

MISSION:

To support Senior Citizens in Elgin Township remaining independent and to age in place.

VISION STATEMENT:

The vision of the Elgin Township Committee on Seniors is to recommend distribution, with accountability, designated property tax dollars via a service contract process with social service organizations that support and advocate for vulnerable Elgin Township residents, age 55 and over, on a needs basis with the purpose to provide the means to age in place and maintain a quality of life.

The regular meeting of the Elgin Township Committee on Seniors was held on December 27, 2018, in the Board Room (first floor) of the Elgin Township Building. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rich Jacobs at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Jim Fox, Ginny Goyer, Rich Jacobs, Jerri McCue, and Mary Roberti were present. William Baker and Jane Barbosa were absent. Quorum was established. Trustee Vern Tepe was present as the Board liaison. Franklin Ramirez, Elgin Township Supervisor, attended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Beth McClory from Senior Services Associates, Inc. was present at the request of Betty Schoenholtz, former Executive Director of Senior Services Associates, Inc., to explain the ballot wording and to clarify the intent of the Elgin Township Senior Referendum. Beth distributed a packet of information to each committee member which contained information that promoted the referendum. It was noted that twelve (12) local agencies supported the need for the referendum and helped in its promotion.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Jerri McCue moved to have the minutes of the November 29, 2018, regular meeting of the Committee on Seniors approved as presented. Jim Fox seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0-0.

RESIGNATIONS

Chairperson Rich Jacobs notified the Committee that William Baker and Jane Barbosa had submitted their resignation notices to Franklin Ramirez, Elgin Township Supervisor. Their resignations were accepted. Neither William Baker nor Jane Barbosa were present.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Open Meetings Act Committee Member Certification: Rich Jacobs confirmed that all Committee members had completed their certification.
2. Discussion on Committee Members Research on Seniors: No additional information was presented.
3. Discussion of Implementing Mission and Vision of the Committee on Seniors: Jerri McCue asked for clarification for the use of the property tax money as outlined in the Referendum. Is the money to be spent on services that are to be provided (owned) by the Elgin Township or is the money to be distributed to local agencies that serve seniors? Vern Tepe noted that there was consternation as to whether services were to be Township driven or agency driven. He specified that historically, the business model of the Elgin Township was to allocate money to local agencies and not directly to provide services by the Township. Franklin Ramirez repeated his expectations for the Committee:
 - Phase 1 – Gather data to determine what services currently are being provided to the seniors
 - Phase 2 – Develop a list of services that are needed but not provided (i.e., identify gaps)
 - Phase 3 – Determine if the Committee should request agencies to fulfill specific services (push) or let agencies determine the needed services and ask for funding from the Committee (pull)

With this background, it was noted that our mission's goal is to support senior citizens in remaining independent and to age in place. The idea of a survey was tabled based on cost and effectiveness.

For the next meeting in January, Rich Jacobs, in lieu of a survey, agreed to review statistical information from both Senior Services Associates, Inc. and the Northeast Illinois Agency on Aging. Committee members were asked to create a list of services that are needed to age in place and to email their lists to Rich Jacobs by January 24, for compilation. Applications for funding also are to be reviewed.

4. Appointments to Committee on Seniors: It was agreed that: 1) the four (4) open committee positions should be filled; and 2) any new members would have to agree to the current Mission and Vision Statements and continue the work in progress. Franklin Ramirez agreed to review the applications on file, call applicants to confirm interest, and discern the need to post the open positions to attract new applicants.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Committee on Seniors 2019 Meeting Schedule: Jim Fox moved that the following meeting schedule, as presented by Rich Jacobs, be approved. Jerri McCue seconded the motion. The schedule was approved 5-0-0.
Thursday, January 31 (Note: This is the 5th Thursday of the month.)
Thursday, February 28
Thursday, March 28
Thursday, April 25
Thursday, May 23
Thursday, June 27
Thursday, July 25
Thursday, August 22
Thursday, September 26
Thursday, October 24
Thursday, November 28
Thursday, December 26

All meeting times remain at 4:00pm, and meetings will continue to take place in the Board Room (first floor) of the Elgin Township offices.

Noting that Thursday, November 28, is Thanksgiving Day, Jim Fox moved to amend the schedule to change the November date to November 21. Jerri McCue seconded the motion. The amended schedule was approved 5-0-0.

2. Election of new Vice Chair and/or point person: The Committee agreed to wait to elect a new Vice Chair until a full committee was in place. If Chairperson Rich Jacobs is unavailable to conduct a meeting, he will appoint a current member to act in his place.
3. Review of Elgin Township Government's Prescription Drug Assistance Program: Rich Jacobs distributed the current application for the Committee's review. Note: the dates to apply for the 2019 voucher were November 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. This program is now funded under the Senior Services Referendum. Discussion will take place at the next meeting.
4. Discussion of proposed new Elgin Township Government's Utility Bill Assistance Program: The Committee was asked to consider a new program to help cover utility costs; and, if considered, what the process would be.
5. Miscellaneous Business: No miscellaneous business was presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next general meeting of the Committee on Seniors is scheduled for Thursday, January 31, 2019, 4:00pm at the Township offices, 729 S McLean Blvd., Elgin Illinois 60123

ADJOURNMENT

Jim Fox moved to adjourn, seconded by Ginny Goyer. Motion carried 5-0-0. Time was 5:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Roberti.

Mary Roberti, Secretary

Date

Elgin Township Committee on Seniors
Meeting of December 27, 2018 Minutes
continued

Rich Jacobs, Chairperson

Date

James Fox

Date

Ginny Goyer

Date

Jerri McCue

Date