



Agenda DATE 5/23/17 TIME 4:21p

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**DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES
SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center
1121 Alto Street (Board Room)
Wednesday, April 5, 2017 (Time: 9:30 a.m.)

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- V. PRESENTATION – EUGENE RINALDI
- VI. COMMENTS FROM FLOOR
- VII. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

April 5, 2017

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MINUTES OF THE
DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 5, 2017

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Division of Senior Services Advisory Board of Directors was called to order by Andres Romero, Chairperson at 9:30 a.m. on this date at the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center, 1121 Alto Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum for conducting official business as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andres Romero, Chairperson
Mary Louise Giron, Vice Chairperson
Rosemary Trujillo, Secretary
Bernardo C de Baca
Toni Ann Gallegos
Dennis Gonzales [arriving later]
Elaina K. Gonzalez
Virginia Lucero
Corrine Sanchez
Doug Schocke
Rod Winget

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Lugi Gonzales, Division of Senior Services, Interim Director
Chris Sanchez, Community Services Department Director

OTHERS PRESENT

Eugene Rinaldi, visitor/prospective candidate for DSS Director position
Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

INVOCATION

Invocation was led by Virginia Lucero.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Doug Schocke and was recited by all present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Sanchez moved to approve the agenda as published. Ms. Gonzalez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

PRESENTATION-EUGENE RINALDI

Chairman Romero asked the Board Members to introduce themselves to Mr. Rinaldi.

Mr. Sanchez said as he indicated at the last Board meeting, when he found a candidate for the Division of Senior Services Director position, he would bring him/her before the Board, allow the candidate to present himself/herself and ask for a recommendation from this Board.

Mr. Sanchez introduced Eugene Rinaldi, a prospective candidate for the Division of Senior Services Director position.

Mr. Rinaldi thanked the Board for this opportunity and said he was excited for the opportunity to come before the Board. He said he has a tremendous passion for what he does and anytime he has had an opportunity to serve in this capacity, he tries to express it.

He gave a description of his background noting that he was raised and lives in Bernalillo. He mentioned that his mother's family is from Northern New Mexico and his father's mother is from Pena Blanca. He explained that his mother was his leader in him going into the field of aging. She was also the director of senior programs in Sandoval County. Mr. Rinaldi helped his mother with the home-delivered meals and loved it.

Mr. Rinaldo reviewed his accomplishments and achievements in his career noting that he served in the military for over 30 years. He was appointed by President Clinton to serve on the 1995 White House Conference on Aging and Disabilities Advisory Committee in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Rinaldo has over 25 years' experience in administration of local, state and federal government programs related to health care, human services, transportation and aging and disability programs. He has an in-depth education and knowledge of issues relating to the aging adult population in New Mexico and a proven history of success

in developing and leading organizations towards identified visions. He can build and develop long term strategic partnerships and collaborations. He has a Masters and a Bachelor degree in Gerontology and Long Term Administration and Sociology.

Mr. Rinaldi said the City of Santa Fe has the best senior programs and the best people in the State and he duplicated a lot of what they are doing in Sandoval County. He said it would be his job to keep this going. He noted that he had an opportunity to work with former Director, Ron Vialpando and attended the Division of Senior Services Public Hearings.

Mr. Rinaldi asked if there were any questions.

Questions/Comments:

Ms. Giron asked Mr. Rinaldi what he has been doing since 2015.

Mr. Rinaldi said he has been doing some consulting work and caregiving for his mother. He said the consultation work is not meeting his needs and his passion is in working with the elderly and frail population.

Mr. Rinaldi sees the largest issue facing everybody is caregiving (for loved ones). It is affecting so many people and the workplace. While employed at the New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department, Mr. Rinaldi developed a caregiver statewide plan (New Mexico's State Plan for Family Caregivers) and implemented a New Mexico State Plan for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

Ms. Giron asked him if he would be able to show these plans to the Board and he said yes.

Ms. Giron commended him for taking care of his mother and asked if this would interfere with the Director position, if he is hired.

Mr. Rinaldi said no, because he has help to care for his mother. He is not the only caregiver for his mother.

