

**MOORPARK CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: The Honorable City Council

FROM: Mary Lindley, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director

BY: Peggy Rothschild, Active Adult Center Supervisor 

DATE: February 18, 2009 (CC meeting of March 4, 2009)

SUBJECT: Consider Disbanding the Active Adult Center Advisory Committee and Instituting Twice-Yearly Forums at the Active Adult Center

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Active Adult Center Advisory Committee is to advise staff about issues of concern to older adults, to advise City staff on program and activity development, and to channel communication between City staff and Center participants. The Committee's responsibilities include advising City staff on the needs of older adults, assisting with program promotion, organizing special events, and making recommendations to staff as to the policies and procedures related to the operation and scheduling of the Active Adult Center.

Due to declining interest in serving on the Advisory Committee, staff is seeking City Council approval to disband the Active Adult Center Advisory Committee and hold twice-yearly Forums to obtain program input and suggestions from senior citizens.

DISCUSSION

The Active Adult Center Advisory Committee was first established in 1993 with three members appointed for a one-year term and four members appointed for a two year term. In 1994, committee membership was reduced to five members and beginning in 1995, members were all appointed to a two-year term. Members are eligible to reapply and serve consecutive terms. All applications received by the recruitment due date are presented to the City Council for appointment.

For the 2009-2011 term of the Active Adult Center Advisory Committee, the City Clerk's office issued an initial call for applicants and received two applications during the recruitment period. The recruitment was reopened and advertised and one additional application was received for a total of three applicants. The recruitment was opened for a third time and no additional applications were received. During all three recruitments,

information was posted at the Active Adult Center and staff promoted the volunteer opportunity to Active Adult Center program participants. In previous years, as interest in the Committee waned, staff worked very hard to recruit a sufficient number of members. This year our efforts failed.

As recruitment efforts to locate interested older adults to serve on the Active Adult Center Advisory Committee have not garnered the needed five applicants, staff is recommending disbanding the committee and holding a twice-yearly Forum to field comments and suggestions regarding Active Adult Center activities and programming needs from those age 55 and up in Moorpark. These Forums would be formatted similarly to those held annually at the Active Adult Center by the former mayor. These Forums brought in a diverse audience of older adults and people interested in senior citizen issues, which were able to share a range of concerns, issues, and suggestions.

Staff would assume responsibility for promoting, scheduling and staffing these twice-yearly forums (Spring and Fall). An agenda would be prepared and information about past programs, upcoming events, and program and service issues would be shared with attendees. The Spring Forum would coincide with staff's budget planning efforts and development of new program objectives. Comments and suggestions received at each forum would be recorded in writing and forwarded to the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve disbanding the Active Adult Center Advisory Committee and direct staff to incorporate twice-yearly meetings to garner program input at the Active Adult Center.
2. Direct staff to delete reference to the Advisory Committee in the Council Policies Resolution and add the new policy regarding the twice yearly forums, at the time of the next Policies Resolution update.