

The City of Lake Forest
Dickinson Hall
Senior Resources Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2023

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Strenger-Wayne opened the meeting at 1:01pm.

Commission Members

Gale Strenger Wayne-Chair **P**

Jill Rosa **P**

Wendy McKiernan **P**

Mark Dewart **P**

Fred Montgomery **A**

Denny Hermann **P**

City Council Liaison

Jed Morris **A**

Staff

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

Tricia Schwall, Senior Resources Manager **P**

Tara Purtell, Administrative Assistant **P**

Katie Dolan, Program Supervisor **P**

Jennifer Raines, Senior Advocate **A**

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

Guests

None present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Recited by all in attendance.

3. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Herman moved to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2022, SRC Meeting. Commissioner McKiernan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

None present.

5. Funding Requests

Chair Strenger-Wayne mentioned to the Commission that these funding requests would be brought for recommendation to the Foundation in the next meeting (February 2023).

She explained that Jennifer Raines, Senior Advocate, had a scheduling conflict and is unable to be present for the meeting so Manager Schwall will clarify the documents.

Manager Schwall first explained the Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Scholarship Fund is to provide local seniors in need with funds that they can use at Dickinson Hall to cover expenses including membership fees, programs, and transportation ride tickets. They receive \$150 each plus a free membership. The total of the fund is up to \$3,000 for FY24.

Manager Schwall then explained the Social Services Fund which is for local seniors that do not have the resources to pay for certain expenses. Examples include dental fees, broken refrigerator repairs, and other household issues. These funds are used at the discretion of the Senior Advocate to support local seniors in need. The total of the fund is up to \$5,000 for FY24.

Chair Strenger Wayne added that the Foundation is very supportive of these funds.

Commissioner Dewart asked if we anticipate that Senior Advocate Raines will be expanding these funds since it is such positive program.

Manager Schwall answered that she would but was unsure how aggressive because there is background information that must be researched to make sure that the funding is needed. Senior Advocate Raines is very careful on how to determine helping someone in need vs. enabling a person.

Chair Strenger Wayne mentioned that there is also a handyman who provides services for seniors at a discounted rate.

Commissioner Dewart moved to approve the SRC request that the Foundation approve the funding request for the continued support of the Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$3,000 for FY24. Commissioner Rosa seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Dewart moved to approve the SRC request that the Foundation continue to support this needed resource with a continued grant of up to \$5,000 for FY24. Commissioner Rosa seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Dickinson Hall Manager's Report

Manager Schwall gave a brief overview of the Senior Resource Manager's Report mentioning that as of January 6 there are 826 members which is more than the 801 members that Dickinson Hall had at the same time in 2022. All holiday programs were well attended, and the new Dickinson Hall game room has been painted and wallpapered. The shelves will be bought and installed once they are in stock.

Commissioner Rosa asked how the 100 Cups of Coffee Initiative is going for Manager Schwall.

Manager Schwall answered that it was going well, and she has been able to speak in front of multiple community organizations and with several Dickinson Hall members.

Commissioner McKiernan asked about the most interesting story from one of her cups of coffee.

Manager Schwall said it has been more about learning what other community individuals do and being able to explain who Dickinson Hall is and what we do that has been the most interesting.

7. Comments by Commission Members

Commissioner Hermann mentioned that he has been recently asked by some individuals that are thinking of selling their home and moving into independent living on what the options are. He mentioned that it may be of good use to have a document that lists the options complete with prices and what each place offers.

Manager Schwall commented that she believes Senior Advocate Raines probably has a list to some extent although pricing would be difficult because there are so many different options/services available. A vendor fair has been discussed for representatives from different places to hand out their information.

Commissioner Dewart also agreed that a simple spreadsheet with basic information would be helpful especially listing what kind of care is offered.

A discussion took place on this topic.

Chair Strenger-Wayne mentioned that the SRC contact list has been updated and each Commissioner has a copy in their packet.

8. Executive Session

Commission Dewart voted to go into Executive Session, Commissioner Rosa seconded. Regular session ended at 1:39pm. Executive Session started at 1:40pm. Program Supervisor Dolan and Administrative Assistant Purtell both exited the meeting. Executive session ended at 2:30pm. Administrative Assistant Purtell returned. Regular session resumed at 2:31pm.

Commissioner Dewart moved to approve the SRC request that the Foundation continue to support the Senior Advocate position including salary, benefits, administrative costs and supervisory up to \$69,536 from July 1, 2023-December 31, 2023, and January 1, 2024-June 30, 2024. Commissioner McKiernan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 1:00pm.

10. Adjournment

Commissioner Hermann moved to adjourn. Commissioner McKiernan seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Submitted by: Tara J. Purtell, Administrative Assistant