

Draft Minutes of the Ridgefield Commission on Aging (CoA) Meeting
May 19, 2025, at 2:30pm
Small Conference Room, Town Hall

Commissioner Nolan called the meeting to order at 2:33PM which was the first Order of Business. Commissioners Culhane, Yaffa, Martin, Mullin, Tewes, Orr and Kabasakalian were present. Also present Tony Phillips, Director of Social Services and Karen Gaudian, Municipal Agent for the Elderly, Dee Tufariello Commission, volunteer and Emma McDonough (intern with Debi Orr). Also present was John Roberts, potential commissioner. Excused was intern Rutvi Vohra.

As to the 2nd Order of Business, Ms. Nolan invited public comment. There was none.

As to the 3rd Order of Business, approving the 4/21/2025 CoA minutes- Mr. Tewes made a motion to approve said minutes and Ms. Martin seconded the motion. No discussion, the said Minutes were unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Kabasakalian to move the 9th Order of Business to be heard next due to scheduling conflicts, the motion was seconded by Ms. Orr, no discussion, said motion was passed unanimously.

As to the 9th Order of Business -review of the prior year's Priorities. A discussion was held regarding what may be eliminated and what areas of further exploration and improvements the Commissioners wish to work on this year. Another Expo was mentioned and that along with individual's priority requests will be discussed and decided at our June 2025 Board meeting. The Commissioners were asked to consider priorities for the 2025-26 year (excluding the Expo) and submit their top 2 preferences as to what subcommittees they would like to work on. Subcommittees include Transportation, Time Capsule, Adult Day Program, Digital Divide. Please identify those preferences to the co-chairs by June 10 if at all possible.

As to the 4th Order of Business - Mr. Tewes reviewed the results of the Expo and the group shared great comments heard throughout the expo and up to the present, a resounding success! Samples of the survey questions to exhibitors and sponsors, and a separate survey to participants were discussed and edited by the board. Said surveys are expected to be emailed out next week. Those responses will be reviewed and discussed at our June 2025 meeting.

As to the 5th Order of Business - Grants report and information - Ms. Nolan shared that she has submitted the report for the \$5,000 grant from the Ridgefield Thrift Shop as per the terms of their grant.

As to the 6th Order of Business - Gratitude emails to exhibitors, speakers, volunteers, musicians, attendees, Ms. Nolan has started and continues to work on these. Input from the Board was positive.

As to the 7th Order of Business - Finances, no report, this will be updated at the June 2025 meeting.

As to the 8th Order of Business - Meetings with prospective new commissioners - Ms. Nolan and Ms. Yaffa met with the current candidates. Discussion of their interest in the CoA and skill sets were discussed. Ms. Nolan and Ms. Yaffa will provide further updates as they unfold. As to the 10th Order of Business - Need for a Board Secretary - No decision made; to be addressed at the June 2025 meeting.

There being no further business before the CoA, the meeting ended at 3:56P.

The above is a true and accurate summary of the CoA 4/21/2025 meeting.

Patricia Yaffa
Acting Secretary