



48 overhang in patio is also in need of repair. Water accumulates in the overhang. It  
needs to be emptied and repaired. Michael Garcia, Recreation Facility Manager, stated  
50 this is the first time he hears of the issue with the overhang in the patio. M. Garcia  
reminded Board members to please email him directly with any concerns so that he can  
52 address them as soon as possible.

54 M. Garcia reiterated the ADA signs posted at the Eastside Center state the restrooms  
are wheelchair accessible. It does not necessarily mean that the restrooms will have an  
56 ADA automatic door opener. The door openers are not a requirement of the ADA  
regulations. F. Lemus inquired if there is a target date for the work to begin. M. Garcia  
58 clarified there has not been a work order placed for the installation of the automatic door  
openers at Eastside Center. He is still waiting for a cost estimate from Facilities for the  
60 automatic door openers at Sage Café. The initial cost estimate for the installation of the  
Sage Café automatic door openers was between \$5,000 to \$10,000. He is waiting for  
62 an exact estimate. If it is closer to the \$10,000.00 amount, it will be more of a challenge  
to find the funds to cover the expense. M. Garcia is interested in attending the  
64 upcoming ADA Advisory Board meeting to provide an update on the ADA accessible  
doors at the Eastside Center. In the interim he informed the Board the restroom doors  
66 at the Eastside Center will be adjusted so that the doors are easier to open and close.  
The restroom doors in the dining room are heavier and have more resistance so it is a  
68 challenge to open the doors. M. Garcia will work with Facilities to adjust the resistance  
of the restroom doors and make them easier for the center participants to open.

70 R. Short, District 6 Representative, requested work orders, discussed at the Board  
72 meetings, be extracted from the minutes and a list compiled for better tracking  
purposes. If a work order is discussed at the Board meetings, staff should take initiative  
74 and follow through to completion. She stated the Eastside Center ADA restroom issue  
has been brought up many times, and it needs to be followed through to completion. R.  
76 Short stated staff needs to be more proactive in getting things done to be in compliance  
with Federal regulations. L. Garcia-Palacios reported as per the City's Risk  
78 Management Department, Senior Programs is in compliance with ADA regulations  
which includes the Eastside Center restrooms and entry ways.

80 Sharlene Wittern, District 3 Representative, commented that in speaking with Sonia  
82 Saldana, Interim Community and Cultural Services Director, she learned that Munson  
Center is the only center owned by the City of Las Cruces. The other centers are  
84 rented. S. Wittern stated it is the responsibility of the owner of the Eastside Center to  
bring the facility up to ADA code. Chair Vega stated it was his understanding the owner  
86 of the facility transferred all the rights to the City. After further discussion, it was  
recommended the staff review the terms of the lease agreement between the City and  
88 the Eastside Community Center to determine who is responsible for ensuring the  
Eastside Center restrooms are ADA accessible and that automatic door openers are  
90 installed. L. Garcia-Palacios will follow up.

**INTERIM SENIOR PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Chair Vega announced John Hamilton submitted a letter to the Board dated September 1, 2016. The letter stated J. Hamilton was informing the advisory Board of his decision to terminate his proposal to provide a Parkinson's Disease program for the clients of the Munson Center. M. Garcia stated he had also been informed by J. Hamilton that he was discontinuing his quest to provide information on Parkinson's Disease. M. Garcia offered his assistance but J. Hamilton was very adamant about canceling the program because he was frustrated with the approval process. M. Garcia stated J. Hamilton's approach was unorthodox, because there were a lot of unanswered questions.

Claudia Chavez, Parks and Recreation Services Manager, reviewed the August 2016 Parks and Recreation 50 plus fitness classes' activity attendance report distributed to Board members. She reported staff was looking into several projects for ADA compliance for the Frank O'Brien Papen Center. The facility must be in compliance for wheelchair and walker accessibility. She stated she understood M. Garcia's frustration because it is a lengthy, time-consuming process to receive approval to renovate the Frank O'Brien Papen Center. Please be patient. The managers try very hard to stay on top of the work orders to ensure they are completed. Please let the seniors know that staff is working to resolve the issues of concern.

C. Chavez reported an increase in attendance for water aerobics and pickle ball. The low attendance activity numbers do not necessarily mean there is low participation, but rather that the participants are preregistered for the classes. The activity with high attendance has people who drop-in on a daily basis. The activity with the smaller attendance numbers are a collective group of people who are preregistered. It is the same people attending the same activity on a regular basis. C. Chavez reported the walking group started this week. Parks and Recreation is trying to do better job of advertising programs and activities. The walking group activity attendance increased by 15 new members as a result of requests to expand the walking group. A large walking path connecting City Hall and Meerscheidt will be created. J. White inquired why there is a \$12.00 charge for the walking program. C. Chavez stated the \$12.00 fee to join the walking group covers the minimal cost of the staff person, and a t-shirt provided to the participants as an incentive. The fee associated with the program also ensures that individuals are committed to the program and attend class on a regular basis. J. White stated she did not understand why there was a charge for the walking group and not the pool players. C. Chavez stated the Parks and Recreation activity fees and charges policy is different from Senior Programs. The Parks and Recreation cost recovery rate for activities is 85% and for adults it is 100%. The Senior Programs fees and charges' schedule is reviewed and approved by the Board.

M. Garcia asked Board members who attended the New Mexico Conference on Aging, to provide feedback about the conference. G. Montalvo, Dr. A. Chavarria, Vice Chair Chavarria, R. Buchanan, J. White, S. Wittern, and Chair Vega attended the New Mexico Conference on Aging held August 22-24, 2016 in Albuquerque, NM. Board members

136 stated they were very impressed with the variety and quality of the workshops. They  
138 provided positive feedback. Vice Chair Chavarria recommended, for next year's  
140 conference, that Senior Programs consider donating door prizes that represent Senior  
142 Programs for the conference. She also strongly encouraged nominating outstanding  
144 volunteers to be recognized at the Conference on Aging. She stated it was a shame  
146 that the only volunteers being recognized and honored were people from Albuquerque,  
148 Santa Fe, and Zuni Pueblo. After further discussion, it was recommended a committee  
be formed to follow through on the recommendation made by Vice Chair Chavarria. R.  
Short nominated J. White. R. Short recommended a committee be established to select  
a volunteer to be recognized and honored at the NM Conference on Aging. There are  
many volunteers who are worthy of the recognition. M. Garcia recommended Ryan  
Steinmetz, Volunteer Coordinator, serve on the committee. Suggestions for  
disseminating information obtained at the conference to center participants was  
discussed.

150 M. Garcia provided an update on issues of concern brought to this attention. He  
152 reported only the big industrial fan can be used at Sage Cafe. However, approval has  
154 been provided by Sonia Saldana to purchase small oscillating fans and place them in  
156 the activity room of Sage Café. He stated the fans will be purchased and placed in the  
158 activity room by this afternoon. M. Garcia will adjust the temperature of room on Friday  
160 and will monitor it over the weekend to determine if it is the HVAC system that is not  
162 cooling properly. R. Buchanan stated this is an on-going issue that is not going to get  
164 any better. There is no air flow in the room. She reported a women had to leave the  
facility early, because she became very ill due to the hot temperature of the room. Fans  
will help with the situation. M. Garcia reiterated Facilities has checked the cooling  
system twice and have said the cooling system is working properly. R. Short stated  
there have been no complaints during the past few months when the weather reached  
103 and 106 degrees. M. Garcia stated one other issue that affects the HVAC system  
is the opening up of the windows. Windows must remain closed at all times to allow the  
HVAC system to work properly.

166 M. Garcia was happy to report the temperature of Munson Center has been adjusted,  
168 and there have been no additional complaints.

170 The toilet seat covers and dispensers for Sage Café were to be installed two weeks  
172 ago. M. Garcia will follow up to ensure the dispensers are installed by the end of the  
month.

174 M. Garcia is working with Dr. Chavarria to finalize the plans for the flag ceremony at  
176 Sage Café. The tentative dates are Wednesday, September 21, or 28, 2016 at 10:30  
178 a.m. It was recommended invitations be sent to the Mayor, Fire Department and City  
Councillors Sorg and Levatino. Dr. A. Chavarria stated Woodmen of the World  
Insurance will provide the refreshments--punch and cookies. They will also provide the  
cups and napkins. He asked for a count of the number of people anticipated to attend

180 be provided to him. R. Short reminded the Board there is stipulation that needs to be  
182 followed in regard to bringing in outside food into the facility. M. Garcia stated food can  
184 be brought into the facility as long as it is not homemade. L. Garcia-Palacios will  
contact the Mayor to see what date he is available to attend. Board members will be  
notified of the date and time. Signs will be posted at the centers. R. Short reminded  
those present that for sanitary purposes a covered punch container should be utilized.

186 L. Garcia-Palacios provided feedback regarding the first mobile food pantry distribution  
188 held at Munson Center. It was a very successful event. There were great volunteers  
190 from the Network Volunteer Program. A total of 60 registered individuals received food  
boxes. The next mobile food pantry distribution date is scheduled for September 21,  
2016 at the Eastside Center.

192 L. Garcia-Palacios reported she attended a National Adult Protective Services  
194 Conference held in Philadelphia from August 29-31, 2016. She attended many  
196 interesting workshops. The conference was very informative. At the conference she  
learned that bullying seems to be a growing trend across the country. She stated staff,  
center participants and Board members need to take a proactive approach to bullying  
by immediately reporting incidents in order to stop this type of behavior at the centers.

198 L. Garcia-Palacios announced at the previous Board meeting she reported Senior  
200 Programs is collaborating with Dona Ana County Community and Constituents  
Department and other local agencies to provide a Senior Resource and Informational  
202 Fair on October 19, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Dona Ana Community  
College East Mesa Campus. There has been an overwhelming response from  
204 interested vendors that there is a waiting list. Preregistration is required to attend the  
fair and is limited to the first 100 participants. L. Garcia-Palacios will meet and distribute  
206 the registration packets to each of the site center representatives. Senior Programs will  
provide transportation. A continental breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided by  
208 Casa de Peregrinos to those in attendance. L. Garcia-Palacios stated she is unsure  
why there was a limit set. She believes it is because of the limited space. She will  
210 inquire if there any possibility of increasing the number of participants. She encouraged  
Board members to spread the word because it is on the first come, first serve basis.

212 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** An update was provided on the September 2016 Senior  
214 Programs' Open Action Items. Action item number 12—promote the bond issue for  
funding for the central kitchen design remains in the works.

216 Action number 14—distribution of educational information regarding neurodegenerative  
218 diseases, particularly Parkinson's disease. There was Board consensus to close this  
action item as per J. Hamilton's request to terminate his proposal to provide a  
220 Parkinson's Disease program for the clients of the Munson Center.

222 **CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:** Dr. A. Chavarria commended the  
224 Eastside Center volunteers. He commented the food is great and Roger Bishop,  
226 Nutrition and Meal Services Manager, is very efficient.

228 R. Short stated the knitting group activity held at Munson Center was not advertised in  
230 the Senior Programs' newsletter. M. Garcia apologized and stated the reason it was not  
232 advertised was because he was out of the office, so by the time he returned the  
234 newsletter had been printed. However, flyers have been posted at the centers.

236 Chair Vega stated the Senior Programs' annual report is being compiled. The report  
238 provides an overview the programs accomplishments for FY16. A group picture of the  
240 Advisory Board will be taken at the next meeting.

242 R. Bayla reported the lunch program at Sage Café is doing very well. There is a waiting  
244 list on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the lunch program.

246 Secretary Darby recommended holding the meetings in one central location and  
248 including a set time, instead of the rotating the meetings to each of the centers. Chair  
250 Vega stated the Board voted to rotate the meetings, at a previous Board meeting, to  
252 each of the centers to allow center participants the opportunity to attend Board  
254 meetings. The Board felt it was beneficial to rotate meetings to the different locations.

256 C. Chavez announced the Plaza de Las Cruces, formerly known as the Downtown  
258 Plaza, grand opening is scheduled for September 17, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. A variety of  
260 activities have been planned. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

262 Senior Programs is offering a series of free nutrition education workshops provided by a  
264 registered dietitian. Participants will learn how to a make healthy food choices, receive  
266 shopping tips and observe cooking demonstrations. The workshops have been  
268 scheduled at each of the centers. The upcoming nutrition education workshops will be  
270 held on September 13, 2016 at Frank O'Brien Papen Center at 12:00 p.m.; September  
272 22, 2016 at Sage Café at 12:00 p.m.; and September 30, 2016 at Eastside Community  
274 Center at 12:30 p.m. The classes are free and open to the public.

276 **UPCOMING MEETING:** The next regular Senior Programs Advisory Board meeting is  
278 scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Sage Café  
280 Senior Center, 6121 Reynolds Drive, Las Cruces, NM.

282 **ADJOURNMENT:** Dr. A. Chavarria moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. R.  
284 Short seconded the motion. Vote: 9 Ayes; 0 Nays. Motion carried unanimously.

286 Submitted,  
288   
290 Marilu Darby, Secretary 9/10-14-16

292   
294 Toni Flores, Recording Secretary