

**Center 50+ Advisory Commission**  
**Tuesday, January 5, 2021 – Minutes of Virtual Meeting**

**ATTENDING MEMBERS:** Alise Liepnieks, Allen Jakobitz, Billie Larson, David Haber, John Hughes, Jon Deming, Julie Luedtke, Linda Schellenberg, Lisa Haines, Mel Fuller, Nancy Ross, Sandy Kinney

**Guests:** Gretchen Bennett, City of Salem’s Human Rights and Federal Compliance Manager

**Staff:** Marilyn Daily-Blair, Kanoe Barth, Bonnie Katich, Wendy Kilgore, Suzanne Bishop

**OPENING EXERCISES:** At 9:01 AM the meeting was opened by C50+AC vice-president Alise Liepnieks and roll call was taken.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA –** Agenda for this meeting unanimously approved; motion by Nancy Ross, seconded by Jon Deming.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES –** Minutes of November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting unanimously approved; motion by Lisa Haines, seconded by Julie Luedtke.

**PUBLIC COMMENT –** Cory Poole, chair of SEMCA Neighborhood Association and owner/manager of Paradise Island Mobile Home Park, addressed the commission with a slide presentation showing park camping at Cascade Gateway Park and its impact on the senior community neighboring it. Mr. Poole requested this commission write a letter to the City of Salem, representing the interests of seniors as decisions are made addressing homelessness within the city. As requested by commission members, Mr. Poole agreed to gather documentation on the increase of crime incidents.

Guest speaker Gretchen Bennett updated the group on current work being done to address homelessness in Salem, then answered questions about a long-term plan. An intergovernmental, interagency task force, the Mid-Willamette Valley Homelessness Alliance, has been formed to work on solutions. The task force opens the way for more help through federal dollars.

In consideration of their role in an Age-Friendly City, Center 50+ Advisory Commission members voted in favor of writing a group letter to the Mayor and City Manager’s Office. Motion by Allan Jakobitz, seconded by Linda Schellenberg.

## **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*Election of officers for year 2021*—The Center 50+ Advisory Commission Chair, Rebekah Smith, and Vice-Chair, Alise Liepnieks, will continue to serve in their respective roles by unanimous vote. Motion by Allen Jakobitz, seconded by Mel Fuller.

## **INFORMATION REPORTS**

### *Center 50+ Director*

- Director Daily covered highlights of her monthly report dated January 5, 2021, which was emailed to commission members before this meeting.
- *Health and Wellness*: Coordinator Kanoe Barth gave the monthly fitness report. Highlights: Three Zoom fitness classes were launched in December.
- *Respite Program*: Program Coordinator Wendy Kilgore reported. Contact with caregivers continues through phone calling. Visits to adult foster homes will be added.
- Funding for the temporary Center 50+ Food/Care Box Program in partnership with United Way ended in December 2020. Center 50+ is now working to make sure previous recipients are offered other, more long-term solutions. The Center is also expanding its partnership with Marion-Polk Food Share to offer the service of Center 50+ volunteers for a new, temporary once-a-month delivery of donated food to eligible seniors.
- Director Daily announced that Center 50+ has received a new \$205,000 grant from United Way and Mountain West to lead a “Village Network,” a collaborative effort with partners, churches, and schools to provide a variety of services to people living in their homes. The already established South Salem Villages program will be used as a model and expanded. Funds from the Center’s subscription box program will also be used in support of the Village Network. Commission member David Haber contributed information about the success of the Village concept in Boston, where it began several decades ago.

*Friends Fundraising* – No report at this meeting.

*Announcements* – N/A

**ADJOURNMENT**—10:28 a.m.