

MINUTES  
COMMISSION ON AGING  
THE SUMMIT  
2975 Esplanade, Grand Prairie, TX 75052  
February 12, 2020  
10:30 A.M.

Members Present

Don Smarto, Freddie Evans, Robert Murphy, Gary Hill, Lorraine Rose, Barbara Thomas, Carlton Adams, Steve Overton and AARP Representative Lee Lee Lee

Members Absent – Ann Hunter

Citizens Present – 11 (only 8 signed in)

CALL TO ORDER- at 10:31 am by Carlton Adams

PRAYER – at 10:33 am by Don Smarto

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Motion was made to approve the January 8<sup>th</sup> minutes by Gary Hill and seconded by Don Smarto.

STANDING UPDATES

- a. Nutrition program Updates– 1,993 meals served in January, Valentine’s Day bingo will be played on Friday, February 14, 2020, and the Cupcake Walk will be on March 17, 2020. Updates provided by Eduvina Cruz.
- b. Summit Updates - Chris Ginapp, General Manager at the Summit, spoke of some exciting events and trips in the near future. The Summit will be hosting a Valentine’s Day Dance on Friday, February 14, 2020 (over 140 people signed up as of February 12). Tuna Does Vegas is a musical that the Summit will be attending on February 29<sup>th</sup> and March 5<sup>th</sup> (over 30 tickets sold for these two showings). The Summit will be hosting Marty Party on May 9, 2020. The Summit is also in the midst of planning its 10-year anniversary party for June 13, 2020. Chris wrapped up his update with a friendly reminder that the Summit will have a maintenance/training day on Monday, February 17, 2020, and will be closed to the public.
- c. COA Updates –
  1. Lorraine Rose gave the Public Relations update. First, Lorraine thanked the city and the Summit staff for the COA table cover and clipboards. She noted that these marketing items brought more attention to the table. She then stated that 35 people were reached at the February 8<sup>th</sup> Farmer’s Market pop up. She and Barbra Thomas, both, realized a lot of people had questions about senior living facilities. Therefore, these commissioners answered the questions they could, and referred them to the proper resources for more detailed answers. They also invited these citizens to attend this COA meeting. Barbra Thomas then added that COA will attend the Main Street Festival and the Marty Party events to promote COA. She stated that the Main Street Fest is a 3-day event, and in a future COA meeting they will need to assign dates and times to each commissioner to be there for this event.
  2. Don Smarto gave the Public Media updates. He started off by mentioning that he brings most of his friends/colleagues whom are visiting from out of town to the Summit. One of his friends, who travels all over the world for work, stated that this senior recreation facility is the best they had ever seen. After this tribute to the Summit, Don stated that his film, *A Faith Journey*, was a big hit at the Uptown Theater on January 18<sup>th</sup>. Three hundred and twenty people attended

this showing, and all proceeds from this event went to the Play Grand Adventures. Because of the wonderful turnout for this showing, the Summit has agreed to show the film on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm and 4 pm (closed captions will be provided for the Friday and Saturday 12 pm showings). Finally, Don addressed the difference between his broadcast and the Epic's podcast. He stated that his broadcast is used for broad topics and interviews with the Mayor and others. Don has volunteered to help with the Epic's podcast and promote COA there occasionally.

## PRESENTATIONS

- a. Esther Coleman, Housing Services Manager, spoke about the Housing and Neighborhood Services that Grand Prairie offers. Esther differentiated between the Housing Assistance Division and the Neighborhood Services Division. In the Housing Assistance Division she mainly spoke about the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, but she also mentioned Multi-Family Inspections, the Homeownership Program, and Fraud Investigations. In the Neighborhood Services Division she spoke about Fair Housing, the Housing Rehabilitation Program, the Reconstruct Program, the Buying Power Program and the Emergency Home Repair Program. Esther told the commissioners and the audience if they had any other questions to refer to the Housing and Neighborhood Services website: [www.GPHNS.org](http://www.GPHNS.org).
- b. Lee Lee Lee shared her AARP Hot Topic: *What is Sepsis?* She explained that sepsis is the body's overwhelming and life-threatening response to infection which can lead to tissue damage, organ failure, and death. She discussed the symptoms (high or low temperature, infection, mental decline, and extreme illness) and the fact that there is no simple test or cure. The best thing you can do is prevent infections, recognize symptoms early, and maintain a healthy lifestyle (eat healthy, exercise and get enough sleep). For more information Lee Lee recommends going to [www.sepsis.org](http://www.sepsis.org).

## ACTION ITEMS

A motion to table both action items until the strategic planning meeting on March 18, 2020 was made by Don Smarto and seconded by Gary Hill. All were in favor of tabling the action items.

## CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Louise Patterson (did not provide address or phone number) made the comment that this was her first time attending a COA meeting and wanted to thank the commission for volunteering their time to answer the call of the seniors in Grand Prairie.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion made to adjourn meeting at 11:42 am by Freddie Evans and seconded by Lorraine Rose.

Jaclyn Gunderson - Reporting Secretary