

Senior Resources Commission  
Dickinson Hall  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 9, 2017**

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Steven Potsic opened the meeting at 1:06pm

2. **Roll Call:**

**Commission Members**

Steven Potsic-Chair **P**

Jim Blanda **P**

Mary Jo Davis **P**

Mark Dillon **P**

Sally Kelly **P**

Kathleen Ottensmeyer **P**

Tom Sullivan **P**

**City Council Liaison**

Prue Beidler **P**

**Staff**

Sally Swarthout, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry **A**

Jill Becker, Senior Resources Manager **P**

Janet Fryer, Senior Advocate **P**

Tricia Schwall, Program Manager **P**

Tara Purtell, Administrative Assistant **P**

**Others**

Two (2) guests in attendance

Tom Grant, LF-LB Citizens Foundation member and Real Estate Broker

Cathy Czerniak, Director of Community Development

Note: **P**=Present **A**=Absent

3. **Approval of Minutes** of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2017

***Motion***

*Sullivan moved approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2017 following the change of the word "per" to "recommended" under item 6 Membership Fees.*

*Kelly seconded. Commission approved.*

4. **Opportunities for citizens to address the Senior Resources Commission on non-agenda items:** None

5. **Recent Annual Membership Meeting**

Overall there was positive feedback in regards to Dickinson Hall activities at the Annual Membership Meeting on September 26. The meeting attendance was relatively low with 14 people attending in addition to the SRC and Foundation board members present. At the SRC meeting a discussion took place whether an annual meeting should be offered again in 2018, or if improved advertisement of regular open SRC meetings would attract regular and more frequent attendance by citizens and members to bring their positive and negative feedback, which could replace the necessity for an annual meeting.

**Motion**

*Davies moved that:*

*The publication of the Senior Resource Commission meeting days and times shall be placed in a more prominent location in the Newsbrief, and the SRC will revisit the scheduling of the Annual Meeting in the May 2018 SRC Meeting.*

*Ottensmeyer seconded. Commission approved.*

6. **Affordable/Available Senior Housing**

Affordable senior housing in Lake Forest was a topic at the Annual Membership meeting and has been brought to the Commission's attention on several different occasions.

Cathy Czerniak, Director of Community Development with the City of Lake Forest addressed the meeting on this topic.

Highlights of Czerniak's presentation are as follow (full handouts attached):

- In 2003 LF passed an ordinance in support of Affordable Housing (AH). 15% of State of Illinois cities are required to have AH. This AH percentage does not apply to LF because of home rule; however today LF has close to 15% affordable units (Crystal Point, LF College, and LF Academy)
- The CLF identifies with 6 approaches to creating Senior and Workforce Housing and partners with Community Partners Affordable Housing (CPAH).
- With CPAH support the CLF has developed 6 single family owned houses since 2011 and 5 already developed Senior Cottages since 2013.
- In 2005 Council passed an inclusionary housing ordinance that any multi-family development in CLF must include 15% of AH. Council has looked at it as an incremental method of addressing the issue.

- The CLF does not set the income range. The area median income of the Chicagoland area is used to determine who qualifies for AH.
- CPAH helps people succeed with rental/ownership of their property by offering classes and gets community groups involved with the efforts (i.e. CROYA).
- Housing trust fund approximately \$700,000
- Future housing ideas could be mixed use senior/college on campus housing, Grove Campus senior housing based on location of Dickinson Hall
- Senior Advocate Janet Fryer will contact CPAH for a waiting list to enquire how many people on the list are seniors. Potsic invited Tom Grant to speak on the same topic based on his career as a Lake Bluff broker spanning 45 years. Grant's opinion was that he has not heard of recent conversation in LB about affordable housing and there is no downtown or village space in LB for AH due to limited available space.
- Alderman Beidler recommended that a letter on behalf of SRC go to LB and LF mayor/City Managers and the Housing Trust Fund Board to let them know that Affordable Housing is a senior issue.
- Potsic closed on the subject saying that the SRC will revisit this topic at a future SRC meeting

#### **7. Manager's Report**

Please see the attached Manager's Report.

Becker gave an overview of the Manager's Report with an emphasis on membership numbers and her goal to plan more marketing and continue with local outreach to grow membership, improve retention of new members, and to continue to increase participation in programs and services.

#### **8. Manager's Request for FY19 Transportation and Program funding**

Becker requested that the SRC recommend to the Senior Citizens Foundation program support amounting to \$69,000 for FY19 (1.5% increase from FY18), and \$34,000 for the Transportation Program (no increase from FY18). (Manager's Budget Request attached.)

#### **Motion**

*Sullivan moved that the SRC recommends that the Senior Citizens Foundation approve the FY 19 Senior Resources Manager Becker's request of \$69,000 for program support and \$34,000 for the transportation program for a total of \$103,000.*

*Blanda seconded. Commission approved.*

#### **9. Faith in Action request for 2018 Funding**

FIA provided a grant request amounting to \$13,000 for calendar year 2018. The requested amount for CY17 was \$11,850. (FIA Grant Request attached.)

A discussion took place on the direction of the SRC in terms of local unmet senior population needs. It was pointed out that the senior population is fast growing and there is a continuing need to keep FIA as a local resource. The term *senior orphan* was discussed. FIA is a tremendous resource and a labor intensive program for those seniors who have no immediate family close by, are possibly estranged from their family, or have low income and are unable to afford the services of a home care agency. Becker and Fryer commented on FIA's wonderful dedicated work and how the FIA Director is very hands on, that FIA has impeccably high standards, and have well trained volunteers. The discussion concluded that there is excellent anecdotal feedback about the work of FIA, but lacking statistical feedback at this point.

#### **Motion**

*Sullivan moves that the SRC recommends that Senior Citizens Foundation approve the FIA November 3, 2017 Grant Request for \$13,000 to provide escorted transportation. Further, SRC has reviewed the grant request and concludes that the FIA CY 17 goals will be achieved, the ongoing services performed are excellent and the CY 18 goals are appropriate for the dollars requested.*

*Kelly seconded. Commission approved.*

#### **10. Lake Bluff Survey Update**

Potsic noted that the survey should have been received by Lake Bluff residents in the mail last month. He reported that there were questions in the survey regarding Dickinson Hall programming and unmet senior needs. The report will be forthcoming in approximately 75-90 days.

#### **11. Comments by Commission members**

Sullivan commented that the preparation of the Newsbrief is a very large undertaking and has been very well done.

#### **12. Next Meeting: Thursday, January 10, at 1:00pm**

#### **13. Motion to adjourn: 2:59 pm Kelly moved to adjourn. Blanda seconded. Commission approved.**

Submitted by: Tara J. Purtell