



MINUTES

North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission

June 25, 2018, 3:00 PM

Hays Center

The Senior Citizens Commission meeting was called to order by Dick Blankenkemper at 3:00 PM.

Present were: Robert Barnes, Virginia Raum, Dorothy Romes, Dick Blankenkemper, Dick Giddings, Marleene Calvin, Eddie Powell and Murry Witcher. Belinda Snow was absent. A quorum was declared.

A motion was made by Murry Witcher to excuse absences. The motion was seconded by Virginia Raum. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Murry Witcher to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Virginia Raum. Motion passed unanimously.

Hays Center Director, Bernadette Rhodes, gave a brief overview of the financial information and bank accounts reporting that all financials are in good order. Revenue is ahead of budget, with \$94,500 having been collected year-to-date compared to the \$90,500 projected. Ms. Rhodes changed the Outreach's Simmons Bank account type to a Free Checking Account in order to remove the monthly fee. Utility bills are still comparable to last year. We are still monitoring the sprinkler system and an update on billing was requested. Eddie Powell made a motion to accept the financial information, which was seconded by Marleene Calvin. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Rhodes gave a program update, including a review of her staff report to the Mayor. The program memo and staff report are attached. Carelink's Wellness Center will be closing by the end of the month. They have referred people to the Hays Center which should cause an increase in attendance. They are also sending a Zumba instructor at their cost to help accommodate the new participants.

The Weekend Coordinator position will be closing soon. Once the position closes the applications will be reviewed.

Ms. Rhodes updated the Commission in regards to building maintenance. Bell Construction starts this Friday on the pool repairs. We will have the pool closed on Friday from noon until close while repairs continue. Our new fitness equipment will be coming in soon and we will have spent 50% of our equipment budget so far.

Furniture upholstery samples have come in and are available for viewing. The center will need a decision about patterns to get pricing for the new furniture. Floor sample came in for

approval. A motion was made by Dick Giddings to approve the flooring type, seconded by Marleene Calvin. All in favor.

Open comment: Members from Pickleball

LB Setzler: Read letter attached to minutes. Mr. Setzler stated his concern in regards to having enough room for two courts for continuous play.

Debbie Reynolds: This sport makes us feel young again. We really need more room to play. Compared to other centers, we need room for beginners, intermediate and advanced. Other classes can move from the ballroom but we cannot.

Valenti Thomas: Pickle Ball has helped me to socialize more and I come all the time to play.

Hugh Setzler: Pickleball is our passion. It has helped me to lose weight as well.

A motion was made by Eddie Powel to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Marleen Calvin. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Prepared by Cherihan Sbait, Hays Center Staff

Approved by Belinda Snow, Secretary



Memo To:

North Little Rock Senior Citizens Commission

From: Bernadette Gunn Rhodes

Memo Date: June 20, 2018

We have hit summertime, the season when some members stay home with grandchildren, while others still come faithfully to escape the heat and exercise in our nice cool facility! We've actually been seeing a good number of new members despite daily attendance being a bit lower due to the summer season.

The big news this past month was that CareLink's senior center on 12th Street in Little Rock is closing. My understanding is that some of their external (federal?) funding was cut and they could no longer support the center's budget. Some of our increase in new memberships could be attributed to that closure. CareLink was also looking for a new home for some of its Zumba classes, which are paid for through a grant. As a result, the Hays Center will be offering a new class, "Strong by Zumba," which mixes Zumba with higher-intensity strength-building workouts. That class starts July 23rd and we expect it to appeal to many of our younger and/or more physically active members.

The Center has been running smoothly and continued to do so while I was gone. I had a lovely vacation and came back refreshed and ready to jump back in!

Our programs are going well. Lunches since our last meeting have been averaging a \$40/week profit. The most popular lunches this past month were chicken salad and nachos.

Lawrence Green, our long-time weekend coordinator, has resigned for health reasons. His position is currently being advertised and closes on June 26th. We have the weekends covered until then with existing staff. If you know if anyone who would be a good fit, please have them apply at www.nlr.ar.gov/jobs.

Regarding facility improvement, the contract has been signed with Bell Construction for \$6,080.00 to fix the aluminum frames in the ladies' locker room and aerobics pool. The work will be done over several Friday afternoons to minimize disruption to our pool users.

I have ordered four new exercise machines, 1 SciFit seated trainer, 2 True treadmills, and 1 Octane seated elliptical. Two old True treadmills and one Stex recumbent bike (both of which we can't get parts for anymore) will be hauled off by the equipment vendor, Your Total Fitness Shop." They gave us a \$6,700 discount for these machines and are hauling them off at no charge. With these purchases and the Keiser arm curl machine we purchased in January, we will have spent \$25,151.75 of our \$50,000 equipment budget.

Taggart Architects has given us some good options for patterns for our lobby and gallery furniture and color options for our new ballroom floor. I would like to show you the options at our meeting and possibly get your approval to move forward on writing the specs for the ballroom floor.

