



Wauwatosa, WI

Senior Commission

Meeting Minutes

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Monday, September 15, 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 4:00 pm by Kathy Causier.

ROLL CALL

Non-voting members Present:

Laura Laurishke, Police Admin Support Specialist

Carmen Pangilinan, Public Health Strategist

Kristen Hecht, Public Health Specialist

Carol O'Brien, Senior Commission new member (appt pending)

Kosta Zervas, Wauwatosa Recreation Department

Guests:

Meegan Archambo, Wauwatosa School District

Scot Ecker, Wauwatosa School District

Bob Heller, Hart Park Square

Ted Martin, Wauwatosa Recreation Department

Present 6 Commissioner, Chair Kathy Causier
Commissioner Dain Maddox
Commissioner Patricia Bruce
Commissioner Dianne Dagele
Commissioner Elise Riepenhoff
Commissioner Jeanne Sidner
Excused 2 Commissioner Michael Meier
Ex-Officio - Alderperson David Lewis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of July 21, 2025 Minutes [25-1472](#)

Kristen Hecht made a motion to approve the minutes. Pat Bruce seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Parking spaces at Hart Park Senior Center [25-1473](#)

Kathy followed up with Dave Simpson, Department of Public Works (DPW), about potentially adding more ADA spaces to the parking lot at Hart Park Senior Center. DPW did a usage study and determined there are sufficient number of spaces, but that it may be helpful to move some of the ADA spaces to a new

location. The Commission agreed this would be helpful.

2. Reframing Aging [25-1475](#)

Carmen shared the Reframing Aging presentation with the Joint Housing Coalition as well as the staff of the Health Department. The Commission is asked to consider possible name changes, such as the Wauwatosa Commission on Aging, for discussion at the October meeting.

3. Funding updates [25-1474](#)

Carmen shared an update on the usage of Senior Commission funds designated to the Health Department for age-friendly efforts. \$400 was spent on August 11 at the Social Connection Input Session. \$850 will be put towards cooking classes being arranged at Tosa East with local business owner, Amberlea Childs. Funds will also be put towards Housing Week activities.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion: Recreation Department Updates – Ted Martin, Director of Wauwatosa Recreation Department [25-1476](#)

Ted shared a presentation about the Senior Tax Exchange Program (STEP) that he is working to implement this fall. The STEP program will place older adults in elementary school libraries to assist with reading to students, kids reading to adults and re-shelving. Ted shared that this program is about bridging generations and building community and was part of what was promised in the referendum. Residents aged 65+ are eligible to apply. There is \$750 max earned per year/per household. \$750 is the average tax increase which is how the amount was decided on. Participants will be considered independent contractors and will get a 1099 at the end of the year. Need to start with structure and routine, so the library is the best starting point and will be Phase One. Will be assigned the same time each week, for 30-60 minutes. Letter and application going out through the Senior Center newsletter in October. Applications will be accepted at the Senior Center. A press release will go out in October, as well as a letter to community organizations. The first 100 households are able to participate. Background check required. Applications will be accepted October to Nov 25. WSD will help with background checks. There will be one mandated training before beginning. January 12 goal date to have breakfast for all participants and have a celebration with a launch of January 20. June 12 - thank you breakfast. July 1 applications will start for the following year. Will ask for feedback from older adults throughout the process. Phase Two - looking at getting into JK and SK rooms; Room Grandparents; Lunch Buddies, Office Greeters, etc. Senior Commission members can help get the word out about the program.

2. Advocacy Updates and Opportunities: AB 410 Healthy Aging Grants; federal budget [25-1477](#)

Kathy reminded the group to sign up for the County ADS Advocacy Alerts. Kathy has drafted a letter to members of Congress regarding the federal budget and potential impacts on older adults. The letter was shared with the group. Edits will be made and the letter will go out. Carmen shared that AB 410/SB 410 Healthy Aging Grants are moving through the state legislature. If funded, this will provide statewide falls prevention awareness and initiatives. The group is in favor of supporting these bills.

WAUWATOSA HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Senior Center/Senior Club [25-1478](#)

Still no power at the Hart Park Senior Center due to the flood, once it is restored and inspected by the city and WE Energies people can get back in. Senior Club still functioning normally. Hoping to be back into HPSC by early October. Credits will be received by those with a class that has been put on hold. Elevator was ruined and has to be replaced. This will take longer. Pat shared the communication around the closure of the center was very good.

2. Police Department [25-1479](#)

Laura had no updates. Kristen shared that an officer from the Department was very helpful in assisting in

the Senior Planet course about scams.

3. Health Department and Age-Friendly Tosa [25-1480](#)

Free from Falls Resource Fair 9/23 Lower Civic Center, County Exec Crowley to attend, Mayor invited, but may not be able to attend; Housing Week - Puzzle Palooza event needed to be moved since it was originally scheduled for the Senior Center. Event will now be held at the Little Red Store. Carmen will share updated flyer. Men's Shed grant decision in October.

4. Joint Housing Coalition [25-1481](#)

New comprehensive plan is in place, city staff and consultant looking at changes to zoning to bring it to compliance to what's in the plan. JHC encouraging the city to be more aggressive in missing middle housing. There will be opportunities for public engagement regarding zoning changes. Sign up for council meeting notifications to find out more about what is going to be discussed at future meetings.

5. Common Council [25-1482](#)

No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, October 20, 2025 at 4:00 pm.