



AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: July 26, 2011

TO: City Council

FROM: Senior Committee

SUBJECT: Fourth and Final Senior Committee Quarterly Report

RECOMMENDATION: Receive Senior Committee Fourth and Final Quarterly Report.

SUMMARY:

Estimated Fiscal Impact:

Amount: None

Budgeted: No

Public Hearing Notice: None

Previous Council Consideration: August 24, 2010; December 14, 2010; March 22, 2011

CEQA Status (If Required): None

Attachment:

1. Senior Committee Charter

Beverly Tucker, Recreation Director

Date

Douglas J. Schmitz, City Manager

Date

BACKGROUND:

The Senior Committee's Charter states that the Committee shall provide a quarterly report to the Council. This report is intended to demonstrate the Senior Committee's quarterly accomplishments. (See Attachment 1)

DISCUSSION:

The data from 1,032 returned Questionnaires, questions 1 through 22, was entered into the Survey Monkey software by Edward Chou, a City of Los Altos intern. The comments from questions 23 and 24, open ended questions, were entered word for word by the members of the Senior Committee. The Committee has been analyzing the information and hosted two events to inform interested community members about the results. The first event was Thursday, June 23, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Neutra House and the second was Friday, June 24, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. at the Senior Center. A more detailed report is being prepared for both City Councils.

A basic resource book for seniors is being compiled to assist seniors and/or their family members find supportive services. It is not intended to list every source available, but is meant to be a good beginning, eliminating numerous search sites. Topics covered will be Transportation, Housing, Health Services, Food and Meal Programs, Education and Social Participation (includes Volunteer Opportunities). It will be placed at both City Halls, the Senior Center and both libraries. It will also be placed on the Senior Center website.

The recommendation by the Committee to increase the Senior Luncheon fees from \$2 to \$4 for the second Friday of the month and from \$4 to \$6 for the last Friday of the month was approved by the Los Altos City Council. The new rate started in May. The recommendation to provide a Scholarship Fund to help financially stressed seniors with the annual Senior Center membership fee, the luncheons and the cost of some classes was not approved. The Committee was asked to do more research on the details of this process and bring it back to the Council. The Committee has contacted nearby cities to see how/if they have such a program. We have received replies containing their written criteria and application forms. A form already used by Los Altos that can be slightly revised is being reviewed.

A proposal and presentation was prepared by Committee member, Dr. Anabel Pelham and approved unanimously by the Committee asking both City Councils to apply to the Age-Friendly Cities Network to be designated as an Age-Friendly City. It has already been presented to the Town of Los Altos Hills City Council and approved. It was presented to the Los Altos City Council on June 28, 2011.

A letter was sent to both Councils requesting the continuation of the Senior Committee past its first year, ending June 1, 2011. Los Altos Hills changed the status of the Senior Committee to a Permanent Standing Committee (they have no Commissions) and Los Altos changed the Committee to Commission status.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

ALTERNATIVES:

None.

Los Altos/Los Altos Hills Senior Committee Charter

The charter of the joint Los Altos/Los Altos Hills (LA/LAH) Senior Committee is to promote and enhance the quality of life and well-being of senior citizens in both communities.

To accomplish this we shall:

- advise both City Councils on Senior needs and issues;
- make recommendations about programs and resources that pertain to Seniors; gather information from the Senior community;
- invite community stakeholders currently serving Seniors to collaborate and share information;
- assist in identifying funding agencies and sources, and in applying for grants;
- define opportunities for Seniors to make significant contributions to the community;
- meet monthly and conduct business as required;
- provide a quarterly written report to each Council and be available to meet with each Council at least once a year.