Ms. Giron asked Mr. Rinaldi if he was familiar with Caregiver Bill that is at the Legislature and sponsored by AARP. The Bill has to do with what happens to people when they leave the hospital and who is going to follow up, etc.

Mr. Rinaldi said yes, he is familiar with this Bill.

Ms. Giron asked Mr. Rinaldi if he would be kind enough to share this information with the Board if he is offered the position.

Mr. Rinaldi said yes.

Ms. Gallegos said hospitals need to be educated about making referrals to nursing homes. She said not all elderly people who are discharged from the hospitals want to go to nursing homes and should be asked if they have someone who can care for them before they put people in nursing homes. She mentioned that many seniors are losing their homes because they have to pay for nursing homes, which could cost up to \$6,000 a month.

Mr. Rinaldi said he would develop partnerships with the hospitals and nursing facilities to talk about the issues such as this. He said they usually recognize that consumers have a choice and they need to be informed about the concerns. He referred to the Aging Network, which is an alliance of providers that talk about all kinds of issues and said they can be the advocate to start addressing these kinds of issues. He said the City of Santa Fe Senior program has great volunteers and it needs to continue because it's through those volunteers that they can get a lot of this done - where the City does not have the resources.

Mr. Winget said he would think an important topic in gerontology today would be the age-wave of baby boomers becoming the age of 65- the Senior Tsunami so to speak, when people over the age of 65 will be a quarter of the population. He said his question would be the impact this will have.

Mr. Rinaldi said it will be tremendous and in saying Senior Tsunami, is another play on the age-wave concept because the baby boomers becoming the age of 65 is like a wave but now they are calling it a "Tsunami". He said this is an act of nature but the whole topic of aging - and what we do about aging - is not an act of nature, it is something we can do something about.

He said by 2030, people over the age of 65 is projected to be at 33%. New Mexico would be the third oldest state in the nation and that has implications from the standpoint of who is going to do the jobs, etc. He said there has to be a change of how this will be addressed because there is not enough money in the state to pay for all of the needs. He thinks there will have to be more of a focus on healthier aging and promoting healthier lifestyles because you will have a bigger return.

Chairman Romero asked Mr. Rinaldi what he sees as his duties as Director of the Division of Senior Services, if he is hired.

Mr. Rinaldi said to provide the leadership and direction to continue to do the work. In that, you have to also ensure that all the nuts and bolts that come with management are done, and done in time with the accuracy that needs to be done. He said he would also provide staff the support they need to do this.

Chairman Romero said he has very good staff already. He said Mr. Rinaldi has a lot of experience in this field, and the education, and because of this he thinks he would be an asset for the Senior program.

Ms. Lucero noted that she is involved with the Enhance Fitness Class and she attends it three times a week and she would like the program to continue. She said not only because she is involved with the program but because she has seen what it has done for others. She noted that there is a woman who is 94 years of age in the class.

Mr. Rinaldi said Enhance Fitness is an evidence-based program and it has shown that people who go through it have positive outcomes. Having said that healthy aging is a key issue for him, he would really support this.

Chairman Romero said one of the things that he thinks makes Mr. Rinaldi an exceptional candidate for the position is the fact that he has experience at the management level of a senior center.

Mr. Rinaldi said the opportunity to work and come back to the community is everything to him and it is gratifying to him when he feels he has made a difference in the community.

The Board thanked Mr. Rinaldi for his time and presentation.

Mr. Rinaldi thanked the Board for having him and he left the meeting.

After brief discussion, the following motion was made:

Ms. Giron moved that the Board write a Letter of Confidence for Mr. Eugene Rinaldi. Ms. Gonzalez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Chairman Romero suggested to Mr. Sanchez that they name an assistant or deputy, if possible. He thinks this could help the morale of the current employees.

Mr. Sanchez said he would look into this.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Chairman Romero asked if there were any comments from the floor and there were none.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center.

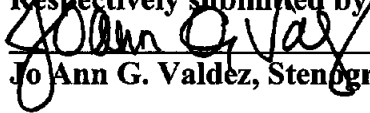
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.



Andres Romero, Chairperson

Respectively submitted by:


Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer