



Wauwatosa, WI

Senior Commission

Meeting Minutes

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Monday, July 21, 2025

4:00 PM

Wauwatosa Health Department
Conference Room and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89993052063>,
Meeting ID: 899 9305 2063

Hybrid meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by Dain Maddox.

ROLL CALL

Non voting members Present:

Laura Laurishke, Police Admin Support Specialist
Carmen Pangilinan, Public Health Strategist

Non-voting Excused:

Kristen Hecht, Public Health Specialist
Kosta Zervas, Wauwatosa Recreation Department

Guests:

Bob Heller, Hart Park Square
Veraunica Ruffin, Eras Senior Network

Present 5	Commissioner Dain Maddox Commissioner Patricia Bruce Commissioner Michael Meier Commissioner Elise Riepenhoff Commissioner Jeanne Sidner
Excused 3	Commissioner, Chair Kathy Causier Commissioner Dianne Dagelen Ex-Officio - Alderperson David Lewis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of June 16, 2025 Minutes [25-1240](#)
RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Patricia Bruce
SECONDER: Jeanne Sidner

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion: Eras Senior Network update - Veraunica Ruffin [25-1241](#)
Veraunica provided the Eras Senior Network quarterly update for Area 1, which includes Wauwatosa. See attached report for details. She noted there is a need drivers and friendly caller volunteers. Veraunica noted the retention rate for the volunteers is 78%. Dain asked if some of the stats from Area 1 can be

broken down into Wauwatosa specific data to be shared with the group. She is able to do this and will share that data.

2. Discussion: Reframing Aging - Carmen Pangilinan [25-1242](#)

Carmen was invited to attend a four-part workshop provided by the National Center to Reframe Aging. She shared a presentation about the movement to reframe how we talk about and advocate for older adults, as well as how to reduce ageism. Carmen shared highlights of the workshop with the group. Please see the attached slides for more detail. The group discussed creating a sub-group to talk more about how to advance this work. Anyone interested should email Carmen.

3. Advocacy Updates and Opportunities [25-1244](#)

Carmen also reminded the group that Kathy sent out the County's advocacy alert email earlier this month. Carmen also reminded the group that a letter was sent to Dave Simpson regarding potential changes to the yard waste removal program. There has been no response yet. Elise suggested the Firefly Grove Park has more benches or accessibility features because had a fall walking over the stone stairs. Laura Laurishke suggested she contact DPW and will give Elise contact information for the appropriate contact. Elise will then bring the response back to the group for future discussion.

WAUWATOSA HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Senior Center/Senior Club [25-1245](#)

No report.

2. Police Department [25-1246](#)

August 6th is Tosa's Night Out. The Health Department and the Joint Housing Coalition will have tables at this event. Pat asked about the recent issues with theft at some local pharmacies, potentially making it more difficult for older adults to get their medications. Laura shared that the Police Department has been engaged in conversations with the pharmacies.

3. Health Department and Age-Friendly Tosa [25-1247](#)

*Carmen and Kristen met with City Communications staff to discuss the Older Adult Resource Guide. They agreed to handle the design as long as we provide the content. The goal is to have it complete by January 2026. We need to get content to Communications by September 1. **Now is the time to email Kristen or Carmen with any resources you would like to see listed.** After September we will not be able to make changes and the Commission does not meet in August. **Social Connection Summit** update: August 11 we will be hosting an open house style event where the community is invited to share their thoughts on how we may create a more socially connected community - connected to one another, resources and city info. We are also doing a survey through August 11 which was emailed to you, please complete and share if you haven't already. Men's Shed grant was submitted and follow up is expected in October.*

4. Joint Housing Coalition [25-1249](#)

No report.

5. Common Council [25-1248](#)

No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No meeting in August.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 15, 2025 at 4:00 PM.