

## **MINUTES**

# IRVINE SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2022 Lakeview Senior Center 20 Lake Road Irvine, CA 92604

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Irvine Senior Citizens Council (Senior Council) was called to order at 9:01 a.m. on May 19, 2022, in the Lakeview Senior Center, 20 Lake Road, Irvine, California; Chair Sandlin presiding.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: 6 Senior Council Member Amal Baradehi

Senior Council Member Senior Council Member Greta Jacobs
Senior Council Member Myung Suh
Vice Chair Rachel Owens
Chair Bill Sandlin

Absent: 1 Senior Council Member Patti Ragland

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senior Council Member Suh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **COVID-19 HEALTH ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sandra Salcedo, Community Services Superintendent, read the COVID-19 public health announcement.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

Amber Castrey, Community Services Supervisor, introduced the following new staff:

- Nancy Enriquez, Community Services Leader III Volunteer Program
- Jason Boykin, Community Services Program Specialist Facility Operations

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDIZED ITEMS**

There were none.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS – NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS**

Doug Elliott, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition of repealing the vaccination requirement for in-person dining in the Congregate Meals Program, scheduled for City Council consideration at its May 24 meeting.

## STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Denise Bennett-Arabatzis, Community Services Supervisor, announced the following:

- As announced at the April Senior Council meeting, item 6.1 on the May 24 City Council agenda is a recommended action to remove proof of COVID-19 vaccination requirement to participate in the Congregate Meals Program.
- The City is launching the Irvine Transit Vision Study to define community transportation needs and determine additional transit needs beyond City's existing iShuttle and bus routes. Proposed options are available for review, and community input will be accepted at the Great Park Visitors Center on Saturday, May 21 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Information on the study and options for feedback can be found on the project website at *cityofirvine.org/transitvision*.
- The City's inaugural Pride in Irvine event will be held on Sunday, May 22 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Civic Center Piazza. The event will feature the raising of the Progress Flag in honor of Harvey Milk Day and local organizations representing the LGBTQ+ community will provide educational activities and information. The event is free and light refreshments will be served.

Supervisor Castrey announced the following:

- The Northwood Memorial Committee will host its annual Northwood Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony on Sunday, May 29 at 4 p.m. This free event will feature guest speakers Jim and Carla Hogan, Gold Star parents of Lance Corporal Donald J. Hogan, who lost his life while serving in Afghanistan. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and/or blankets for seating.
- The City will host its annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 30 at 10 a.m. in the Colonel Bill Barber Marine Corps Memorial Park Rose Garden. A 2/11 Marine Battalion Commanding Officer will serve as guest speaker to honor family and friends of those who died in the line of duty. Cards will also be available for attendees to send messages of appreciation to members of Irvine's adopted 2/11 Marine Battalion.
- The Sizzlin' Summer Concert Series will kick off on July 9 with six free family-friendly concerts offered through August 14. Concerts will start at 5:30 p.m. at Mike Ward Community Park-Woodbridge. Bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets for first-come, first-served seating on the lawn. Reserved seating can be purchased for \$20 by registering at *yourirvine.org*.

## SENIOR COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

Senior Council Member Jacobs announced:

- The Irvine Global Village Steering Committee will have its first meeting at 6 p.m. on May 25.
- Senior Center Open House events were well attended.

• The Irvine Multicultural Association Exploring Our World-Mexico event was successful.

## Vice Chair Owens announced:

- The Ryan Lemmon Foundation Annual Showcase will be held May 20 through 22, highlighting 212 graduating seniors from 64 high schools.
- Has secured tote bags for the Friends of Outreach holiday gift bag program.

## Senior Council Member Chang announced:

• Irvine Multicultural Association-Exploring Our World event will be held on July 13 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at Lakeview Senior Center and will focus on China.

## Chair Sandlin announced:

 A new Gold Star Flag will be added to the Northwood Memorial during the May 29 Memorial Day event.

#### **ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

There were no additions or deletions.

#### 1. COMMITTEE/GROUP/AGENCY REPORTS

## 1.1 Senior Services Support/Interest Groups

A. EKTAA Center: South Asian Senior Association (SASA)

Priti Singh, SASA Chair, reported the following;

- Thanked Senior Council and staff for continued support of SASA programs.
- Recent SASA Senior Social was successful with attendance by Mayor and some Senior Council Members.
- SASA was the recipient of a \$500 City Council Community Grant.
- SASA will be hosting a lunch meeting on May 27, all are welcome.
- SASA now offers free weekly dance classes at the Lakeview Senior Center, and is working to offer free technology education classes at the EKTAA Center.
- SASA offers a variety of free classes via the Zoom platform.

