

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission
Wednesday, May 28, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 5:02 PM on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, in the Nakaoka Community Center.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Evans at 5:02 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Acting Chairperson Peggy Evans, Member Linda Barentine, Member Joyce Warren

Absent: Member Shari Farmer

In Attendance: Nicola Howard, Staff Liaison

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Member Warren

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from the March 26, 2025 meeting made by Member Barentine, seconded by Member Warren, and passed by unanimous vote of those present.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Acting Chair Evans commented that Second Time Around members expressed concerns regarding parking as well as the mirror exiting the parking lot during a presentation that was made by City staff regarding an upcoming project.
- Discussion took place regarding the Commission presentation to City Council on May 27. Member Barentine made the presentation. A copy of the presentation was distributed to members. Member Barentine stated that there were no questions from Councilmembers. Commissioners commented on the pictures and appreciated the recognition of Patricia Worthy.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- No GPD Report.
- Acting Chair Evans expressed concerns in the neighborhood regarding trash cans, coyotes, and delinquent youth. Liaison Howard referred her to Gardena Direct, Community Development – Code Enforcement, District meetings, and the Activity and Resource Guide.
- Discussion took place regarding changing the start time of commission meetings from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm due to a change in one member's work situation. Concern was raised regarding the lateness when the time changes and it becomes dark earlier. Motion made by Member Barentine to change the start time of the meetings to 6:00 pm on the fourth Wednesday. Motion seconded by Member Warren and passed by unanimous vote of those present. Change will take effect for the June 25, 2025 meeting.

- For the June 25, 2025 meeting add Chair rotation and cancelling July meeting to the agenda.
- Acting Chair Evans expressed concern regarding the electric charging stalls that are being installed at Rowley Park. She stated that the citizens who attended the presentation at the Second Time Around meeting had many questions and were asking about the process; they were dissatisfied with the lack of information shared and that they were not given the opportunity to provide input before the decision was made. Liaison Howard stated that she could submit a request for information and that public comment could be shared at a Council meeting.
- Member Warren questioned the plans for the Chase building and when the Aquatic and Senior Center would be completed. Liaison Howard stated that the New Park Designs report that was presented to Council in March included the Rosecrans site but that plans have not been finalized.

8. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Acting Chair Evans attended the homeowner's meeting.
- b. Member Barentine volunteered for Home Delivered Meals program Walking Club. Attended Candlelight, District 2 meeting, and Older American Month had a booth with Walking Club to share information. She participated in the South Bay COG Senior Services Working Group online gathering. She also attended the Maxine Waters Town Hall meeting in Torrance.
- c. Member Warren attended Second Time Around meetings.

9. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Liaison Howard shared:

- **Program Updates**
 - ENP
 - Congregate:
 - Added a Grab and Go program at our lunch sites (NCC, Rowley, and Lawndale) in June. Lunch participants can receive three frozen meals intended for dinners. Staff will conduct socialization opportunities via Zoom at 4:30 pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday to accompany the dinners. This is to utilize remaining funding and will continue through June then be reevaluated and continuation dependent upon funding.
 - HDM:
 - Increased frozen meals from 2 to 3 or 4 for the month of June to utilize remaining funding.
 - New clients have been added to routes from the waiting list – now serving 115 clients. Will be adding the remaining clients from the waiting list in the next couple weeks (about 6 clients). Wait list is ongoing and reevaluated every three months to serve the clients with highest needs.
 - Emergency meals were delivered to HDM clients (three shelf-stable meals per client).
 - Menu for FY 25-26 is in final approval stages with LA County – We are excited to bring new variety to our 6-week menu.

- Senior Day Care – Currently have ten clients. Have served 15 different clients this year. Still enrolling and taking referrals.
 - SSP – New Social Services Coordinator has started and is conducting reassessments with clients and case management.
 - Senior On-the-Go trip – All Aboard Nature partnership with LA Nature of All - June 5, 2025 – visiting LA County Nature Center – transportation and lunch included.
 - B.R.I.D.G.E. – Two events in May:
 - Water Replenishment District (WRD) - ECO gardening presentation and planting wildflowers.
 - Partnership with VFW for “A Day of Service”. Veterans and youth worked together assembling care packages for individuals experiencing homelessness.
 - Next activity scheduled for Tuesday June 3, 2025.
 - Notice of Commissioner Vacancy was posted. Update will be provided at the next meeting.
- **Upcoming Events** – flyers were shared and discussed for the following:
 - All Aboard for Nature trip – June 5, 2025
 - Chief Saffell's retirement celebration – June 6, 2025
 - Juneteenth DJ Showcase – June 19, 2025
 - Community Care Day – June 21, 2025
 - Candlelight Dinner – June 26, 2025

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:15 PM made by Member Barentine, seconded by Member Warren, and passed with unanimous vote of those present. Next Meeting to be Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Nakaoka Community Center.

APPROVED:

Nuria Howard
Staff Liaison

Peggy Evans
Peggy Evans, Chair