

# STEPHENVILLE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

## ADVISORY BOARD

### SEPTEMBER 14, 2021, MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order: Chairperson Jan Smith called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Meeting was held in the annex room of the Stephenville Senior Citizens Center. Board members Jan Smith, Sheryl Wells, Joanna Lay and Marlene Dupas were present; Elizabeth Johnson was absent due to health reasons. Also present were new board members Debbie Watson and Dana Worrell as well as City Council members Rickey Thurman and Gerald Cook. Staff members present were Kelli Volypka, C. V. Black, Sandy Morgan, and Wendy Raffin. Visitors attending were Bill McDonald, a ceramic/pottery instructor and Bailey Graham, an intern with Texas Health Services.
  - II. Approval of the minutes was deferred until the next meeting as there were some inconsistencies in the order of events. Board member Joanna Lay offered to redo and bring to the next meeting for approval.
  - III. Initiation of New Members: The two new members were welcomed to the board.
- IV & VI:
- Budget Updates & Kelli's Comments: Ms. Volypka, Parks & Leisure Director, spoke concerning some minor renovations that will be made at the center, but stressed major renovations will not be made due to the age of the building. She advised the City Council wishes to pursue plans to build a new stand-alone Senior Center at a yet-to-be-determined location. Councilmen Thurman and Cook spoke concerning these plans, saying the Council understands the need for such a facility and that seniors did not want a building combined with the library and parks and recreation. The Council's plan for funding the construction can come through City Reserves without depleting them. The council's workshop will be September 28 and is open to the public. Ms. Worrell asked if the city has a grant writer as there could be money available for help in this endeavor. Ms. Watson also advised she feels there are private organizations willing to help.
- V. Program Planning: Sandy Morgan advised there is now money available through the North Texas Area on Aging to promote the congregate meals

program and for day trips. A questionnaire will be forthcoming to see what trips would be most requested. New programs being added at the Center include a Silver Classic exercise taught by Board Member Sheryl Wells, a drawing class taught by Donna Wesson, and a pottery/ceramics class taught by Bill McDonald. The expert to make sure the kiln is operational is expected soon. A grant will pay for supplies for these classes.

- VI. Board Comments: Ms. Smith asked, “How are we getting the word out about the availability of old and new programs”? Ms. Morgan advised all programs would be made public through the redesign of the Newsletter, through the Senior Center website and Facebook. Other options are Beneath the Surface news, public radio, and the Chamber of Commerce marquee. Tarleton State University also has a “volunteer” department that could be useful.

Ms. Watson gave all present a brochure outlining “Seniors Promoting Seniors” (SPS), originally mentioned as “Friends of the Senior Center”.

Ms. Smith thanked all for coming and especially Councilmen Thurman and Cook.

- VII. The next meeting of this Board will be October 12, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.