This Wednesday, June 27th, we will be holding our annual Fourth of July luncheon at 11:00 am. We'll be serving burgers and hot dogs with sides. Musical entertainment will be provided by "The Four Js" out of Conway. They are a group of guitar players who regularly perform at nursing homes and at Señor Tequila in Conway. One of the members is my uncle-in-law. 😊 If you'd like to attend the luncheon, let me know ASAP and I'll reserve you a ticket.

I look forward to seeing you on June 25th.

**Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center
and
Mayor's Office of Volunteer Services**

Monthly Report – May 2018

Member Statistics

- Our members logged 14,505 visits to the Hays Center.
- 66 new members joined the Hays Center this month for a total of 3,574 active members.
- New members: 27 African American, 29 Caucasian, 3 Native American, 2 multi-racial, and 5 unknown.
- The majority of new members were female (42 females and 24 males).
- The youngest member to join this month was 50. The oldest was 89.

Deposits

- \$2,200 in new member fees
- \$9,212 in renewal fees
- \$4,550 in rental fees
- \$959 in trip fees
- \$729 in lunch fees
- \$281 in other revenue
- **TOTAL: \$17,931**

Activities

- The Mayor's Youth Council was here for an event in May.
- We held a members' craft day and Flavors Around The World cooking class.
- The Arkansas League of Artist's hung some of their art and had a reception in May.
- Featured our "Red Hot Hays Honeys" Red Hat Society Chapter on KATV's Good Morning Arkansas.

Facility

- Contract with Bell Construction has been signed for replacing corroded aluminum door frames in ladies' locker room and on aerobics pool deck. Work will be done over several Fridays when the locker room is not in heavy use.
- Both large AC units on north portion of roof had to be repaired this month.
- 2018 facility improvement goals:
 - Replace ballroom floor (In process of selecting floor material and style).
 - Buy 2 new treadmills, 1 seated elliptical, 2-3 recumbent bicycles (Working with vendors on price/product selection).
 - Replace/reupholster gallery and lobby furniture. (Working with interior designer at Taggart on furniture & pattern selection).

- Install security camera overlooking parking lot (Waiting on a quote from our alarm company to add that one camera and replace one that is broken).
- Remove wallpaper in ballroom, repair sheetrock and paint. (Saving this for 2019 or 2020).
- Replace some of the TVs in the workout area.

Trips

- We provided a total of 24 trips, transporting a total of 168 people and collecting a total of \$1,099 in trip fees.
- The “Red Hot Hays Honeys” Red Hat Chapter went to Santo Coyote for lunch and the Outlet Mall for lunch and shopping.
- Public senior housing residents traveled to medical appointments (6 trips) and grocery stores (4 trips).
- Our Bean Bag Baseball teams traveled to Little Rock, Jacksonville, and Lonoke for away games.
- After fees, fuel, and driver costs, we spent a net \$816 on our transportation program.

Rentals

- We provided 3 free rentals: NLRFD Testing, Mayor’s Youth Council Banquet, and the Mayor’s Office of Volunteer Service Appreciation Lunch.
- We had 4 paid rentals for a total revenue of \$2,100.

Mayor’s Office of Volunteer Services

- City volunteers reported 1,289 hours this month.
- We received 5 new volunteer applications.

June 18, 2018

To the Board of the Patrick Hays Senior Center

Dear Members of the Board of Directors.

We, the undersigned, ask that you please re-consider your decision regarding the placement of the floor of the Hays Center Ballroom. We ask that the flooring chosen allow the creation of two pickle ball courts, as per the attached diagram. The remaining carpet should give adequate coverage for other Ballroom activities.

Pickle ball continues to grow quickly and has been a huge success at the Hays Center. Each week, new people visit the Hays Center to join the game, many for their first session of pickle ball. Growing numbers of players have purchased the more expensive membership to be able to play during extended hours. In fact, Hays Center pickle ball ranks have risen to more than 40 dedicated players. With the benefit of an additional court, new players would have an opportunity to become oriented to the game, learn the basics and rules, and begin play, while more experienced players could continue play on the adjacent court. When over 12 players are present at any given time, it makes for long waits between games - often 20-30 minutes sitting before a person can play another game. We have shortened games from the usual 11 point match to 6 points, play doubles only (4 people each game), and have a system to throw balls to the server to speed up play. Despite these measures, it is not unusual for 8 to 12 people to endure an inordinately long wait, sitting between games, and ultimately increasing the risk of injuries.

Mike Miller came before the Board as our representative earlier this year to propose that wood rather than carpet be placed in the Ballroom as it is renovated. We feel, as does Mike, that he didn't emphasize adequately the number of players and their wait time between games. While there are other pickle ball facilities in central Arkansas, the Hays Center is the one specifically for seniors and unique because it has become an excellent and safe place to play.

