

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Senior Citizen Commission of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 6:01 PM on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, in the Nakaoka Community Center.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Barentine at 6:01 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Linda Barentine, Member Peggy Evans, Member Annie Roddy

Absent: Vice Chair Shari Farmer

In Attendance: Nicola Howard, Staff Liaison; Lauren Starnes, Social Services Coordinator

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Member Roddy

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Evans and was seconded by Member Roddy to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2025 meeting. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0 (Evans, Roddy, Barentine).

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Guidelines and Procedures for the Senior Citizen Commission – Members concluded the discussion regarding the Guidelines and Procedures for Senior Citizen Commission. Liaison Howard will update the guidelines as discussed and present a draft at the February meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Social Services Coordinator, Lauren Starnes, introduced herself and spoke about her role coordinating the Supportive Services Program and case management for the HDM program. She shared that she has taken other employment and February 6, 2026 will be her last day with the City.

8. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Chair Barentine continues volunteering with Meals on Wheels and the Walking Club and attended the District 2. The Walking Club had a group of ten that participated in the MLK Parade. She also attended a virtual SBCCOG Seniors meeting.
- b. Member Evans continues with Second Time Around meetings and also attended the Winter Gala.
- c. Member Roddy attended the Winter Gala, Bingo Night, and January Candlelight.

9. STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Liaison Howard reported:

- **Program Updates**

- SSP – Will be advertising to hire a Geriatric Aide to assist with transportation and light housekeeping.
- ENP – Congregate meals are going well and we have seen an increase in attendees at NCC. The temporary Grab and Go program at Nakaoka will be ending. HDM currently has a waitlist. We are working on adding clients from the waitlist to the program. We are in need of additional volunteer drivers.
- Senior Day Care – Hired two Certified Nursing Assistants so we now have three on staff. The program will be moving to the new Senior Center once it opens.
- BRIDGE session took place January 13. Seniors and afterschool children played Family Feud together. Next activity is March 10.
- Art Therapy has started. A Loyola Marymount intern is conducting group and individual art therapy sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays.

- **Upcoming Events** – Flyers were shared and discussed for the following:

- BRIDGE – 2026 dates
- Senior On the Go Trip to LA Lakers game – February 24, 2026
- Candlelight Dinner – February 26, 2026
- Mas Fukai Community Meeting – February 28, 2026

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 7:07 pm was made by Member Roddy and was seconded by Member Evans. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0 (Roddy, Evans, Barentine). Next meeting to be Wednesday, February 19, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the Nakaoka Community Center.

APPROVED:

Nuvia Howard

Staff Liaison

Linda Barentine

Linda Barentine, Chair