



# MINUTES

## IRVINE SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**February 16, 2023**  
**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 a.m. on February 16, 2023, in the Homer Guimond Studio, Lakeview Senior Center, 20 Lake Road, Irvine, California; Chair Sandlin presiding.

### ROLL CALL

Present:	5	Senior Council Member	Greta Jacobs
		Senior Council Member	Patti Ragland
		Senior Council Member	Myung Suh
		Vice Chair	Rachel Owens
		Chair	Bill Sandlin
Absent:	1	Senior Council Member	Amal Baradehi

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Sandlin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### PARTICIPATION IN SENIOR COUNCIL MEETING

Denise Bennett-Arabatzis, Community Services Supervisor, provided instructions on how to participate in the Senior Council meeting for those attending via Zoom or in person.

### 1. PRESENTATIONS

#### *1.1 Distinguished Service Awards*

**1.1.1** Senior Council Member Ragland presented this award to Jo Anne Varney for her dedicated service as a volunteer in the Elderly Nutrition Program and Friends of Outreach Bingo Program.

**1.1.2** Chair Sandlin presented this posthumous award to wife of Erich Pfeiffer for his dedicated service as a volunteer in the computer lab and with the Irvine Multicultural Association (IMA).

**1.1.3** Senior Council Member Jacobs presented this award to Kathleen Pfeiffer for her dedicated service as a volunteer in various capacities within Senior Services, including Friends of Outreach, IMA, International Crafters, and Crochet-teers.

**1.1.4** Vice Chair Owens presented this posthumous award to family of Peter Chan, for his dedicated service as a volunteer in various capacities within Senior Services, including with the Keen Center for Senior Resources and Irvine Evergreen Chinese Senior Association.

## **1.2 Irvine Global Village Festival 2022 Recap**

Wendy Brown, Human Resources Administrator, and Karena Lee, Community Services Superintendent, presented and responded to Senior Council inquiries.

Discussion included:

- History of event with origins from IMA senior community
- Attendance (25,000 attendees) and event size returned to pre-pandemic numbers
- Planning and implementation - 250 volunteers contributed over 1,000 volunteer hours day of festival through IGV Planning Committee (81 members)
- Change in event lead from Wendy Brown to Karena Lee
- How to volunteer in planning and implementation of event
- 91% satisfaction rate among event attendees

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDIZED ITEMS**

There were no requests to speak.

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

Hallie Stohler-Plaza, Charitable Ventures, spoke about the development of a five-year strategic plan for seniors in partnership with the City of Irvine Senior Services.

## **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Bennett-Arabatzis made the following additional announcements:

- A Table Tennis Tournament is scheduled for March 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Rancho Senior Center. All teams are guaranteed three games; doubles play only. Registration required, and all player names must be submitted at time of registration. Fee is \$10 per team.

- The Spring into Health Fitness Challenge will be held from May 1 through June 9. Sign up for this six-week challenge where the more you exercise, the more opportunities you have to win prizes. Participants receive a weekly e-newsletter featuring fitness-related educational topics, healthy recipes, and more. Register by May 1 to receive the first Challenge Card. Fee is \$10.
- The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax assistance, free of charge, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low-to-moderate income. Services are provided by a team of trained and certified volunteers at Lakeview Senior Center every Wednesday, from February 8 through April 12. For additional information, or to make an appointment, contact the Keen Center for Senior Resources at 949-724-6926.

## **SENIOR COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES**

Chair Sandlin shared he has been visiting senior centers in nearby cities and noticed various centers offer excursions and trips for seniors.

## **2. COMMITTEE/GROUP/AGENCY REPORTS**

### ***2.1 Senior Services Support/Interest Groups***

#### ***2.1.1 Ektaa Center: South Asian Senior Association (SASA)***

Preeti Singh, SASA Chair, reported the following:

- The group continues to meet twice per month offering dance classes and other programming for seniors.
- Valentine's Day event had good participation.
- SASA looks forward to continuing to provide programs and resources for seniors.

#### ***2.1.2 Friends of Outreach***

Kathleen Pfeiffer, President, reported the following:

- A restaurant fundraiser is scheduled for February 28 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at El Pollo Loco, located in the Gelson's Shopping Center.

