreation Coordinator

APPROVED:

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Martin Baron  
Chairperson