



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Public Services

MEETING DATE: July 17, 2018

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Sandoval, Recreation Superintendent

AGENDA LOCATION: AR-1

TITLE: Agreement with Serenity Care Health to Provide Meals for the City's First Senior Nutrition Program for the period ending June 30, 2019

OBJECTIVE: To approve an agreement with Serenity Care Health to provide meals for the City's new Senior Nutrition Program through June 30, 2019.

BACKGROUND: Providing programs and services to the senior community is a core function of the Community Services Division of the Public Services Department. These activities provide social engagement, foster friendships, and support those looking to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle.

The City currently offers excursions, crafting clubs, educational discussions, and health & wellness activities. In addition the City provides space for senior clubs to meet, socialize, play games, and enjoy fellowship with one another. Currently, there are two separate clubs that meet weekly at the Community Center, including the New Horizon Club every Tuesday, and the Gad-A-Bouts Club every Wednesday.

As a part of the Fiscal Year 2018/19 Budget development process, City Council Member Spicer requested that staff investigate the possibility of implementing a Senior Nutrition Lunch Program to be held at the Community Center, with the goal being to offer a nutritious meal to the seniors at their weekly club meetings. Ultimately, the full City Council endorsed the request to develop the proposed Senior Nutrition Lunch Program and funding for the initiative was allocated into our approved FY 2018/19 spending plan.

ANALYSIS: Based on the direction received from the City Council, staff has investigated various options to establish a Senior Nutrition Lunch Program, which have included discussions with Los Angeles County, development of a grant funded program, as well as various local partnership opportunities.

Staff found that competitive grant funding is available through the County of Los Angeles Community and Senior Services (CSS) program. CSS provides nutrition programs, supportive services, and other life-enhancing programs to seniors. However, CSS is currently in the middle of a 4 year grant cycle (2016 – 2020) and their new Request for Proposals (RFP) will not be available until 2020. Staff has already requested that Monrovia be placed on the contact list for the grant notification when the CSS distributes the new RFP, and we have incorporated development of a grant funded nutrition program through CSS into our existing work plans.

In the interim period, to ensure the City's ability to institute a Senior Nutrition Lunch Program could be offered starting this year, the City Council approved \$30,000 to support development of the initiative. Given that approved funding, staff has met with various local stakeholders to discuss different ways a Senior Nutrition Lunch Program could be instituted immediately.

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Based on the options we have identified, a partnership with Serenity Care Health (SCH) has been identified as the best fit to support the desired program. SCH has local ties to the Monrovia community, as the company currently provides food for the Meals on Wheels Program offered by the Volunteer Center of the San Gabriel Valley. In addition, SCH provides 3 meals per day for the residents at Henrietta’s Leven Oaks facility in Old Town. As staff has conducted additional due diligence, we have identified that SCH complies with all nutritional standards set by LA County, and they have licensed facilities and staff preparing all meals. Finally, SCH is a cost effective option, as they are able to provide a hot, well-balanced, and nutritious meal – complete with dessert and all paper goods – for \$5.25 per participant.

Based on the current Senior Club attendance, staff determined the approved budget would be sufficient to support current membership levels, while also allowing for additional club enrollment.

Program Days	Number of Participants	Cost	Total # of weeks	Total
Tuesday	35	\$5.25	52	\$9,555.00
Wednesday	45	\$5.25	52	\$12,285.00
Total				\$21,840.00

As staff has worked to develop the program, one item for consideration is the proposal to request a donation of \$1.00 - \$2.00 per participant in the Senior Nutrition Lunch Program. While it is not necessary to pay to access the program, staff would recommend instituting the donation rule now given our intention to seek LA County funding for the program in 2020. As part of LA County Senior Nutrition Lunch Program requirements, the City will have to request suggested donations from program participants. Again, no participant would be required to donate, and there are no cost recovery expectations, however, to ensure program continuity, staff would recommend instituting the donation guideline now. Any funds that are received would be reinvested back into senior programs to provide enhanced services and activities.

If approved by the City Council, staff will meet with the president of each Senior Club to discuss the program and ways to coordinate the launch of the Senior Nutrition Lunch Program.

FISCAL IMPACT: Funding is available in the approved FY 18/19 Operating Budget.

OPTIONS: The following options are provided for City Council’s consideration:

- 1) Approve the agreement with Serenity Care Health for providing meals for a Senior Nutrition Lunch Program held twice a week at the Community Center.
- 2) Do not approve the agreement and direct staff otherwise.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Option 1: approve the agreement with Serenity Care Health for providing meals for a Senior Nutrition Lunch Program for the period ending June 30, 2019.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: If the City Council concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion to approve an agreement with Serenity Care Health to provide meals for a Senior Nutrition Program for the period ending June 30, 2019, and authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents in a form approved by the City Attorney.