## B. Friends of Outreach (FOO)

Kathleen Pfeiffer, President, reported the following:

- Thank you to Vice Chair Owens for committing bags for holiday gift bag program; may need 300 for this year versus last year's 250.
- FOO has arranged for a restaurant fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen on May 25
- C. Irvine Adult Day Health Services, Inc. No report.

## D. Irvine Evergreen Chinese Senior Association (IECSA)

Esther Hsiao, IECSA Vice President and Secretary, reported the following:

- IECSA was also a recipient of a \$500 City Council Community Grant.
- IECSA's monthly meeting will be held on May 21 and will include educational program, socialization, and a performance by the 30-member Irvine Senior Harmonica Band.
- The IECSA community was affected by the recent shooting at the Laguna Woods Taiwanese Church; many members attended the prayer vigil in support of neighboring residents.
- E. NEDA-Association of Iranian American Seniors No report.

## 1.2 Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council-Affiliated Committees

A. Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council (SCAC)

Vice Chair Owens provided a handout of notes taken at the May 13 SCAC meeting, and reported the following items of note:

- Senate Bill 1345 is legislation in support of data sharing across disciplines for seniors seeking assistance.
- The County's iPad program is in effect with devices being distributed; County seeking additional funding to continue program past current cycle.
- Drivers with handicap designation are still required to display a transponder when using toll roads.

Senior Council Member Suh reported Mental Health Awareness was also discussed at the May 13 SCAC meeting with suicide rate among older adults on the rise. An overview of warning signs and prevention tips were shared.

## B. Wellbeing Reimagined

Senior Council Members Baradehi and Chang reported Natalie Basmaciyan, Homeless Coordinator for Newport Beach, provided a presentation on the Be Well OC Initiative and all the services offered through this program.

## C. Housing/Transportation

Senior Council Member Chang reported updates on the 91 freeway toll road improvements and shared about discounts that are available to seniors.

## D. Senior Citizens Engagement

Senior Council Member Suh provided a handout of notes taken at the May 16 meeting, and reported the following:

- Jackie Wiley, Targeted Outreach Specialist from California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation, provided a presentation on Financial Fraud and Abuse, and reviewed areas of special concern for seniors and steps to take to avoid or report fraud. Senior Council Member Suh suggested this presentation be offered to Irvine seniors.
- The Digital Divide Subcommittee confirmed distribution of 1,200 iPads throughout the county has been completed and a program survey is being devised. Irvine received 135 devices, and distribution was handled by the county, not the City.
- A county survey identified four areas of concern:
  - o Digital divide
  - Disability
  - Insecurity
  - Social isolation and loneliness

Chair Sandlin provided a handout describing types of online attacks frequently used by hackers.

## 1.3 Senior Citizens Council Committees

## A. Facilities Committee

Senior Council Member Jacobs reported the following Lakeview Senior Center updates:

- New laminate flooring has been installed in the café.
- 250 new chairs have been received for the congregate meal program.
- Exercise equipment for Geezer's Gulch has been received but not yet installed.
- Temperature control issues have come up throughout the building and during certain programs/activities.

## Chair Sandlin reported:

- New carpeting was installed in all areas of the Lakeview Senior Center except in the auditorium.
- Rancho Senior Center lighting upgrades are still pending due to parts.

## Senior Council Member Suh reported:

- Pending projects at Lakeview Senior Center are replacement of outdoor freezer and carpeting on the stairs in the auditorium.
- There is no proposal for special budget items being requested for Fiscal Year 2023-24.
- Requested a working timeline be created to provide at-a-glance updates on projects.
- B. Nutrition Committee No report
- C. Senior Plan for Aging No report.

## 2. COUNCIL BUSINESS

## 2.1 MINUTES

ACTION: Moved by Vice Chair Owens, seconded by Senior Council Member Jacobs, and unanimously carried by those members present (Senior Council Member Ragland absent) to approve the minutes of the Irvine Senior Citizens Council regular meeting held April 21, 2022.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Vice Chair Owens, seconded by Senior Council Member Jacobs, and carried by those members present to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

CHAIR

Athena Martinez

**Recording Secretary** 

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