



SENIORS COMMISSION

Quality Services for a Quality Community

MEMBERS

Joan Alam, Vice Chair
Trudy Bower
Chair, Jim Levande
Robert Nelson
Kenneth Wirth
Mark Meadows
Babette Krause
Brittany Pazdan

City Council Liaison

Lisa Babcock

Staff Liaison

Kelly Arndt
(517) 337-1113

PRIME TIME SENIORS' PROGRAM

819 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

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MEETING MINUTES

October 4, 2021 - 1:30 p.m.

East Lansing Hannah Community Center
819 bot Road, East Lansing

1) Call to Order and Roll Call

Levande called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Absent: Trudy Bower

Liaisons present: Director Kelly Arndt

2) Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2021, Commission Meeting

Meadows moved that the minutes be approved. Krause supported.

3) Approval of Agenda

Meadows moved that the agenda be approved, Alam supported.

4) Commission Chair Comments – Levande

Director's Report – Kelly Arndt

Arndt welcomed Darcy Schmitt, Senior Planner for the City of East Lansing and Sue Vincent from Provision Living.

Our newsletter was recently mailed out. Although all of the classes are full only about half of our members have returned. As of 9/30/21 we have 357 active members. 365 people have not yet renewed their membership and/or returned to the center. We continue to send out weekly notifications to members whose memberships have expired. They are telling us they will renew their membership when they come back, however the pandemic numbers need to get much better. Before the pandemic we had 792 members. Year-to-date with a budget of \$437,280 we are \$13,000 in the red.

Meadows requested demographic information on the current membership.

Meadows requested the commission be involved in the budget process this year so they may better understand it, and advocate for our needs.

Krause asked about the 1:30 commission meeting time instead of the 1:00 time. We had moved the time a while back from 1:00 to 1:30 to meet a commissioner's availability, but it isn't a concern any longer, so the commission agreed to go back to 1:00 time moving forward. Meadows made the motion, Krause supported, unanimous support by the commission.

Last month we were able to help one of our members, a retired veteran, with the expense to repair his car. A local resident by the name of Ron Springer put us in contact with the Veterans Administration who repaired his car.

Marcia VanNess will be appointed to the Senior Commission to fill the last couple of months of House's term.

A) City Council Liaison Report – Lisa Babcock - No Report

B) Age-Friendly Communities – Dr. Levande

Levande reported the Age-Friendly Communities Steering Committee will be meeting next month so there is no report at this time.

5) New Business

A) Provision Living: Darcy Schmitt, the Senior Planner from the Planning Department shared the floor plans for the Provision Living Facility on Chandler Road. There are 106 units: 65 units in the assisted living area with four levels of care. When it is time for the resident to transition into another level of care the staff will help with this transition.

Memory Care has 19 units. The Villas for independent living (1500 sq. ft.), will have 22 units, and are independent living which will not be offered for another 2 years or so. Respite care will also be offered on site for a minimum of four weeks. Sue, from Provision Living shared there is a “community fee” of \$10,000 that residents pay upfront which covers live entertainment, holiday parties, updates in the gym that the residents ask for, and supply costs. It's a one-time fee. There is a technology feature built into the apartments called “foresight,” which is a heat sensor monitor that measures the resident's daily activity. It monitors whether the resident is sleeping at night, or not following their normal routine. In the Villas this is a option for residents to have or not. It is more of a safety function for assisted living and memory care. There is a registered nurse that monitors all of this data, and if there is an issue, they will alert the doctor. They are pet friendly. A meal plan is available to all residents, for one meal a day or more. The kitchen is open from 7 a.m. to 7.p.m.. A Bistro will be opened outside these times for those who would like to eat beyond the kitchen time. Provision Living has been in existence for 17 years.

Villas for Independent Living are planned for Phase II which won't be happening for a couple years. Two Villas are attached together, but standalone from the larger assisted living building.

Assisted Living Bedroom A is 530 sq ft. (1- bedroom and 1 bath)

Assisted Living Bedroom B is 740 sq. ft. (2-bedroom, 1 bath)

Assisted Living Bedroom C is 825 sq. ft. (2-bedrooms, 2 baths)

Memory Care (all are Studios apartments at 380 sq. ft.) \$3,800 a month

Arndt asked about how the recent housing survey related to local housing needs. Schmitt offered to provide this information to the commission at a later date. She will forward the data to the director in the meantime.

B) Supportive Service Resource List

Commissioner Wirth asked that this item be placed on the agenda. For the most part, the yearly updated Senior Preference Guide is a very thorough local resource guide we send to individuals who need support in a variety of areas such as Emergency Services, Support Groups, independent and assisted living options, transportation, etc. The Tri-County Office of Services to the Aging Resource Guide which is available online is also very

thorough. When we created a list of contractors that local seniors refer to us, a background check is facilitated by the East Lansing Police Department and when approved go on the list for others to access if they need a particular job done. This list was not to replace the TCOAs or Senior Preferences Resource List, but to augment them. It was decided to discontinue this as our staffing is limited and the liability of sending people out to other homes is not preferable.

7) Old Business:

The chair was asked whether he had heard anything from council on the letter from the commission regarding the curb-cut issue at the location of Newman Lofts. Arndt indicated she had a letter written by one of the residents asking for clarification on why they couldn't have a curb-cut installed. The commission ask that I send them the letter via email. We will follow-up with this next month.

8) Announcements

9) Adjournment

Krause made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Meadows supported.

Levande adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m. The next Senior Commission meeting will be held on November 1, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.