#### ***2.1.3 Irvine Adult Day Health Services, Inc. – No report.***

#### ***2.1.4 Irvine Evergreen Chinese Senior Association (IECSA)***

Christine Chung, Director, reported the following:

- Expressed concern about conflict among members related to the various regional politics in China and has brainstormed how to best handle these situations.
- Memorial service for Peter Chen to be held on Saturday, February 18 at 2 p.m. at Lakeview Senior Center.

### **2.1.5 Irvine Korean Adult League (IKAL)**

Amber Castrey, Community Services Supervisor, reported IKAL will launch a Karaoke sing-along program on March 3.

### **2.1.6 NEDA-Association of Iranian American Seniors (NEDA)**

Nasser Fathi, President, reported the following:

- The February 16 program will begin at 5:30 p.m. featuring live music, dancing, and poetry reading.
- The Nowruz Persian New Year event will be held on March 16 at 6 p.m. at Lakeview Senior Center; invitation extended to Senior Council.
- NEDA's weekly meetings occur each Tuesday from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and are averaging 40 attendees.

## **2.2 Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council-Affiliated Committees**

### **2.2.1 Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council (SCAC)**

Vice Chair Owens reported the February 10 meeting included reviews of the Brown Act and Office on Aging programs.

### **2.2.2 Wellbeing Reimagined**

Vice Chair Owens reported the February 15 meeting included a presentation on the Master Plan on Aging database. Efforts continue to ensure distribution of the *Answers* publication, suggesting Charitable Ventures distribute at all City of Irvine's senior plan community meetings.

### **2.2.3 Housing/Transportation**

Senior Council Member Ragland reported the February 9 meeting included a presentation on the following Orange County Transportation Authority senior transportation programs:

- Senior Mobility Program
- Senior Non-Emergency Medical Service
- Transit Training
- Reduced fares on OC Buses
- OC 211
- Go Go Grandparent

SCAC Committees to resume meeting in-person beginning in March.

### **2.2.4 Senior Citizens Engagement**

Chair Sandlin reported the January 23 meeting included a presentation by Senior Assembly Member Mark Cox on Caregiving: Grandparents Support, which is a guardian adoption process whereby grandparents adopt their

grandchildren and how this impacts seniors and their families. Other topics discussed were:

- Presentation topics for 2023
- The need for volunteers to chair committees
- Pending legislation affecting seniors
- Senior Rally Day will be held on May 2
- Orange County Annual Senior Summit date yet to be determined

Senior Council Member Suh reported additional information on the Caregiving: Grandparents Support program and the need for further evaluation.

## **2.3 Senior Citizens Council Committees**

**2.3.1 Facilities Subcommittee** – No report.

### **2.3.2 Nutrition Subcommittee**

Vice Chair Owens reported the February 7 meeting included:

- Updates from Age Well Services and Nutrition Program statistics; no-shows for lunch reservations are at 20%
- Positive feedback received for new vendor, Zest in a Bowl
- Rose Garden Café is still not at capacity; waiting for City Council to make decision on the vaccination policy.
- Upcoming themed events are the Mother’s Day and Memorial Day luncheons

### **2.3.3 Strategic Plan for Aging Subcommittee**

Senior Council Member Ragland reported the February 8 meeting included:

- A review of subcommittee’s purpose
- Updates provided on County’s Elder Abuse Prevention and Social Engagement programs
- Review of goal areas and accomplishments
- Charitable Ventures selected as consultant for Senior Services Strategic Plan

## **ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

There were no additions or deletions.

## **3. COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **3.1 MINUTES**

**ACTION: Moved by Vice Chair Owens, seconded by Senior Council Member Ragland, and unanimously carried by those members present to approve the minutes of the Irvine Senior Citizens Council regular meeting held January 19, 2023.**

**END OF COUNCIL BUSINESS**

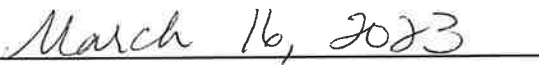
Inquiry made regarding Senior Council vacancy; City Council approved appointment at its February 14 meeting and new member will be onboarded.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Senior Council Member Jacobs, seconded by Senior Council Member Ragland, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular Senior Council meeting at 10:26 a.m.**

  
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CHAIR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Athena Martinez  
Recording Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved