

**The City of Lake Forest
Dickinson Hall
Senior Resources Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2019**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Strenger Wayne opened the meeting at 1:02pm.

Commission Members

Gale Strenger Wayne-Chair **P**

Carol Champ **P**

Mark Dewart **P**

Mark Dillon **P**

Sally Kelly **P**

Ed Richardson **P**

Tom Sullivan **A**

City Council Liaison

Melanie Rummel **P**

Staff

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

Janet Fryer, Senior Advocate **P**

Tricia Schwall, Senior Resources Manager/Program Manager **P**

Tara Purtell, Administrative Assistant **A**

Katie Dolan, Program Assistant **P**

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

Guests

Robbie Boudreau, Executive Director, Faith in Action

Alan Champ, Dickinson Hall Member

Margaret Abel, Dickinson Hall Member

Joan Barott, Dickinson Hall Member

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by all those present.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Dillion made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2019 SRC Meeting. Commissioner Richards seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Opportunity for citizens to address the Senior Resources Commission on Non-Agenda Items.

Member Margaret Abel made reference to a past budget and funding document and asked that she get a copy of the current year's numbers. Chair Strenger Wayne and Director Swarthout assured Mrs. Abel that those documents are public and could be provided for her right away.

5. Faith in Action Request for CY20 Funding

Robbie Boudreau presented a transportation resource guide which will be formally published in 2020. It is not only a set of transportation resources but a collection of general resources for the elderly. It will be available on Faith in Action's (FIA) website and will be able to be printed.

FIA's request for funding is the same as last year's request. Funds would help to execute programs that FIA sponsors that service residents in the district #115 and occasional one-time courtesy services for those residing outside the district. FIA has received funding from another resource, a healthcare foundation, to provide transition home services for people who are recently discharged from the hospital or from rehab centers this also benefits residents in Lake Forest/Lake Bluff. FIA can also provide a one-time \$500 grant for professional caregiving services for individuals who need help during the transition period from hospital/rehab to home. Funding has also been requested for the Roaring 90s group in the amount of \$1,200 which would be used to hire a professional caregiver to assist with the personal care some attendees need.

Commissioner Dewart asked about the frequency of the events. Chair Strenger Wayne clarified that any funds not utilized for the Roaring 90s grant will be rolled into the next year. Commissioner Kelly asked about the involvement of Dickinson Hall staff at these events. Manager Schwall answered that it is mostly a FIA planned and executed event and DH only provides support in setting up and tearing down the event. Director Swarthout added that DH staff members cannot provide the kind of support that FIA will be offering. Janet Fryer supports this idea with firsthand experience. Robbie Boudreau is proud of the partnership that DH and FIA has.

Commissioner Dewart made a motion to request that the Foundation approve the grant request of \$21,000 for CY20 Escorted Transportation Program that Supplements Existing Dickinson Hall Transportation Resources and consider using the Nehls transportation restricted fund since this grant is for enhanced transportation. Also, to request that the Foundation approve the grant request of \$1,200 for CY20 Roaring 90s Club program specific expenses. Commissioner Richards seconded. The following Commissioners voted "Aye": Strenger Wayne, Champ, Dewart, Dillon, Kelly, Richardson. The following voted "Nay": None. Commissioner Sullivan was absent.

6. Dickinson Hall Senior Van

Chair Strenger Wayne praised Manager Schwall on her seamless transition into the Senior Resources Manager position and commended her efforts on preparing for this meeting and picking up right where things left off. She then revisited key points about the bus purchase. She pointed out a few outstanding cost saving issues; driving this vehicle won't require a CDL license, maintenance of this vehicle should be less because it is a smaller, it will be able to give more flexibility because we won't have to take out a 22 passenger bus for smaller group, an extra van adds seating to expand programming. Request for up to \$66,000. Chair Strenger Wayne turned to Director Swarthout for more explanation of where we're at now. Director Swarthout noted that the City is working with Steve Potsic and his anonymous donor and taking the recommendation of the SRC to the Senior Citizen Foundation and City Council to provide additional funding. Once approved, the process will move forward quickly. Commissioner Dillon asked if the City would be using their buying power to purchase the van, Director Swarthout said yes, the City would be purchasing the van. Minor discussion occurred about the color and branding of the van. Dillon confirms that the purchase can be made before the end of the year.

Commissioner Dillion made the motion to support Lake Forest's purchase of a 14 passenger van with a price not to exceed \$66,000 and contingent upon the city approving \$22,000 from the excess senior reserve fund, \$19,000 from the LF/LB Senior Citizens Foundation and \$25,000 from an anonymous Foundation. Commissioner Kelly seconded. The following commissioners voted "Aye": Strenger Wayne, Champ, Dewart, Dillon, Kelly, Richardson. The following commissioners voted "Nay": None. Commissioner Sullivan was absent. The motion passed unopposed.

7. Dickinson Hall Manager's Report

Manager Schwall shared the current membership numbers, stating that this year we are ahead of last year's numbers from the same time. She mentioned that DH staff was reaching out to lapsed members about renewing their membership. Manager Schwall reminded the commissioners about the upcoming parties this holiday season and recapped the summer's parties and their success. Commissioner Kelly supported their successes. Chair Strenger Wayne added to Manager Schwall's report with a word about the potential renovation and facelift of the lobby and kitchen. The project has been tabled for now and may be revisited in the future. Commissioners discussed and asked if there were any pressing matters that needed to be addressed, but Chair Strenger Wayne and Manager Schwall assured them there were no life safety issues.

8. Request for Program and Transportation Funding for FY21

Chair Strenger Wayne recapped the request and outlined a couple key points and reminded the Commissioners that the request is the same as last year. The payment method is also the same as last year and paid at the same times. A small discussion ensued between Director Swarthout, Manager Schwall and Commissioner Dillon confirming the key points Chair Strenger Wayne made about the requests.

Commissioner Kelly had a question about the numbers submitted in the report by Manager Schwall. She explained that the ridership to the mall has dwindled, supporting the need for a smaller vehicle along with the trouble of having a CDL licensed driver each week. She also highlighted the attempt to expand the mall program.

Commissioner Kelly made the motion to request that the Foundation approve the Senior Resource Manager's FY21 request for funding as follows:

- *Program grant up to \$70,000 contingent on reserve excess*
- *Transportation grant of \$34,000*

Commissioner Champ seconded the motion. The following commissioners voted "Aye": Strenger Wayne, Champ, Dewart, Dillon, Kelly, Richardson. The following commissioners voted "Nay": None. Commissioner Sullivan was absent.

9. Comments by Commission Members

Alderman Rummel made the commission aware of a new tax levy that was approved. She continued on to inform the commission about more in depth financial practices the City is implementing in regards to pension burden, infrastructure improvements, and the potential of new taxes. Director Swarthout talked about the target number for the excess fund that is saved for emergencies within the City which includes the Senior Center. The City is currently above the target number, but continues to work to maintain that bumper for the future unknowns.

Director Swarthout informed the Commission that at the January meeting they have asked Elizabeth Holleb to come to the meeting to explain and discuss the senior resource fund and budget. The invitation will also be extended to members of the Foundation.

10. Next Meeting Date: Thursday January 9, 2020 at 1:00pm in the Great Room.

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Gail Strenger Wayne entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Dillon seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 pm.

Submitted by: Katie Dolan, Program Assistant