



Wauwatosa, WI

Senior Commission

Meeting Minutes

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Monday, November 17, 2025

4:00 PM

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

Regular meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:59 pm by Kathy Causier.

This was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Kathy Causier
Present 8 Commissioner, Chair Kathy Causier
Commissioner Dain Maddox
Commissioner Patricia Bruce
Commissioner Dianne Dagelen
Commissioner Michael Meier
Commissioner Carol O'Brien
Commissioner Elise Riepenhoff
Commissioner Jeanne Sidner
Excused 1 Ex-Officio - Alderperson David Lewis

ROLL CALL

Non-voting Members Present:

Laura Laurishke, Police Admin Support Specialist

Carmen Pangilinan, Public Health Strategist

Kosta Zervas, Wauwatosa Recreation Department

Guests:

Bob Heller, Hart Park Square

Veraunica Ruffin, Eras Senior Network

Tricia Salentine, Resident

Present 8 Commissioner, Chair Kathy Causier
Commissioner Dain Maddox
Commissioner Patricia Bruce
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Commissioner Michael Meier
Commissioner Carol O'Brien
Commissioner Elise Riepenhoff
Commissioner Jeanne Sidner
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of October 20, 2025 Minutes [25-2177](#)
RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Dain Maddox
SECONDER: Dianne Dagelen

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Action Item: Review of Senior Commission Funding [25-2178](#)
Eras has submitted a plan for volunteer recruitment in Wauwatosa, as well as an invoice. Invoice has been sent for processing. Awaiting invoice from Imprint for \$5000 for Resource Guide. Health Department still needs to purchase items for the 2026 Resource Fair in conjunction with Hart Park Senior Center. This leaves roughly \$2000 left over. Kathy Causier made a motion to spend up to \$1500 on grocery store gift cards for diners at the Hart Park Senior Center. Dain Maddox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Resource Guide Update [25-2179](#)
Content is complete. Communications intern is handling the design. Will likely be ready sometime by January.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Advocacy Updates and Opportunities: 2026 Policy Priority Discussion [25-2181](#)
2026 Policy Priority Discussion. Carmen shared the proposed list of policy priorities for 2026. Mike Meier stated that he prefers that we meet before the commission were to send any letters regarding legislation, doesn't think that things happen that quickly at the state level. Carmen shared she previously cleared it with the City Attorney, and this has had to be used in the past because of the quick nature of legislation. However, every effort will be made to discuss these items with the group in meetings. Kathy Causier made a motion to approve the 2026 policy priorities, Dianne Dagelen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Recap of Annual Report to Community Affairs [25-2180](#)
Kathy and Carmen presented the report to Community Affairs on November 4. Prior to the meeting another committee was discussing changes to how citizen committees will report next year. There may be an option for groups to submit a report to be placed on file without presenting. Senior Commission will continue to present in person if given the opportunity. Pat Bruce noted that should we not have the opportunity to present, it would be helpful to find out if there is a designated person who will respond to the report so that we may answer any questions. Kathy will look into it further. Dain noticed an error in the report, two of the data points were reversed. Carmen to share corrected version with Zach Kessler and ask if to be updated in the file.
3. Action Item: January Meeting Date Reschedule due to MLK Day [25-2187](#)
January 26 will be the new date. Carmen to let Clerk's Office know.

WAUWATOSA HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Senior Center/Senior Club [25-2182](#)
They have a great partnership with the Historical Society- Hawk's Nursery exhibit available until after Thanksgiving, they are co-existing well with Curling Club who needs to share space since the basement flooded. Ice is down now. Will have to close some Fridays for their big tournaments. They are hosting a community day with 5th grade class from Jefferson Elementary, Christmas lunch 12/5 at Maggiano's, 12/10 Maggiano's is catering a separate lunch at LWCC. Partnership with Horicon Bank - sponsored

bingo and donated \$800 to offset cost of holiday lunches. STEP program - accepting apps next Tues. Close to 50 applicants.

- 2. Police Department [25-2183](#)

New facility dog named Leo being shared between Police, Fire, and Health.

- 3. Health Department and Age-Friendly Tosa [25-2184](#)

Cooking class was held on November 5. Class completely filled up. Looking at potential date of February 24 for second class. The Health Department was awarded a two-year \$40,000 grant from Bader Philanthropies to plan and host a Men’s Shed. More details to come.

- 4. Joint Housing Coalition [25-2186](#)

The group is staying on top of the comprehensive plan - voting taking place tomorrow. Looking at amendment for zoning changes for empty schools/churches to allow for housing. Mayfair Crossing update -part was going to be affordable housing, the developer applied for a \$2 million grant and did not get it, so this is no longer happening. The development will go up for sale. Sonesta Hotel update- council accepted their terms sheet - will be workforce housing. Rents between \$1000-\$2000.

- 5. Common Council [25-2185](#)

No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Legislation for volunteer drivers to support them so their car insurance does not go up based on their volunteer service . The Commission would like to sign on to this and support the ability of volunteers to use their own cars and not have insurance repercussions. Dain Maddox make a motion, Dianne Dagenel seconded the motion. Kathy will copy and paste the existing support letter and sign the Commission on. Will share with the group.

Veraunica Ruffin from Eras Senior Network asked how often the group would like Eras updates shared? Kathy Causier shared we want to continue the relationship we had with Vanessa. The Commission would like Eras to share updates on services and events on a quarterly basis. If Eras needs help with advocacy - let the Commission know.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, December 15, 2025 at 4:00 pm.