



MINUTES
North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission
January 27, 2020 | 3:00 PM
Hays Center

The Senior Citizens Commission meeting was called to order by Robert Barnes at 3:00 PM.

Present were: Jim Lewis, Dorothy Romes, Dick Giddings, Robert Barnes, Belinda Snow, and Marleene Calvin, Beth White and Ed Coleman. Dick Blankenbeker had an excused absence. Robert Barnes chaired the meeting.

A motion was made by Ed Coleman to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Lewis. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Bernadette Rhodes gave a financial overview, reporting that financials are in good order. The Hays Center's annual revenue ended at 93% of projections. The shortfall was due to rental income and PILOT funds coming in lower than projected. A Senior Citizens Outreach CD at Simmons Bank has been moved to AFCU. Bus funds are saved for the grant but we have not heard back from ARDOT. We are expecting to hear by the end of March. A motion was made by Dick Giddings to accept the financial report. The motion was seconded by Belinda Snow. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Rhodes gave a program update, including a review of her staff report to the Mayor. The program memo and staff report are enclosed below. The Hays Center's number of active members continues to increase and daily attendance is growing. The Senior Citizens Hall of Fame is currently accepting nominations, which will be sent to the Commission and Senior Citizens Outreach board for consideration. Mr. Giddings suggested a plaque honoring Eddie Powell will be hung near the North Door from the stair overhang. Mr. Rhodes will research options.

The Hays Center and BGC Advantage, the new manager of the senior housing facilities, have come to an agreement on the contract for resident services. The contract will now go to City Council for approval.

Ms. Rhodes gave a facility and equipment update. The exterior of the building is in the process of being sealed to prevent discoloration for the future. She plans to work with Taggart Architects on the ballroom renovation and front desk remodel and is waiting on a quote. The aerobics pool's HVAC system is up to \$15,000 in repairs. Staff is working to put out a bid for a new system. The pool deck in the aerobics pool continues to hold water and causes discoloration. Mr. Coleman suggested switching to a concrete deck instead of tile. Purple seating in the gallery started to tear at the seams. The furniture company replaced at no cost and allowed us to keep the defective furniture as well. Still talks about wifi and IT pulling together numbers to see what the cost will be. Commission also requested that staff reach out to Danny Dillon with the City to check on the safety of our speed/stop bumps at the front entrance.

Open Comments:

Billy Gosvener: We need an American flag for the Governor's Council meetings. Ms. Rhodes advised that the Ballroom flag was used for the meeting, but is a bit too tall. Will order a smaller sized flag/pole for the meeting room.

Harold Davis & Doris Glover: Mr. Davis stated he has been a member for 2 years and had an incident in the aerobics pool. He uses goggles to do underwater breathing exercises. Another female member told him he needed to go into the lap pool. Mr. Davis stated that the women object to him and he did not like the way he was spoken to. He has been doing this for two years. Ms. Glover stated that Mr. Davis sits underwater to practice lung exercises and does not disturb anyone. Ms. Rhodes will schedule a meeting between Mr. Davis and the instructor.

Ed Coleman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marleene Calvin seconded. Robert Barnes adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm.

Minutes approved by Senior Citizens Commission at February 24, 2020 meeting.

Memo To: North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission
From: Bernadette Gunn Rhodes
Memo Date: January 22, 2020

We are galloping into this decade at full speed. Last Monday, Jan. 13th, 666 people checked in to the Hays Center – higher than any single day last year. We have given countless tours and welcomed 93 new members so far this month.

Average attendance in the last four weeks has been up 4% compared to the previous four weeks, and up 3.5% compared to the same period the previous year. We logged an average of 2,654 visits per week in 2019 compared to 2,420 in 2018 (10% increase). 487 members visited the Center on an average weekday in 2019. We had 3,544 active members in December. That is a net gain of 60 members over the previous month.

Financial Update

We ended 2019 having spent all but \$29,344 of our budget. We still have two open 2019 P.O.s, one for sealing the building exterior (\$7,909) and one for fitness equipment (\$14,262). That totals \$22,171 and means we did a great job planning out our 2019 expenditures! I am happy with how wisely we, with your guidance, have used our money to serve our members and keep the building in great shape.

Program Update

Our Christmas luncheon was a lot of fun, we had live music and lots of fun giveaways, all provided by our sponsors.