Your consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

1) Bernadette Coleman 5) Susan Santa Cruz 9) Constance Sarto
Bernadette Coleman Susan Santa Cruz Constance Sarto
2) Linda Genger 6) Frank McHenry 10) Frank McHenry
Linda Genger Frank McHenry Frank McHenry
3) Frank McHenry 7) Frank McHenry 11) Frank McHenry
Frank McHenry Frank McHenry Frank McHenry
4) Marta Morgan 8) Susan Sherman 12) Mary Ann Hays
Marta Morgan Susan Sherman Mary Ann Hays

Page 2 of Petition to create 2 Vickleball Courts

- 13) Dan Bell
 - 14) Valenti Thomas
 - 15) Jose A. NIEVES
 - 16) Ram Evans
 - 17) Alot SETZLER
 - 18) Jerry Curtner
 - 19) Kerina Taliaferro
 - 20) David Taliaferro
 - 21) Lynn B. Guss
 - 22) L. B. D. S. Guss
 - 23) Randy Guss
 - 24) John French
 - 25) Dawn Sloan
 - 26) Wilma Williams
 - 27) Karon Thier
 - 28) Paty Sheen
 - 29) Charley Crittenden
- CC: Mayor Joe Smith

31 Lerley Faye Shelton

32 Jim Stone

33 Mark Agnew

34 Tom Dof

35 James J. Trishan

36 D. K. Hicks

37 Rita Reed

38 Donald [Signature]

39 Jean Meeks

40 James B. Quinn

41 [Signature]

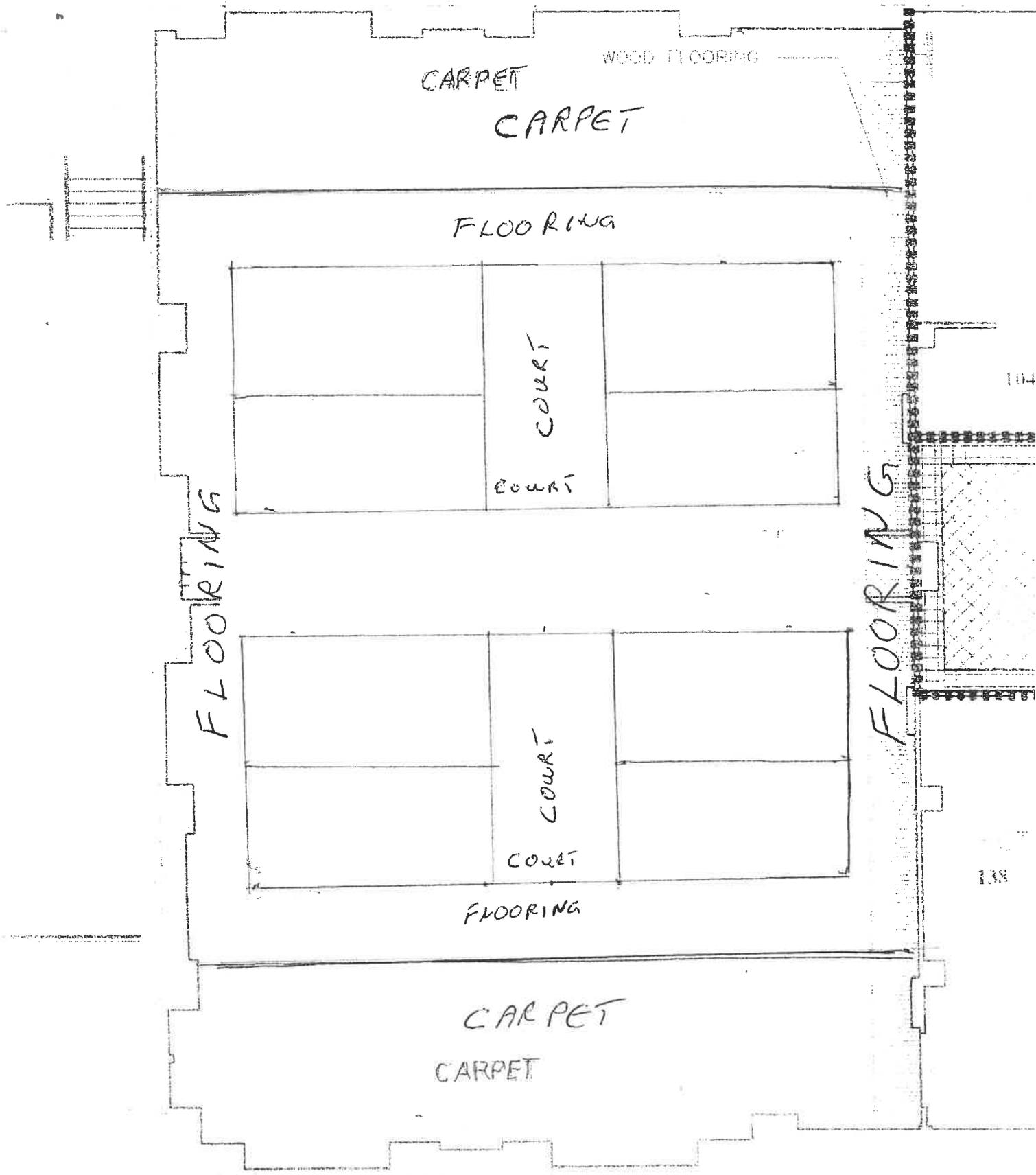
42 Brook [Signature]

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44 Shelly Kurkin

45 Misheel Kille

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