We have plenty of fun events planned for 2020, including expanded Black History Month programming. I have included a Black History Month flyer and our list of 2020 events in your packet.

The NLR Senior Citizens Hall of Fame is coming up this March. We are currently accepting nominations. Please feel free to submit a nomination and encourage others to do so! I have included the nomination form in your packet.

At our meeting I hope to share an update from the City Attorney's office on the contracts for the Hays Center to provide resident services to the senior housing tenants at Hickory View, Cedar Gardens, Maple Place, and Oak View.

Transportation Update

All our December statistics are in the mayor's staff report in your packet. We are still waiting to hear about the ARDOT grant for the wheelchair-accessible van.

Facility Update

We have received the two new "SciFit" total body trainers and Keiser seated butterfly weight machine for the 2nd floor workout area and are awaiting delivery of the seated elliptical.

We are having the exterior of the building sealed.

I am awaiting a quote from Taggart's interior designer to help us plan a 2020 ballroom renovation and explore options for relocating our front desk to improve the ambience and security of the entryway.

Regarding our Aerobic Pool's DesertAire HVAC unit, in Nov-Dec we had \$1,678 in repair expenses. That puts our 2019 repair cost at \$15,761. In 2018, we spent \$10,997 repairing the unit. Bruce has been working with the commercial HVAC vendors and some have suggested switching to a PoolPak unit, which is comparable to DesertAire but can be assembled on-site, which would save us approx. \$100,000 and not require us to take down a wall to install it. Bruce is doing due diligence on the brand before we put it out to bid.

More good news: We discovered a manufacturing flaw on the seams of the purple seats in the gallery, and the manufacturer replaced them all for free and let us keep the old ones. Free furniture!

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, January 27th.

Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center and Mayor's Office of Volunteer Services Monthly Report – December 2019

Member Statistics

- Our members logged 9,026 visits to the Hays Center (83 less than last month, but 601 more than Dec. '18).
- 67 new members joined the Hays Center this month for a total of 3,544 active members (60 more active members than last month and 224 more than Dec. '18).
- New member demographics:
 - 58 new "Core Hours" members, 9 new "Extended Hours" members.
 - 22 African American, 44 Caucasian, 1 other/unknown.
 - 43 females, 23 males, 1 other/unknown.
 - 24 from North Little Rock, 43 from outside NLR.
 - The youngest member to join this month was 50. The oldest was 87.

Deposits

- \$ 2,795.00 in new member fees
- \$ 9,091.98 in renewal fees
- \$ 3,150.00 in rental fees
- \$ 512.00 in trip fees
- \$ 2,192.00 in lunch/event/activity fees
- \$ 253.00 in other revenue
- **\$ 17,993.98 Total (↑ 39% over last month)**

Activities (Susan Russell)

- The Hays Center painters displayed their art in the gallery.
- The staff hosted a Christmas luncheon for 115 members.
- Southern Bancorp gave a presentation on fraud prevention for seniors.

Facility (Bruce Vang)

- Bulkhead change in aerobics pool filter.

- Fixed Octane RX6000 seat and 2 Sic-fit Pro2 seat posts.
- Installed new Keiser butterfly machine.
- Finished quote for A/V upgrade for exercise room.
- Put up another shelf in storage room in aerobics pool for cleaning supplies.
- Replaced parts on Keiser machine and checked all exercise equipment.
- Worked with PowerClean Pros on waterproofing building exterior.
- Continued to install LED light panels throughout the building.

Trips (Chera Sbait)

- We provided 17 trips, transporting a total of 83 people and collecting a total of \$574 in trip fees.
- Hays Center day trips went to Pine Bluff and Hot Springs for Christmas lights, Des Arc, and Searcy for lunch & bingo.
- Public senior housing residents traveled to medical appointments (21 riders), grocery stores (3 riders).
- After bus driver wages, the program netted -\$479. Fuel cost information is not yet available.

Rentals (Angela Wirt)

- 2 paid rentals, including NLRFD Christmas Party at reduced rate.
- Total rental income: \$250 (\$225 rental fees, \$25 retained deposits).

Mayor's Office of Volunteer Services (Angela Wirt)

- Hays Center volunteers reported 1,032 hours this month.
- Received 0 new volunteer applications.