



VILLAGE OF MORTON GROVE

Advisory Commission on Aging Agenda

Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

American Legion Memorial Civic Center, Main Hall Library
6140 Dempster Street, Morton Grove, Illinois

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call
- 4) Approval of Minutes – February 10, 2026, Minutes
- 5) Old Business
 - Older Adult Transportation & Chore Program Updates (L. Schild)
 - Partnerships
 - Abundant Harvest Update (Comm. Beaubian)
 - Activity & Luncheon Sponsorships (O. Salgado)
 - Programming
 - Monthly Senior Activity Update (O. Salgado)
 - Senior Expo Review (Z. Heidorn)
 - Community Updates:
 - **Comprehensive Plan Workshop Activity**
 - Dempster Street Corridor Plan – <https://plandempster.org/>
 - Smart911 & Community Alerts - <https://www.smart911.com/>
- 6) New Business
- 7) Reports from Commissioners
- 8) Liaison Reports
- 9) Public Comment
- 10) Next Meeting Date – **Tuesday, June 9, 2026 – 1:00 p.m.** (Civic Center)
- 11) Adjournment

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2026,
MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING
American Legion Memorial Civic Center
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053**

Pursuant to proper notice in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the regular meeting of the Advisory Commission on Aging was called to order at 1:07 p.m. by Chairperson Hornstein, who led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called. In attendance were:

Members of Commission Present: Chairperson Hope Hornstein, Dr. Farooq Ahmed (1:22 p.m.), Lea Beaubien, Jan Pietron, Gladys Rosas, Clerk Eileen Scanlon Harford (Village Board Liaison)

Members Absent: Josephine Meehan, Mary Senkowski

Staff Present: Ovie Salgado, Senior Center Coordinator
Zoe Heidorn, Assistant Village Administrator

Old Business

Older Adult Transportation & Chore Program Updates

Because Liz Schild, Village Social Worker, was unable to attend the meeting, Zoe Heidorn provided a brief update on the Older Adult Transportation Program. She said that participation remains consistent and that the Village promotes both programs through Facebook and Instagram. Mr. Salgado said that Ms. Schild primarily handles these programs and provides day-to-day support to residents.

Senior Center Partnerships

Commissioner Beaubien provided an update on the Abundant Harvest Program. She said that they currently serve thirteen people. One person was recently removed from the program due to health issues. If anyone knows of anyone in need, they have an opening. The Morton Grove Community Church is also seeking volunteers to assist with the program. The Commissioners discussed how they could promote the program and help encourage volunteers. Ms. Heidorn said that they could hand out the flyers at the Senior Expo.

Commissioner Pietron asked about the time commitment for volunteers. Commissioner Beaubien said the time commitment is typically twice per month on Wednesdays. The church's pastor does all the shopping. The volunteers wash the produce and put it in baskets to be delivered. She confirmed that the church is the Morton Grove Community Church, but they're now located in a log cabin in Skokie. Clerk Scanlon Harford said that she would like to promote this during the Board meeting.

Senior Activity Update

In December and January, Mr. Salgado reported that the Morton Grove Civic Center had about 460 people come through the building for services, including senior services. He said that attendance and visits tend to drop in the winter months, then pick up in the warmer months. He said that there was no luncheon in January, but they had about 60 people at the February luncheon. They had a Hawaiian group perform for the attendees.

Mr. Salgado said that Xylem has been a wonderful volunteer partner at the Morton Grove Civic Center. Chairperson Hornstein said that they are very friendly and helpful at the luncheons. Mr. Salgado said that their staff are incredibly responsible and that the person overseeing the volunteer program always follows up to ensure quality control.

Mr. Salgado said that they have a good partnership with Mariano's, which provides vaccination services on the first Friday of the month. He said that many seniors don't want to sign up to participate, but they will go back and

approach the nurses directly. He said that Mariano's staff always approach seniors and engage with them, which he encourages of all groups providing services at the Civic Center.

Mr. Salgado reported that 135 appointments have been made to receive tax preparation assistance this tax season through AARP. He said that the appointment slots filled up very quickly. There are fewer appointments than usual due to the lack of AARP volunteer assistance. Mr. Salgado said that he is no longer able to take appointments, but many seniors continue to seek them. He is not maintaining a waitlist because the list would be too long.

Mr. Salgado reported that the art class is going very well. He would like to set up a table at National Night Out to display the seniors' artwork.

Mr. Salgado then said that he had to increase the price of the luncheon from \$12 to \$15 per meal. He received feedback that the new increased price is generally acceptable to attendees. He noted that he is very sensitive to the financial constraints of his guests and doesn't want to lose guests. He knows that other Villages charge more, but he wants to be respectful of seniors with tight budgets. Chairperson Hornstein said that Mr. Salgado delivered a very cordial note to guests on the matter. She noted that Mr. Salgado welcomed people to approach him directly if they have issues paying for the increased price. She appreciated this flexibility in working with senior guests.

Commissioner Ahmed said that a lot of the local senior service providers were willing to sponsor the luncheons, which was helpful to seniors. Commissioner Rosas said that she has seen other organizations and businesses ask for donors to help cover individuals who are unable to pay.

Commissioner Pietron asked if larger corporations like Panera tend to sponsor luncheons or provide in-kind donations of food. Mr. Salgado said that typically, no. Rather, it's smaller restaurants that can provide low-cost food options for the luncheons. Commissioner Ahmed said that he would seek sponsors for the luncheon. Commissioner Beaubien asked about the average cost per meal. Mr. Salgado said that it depends on the type of food being provided. Prices also tend to change over time.

Ms. Heidorn said that they would probably need to work through a more formal process for offering discounted meal rates so that they were offering the discount equitably. Mr. Salgado said that they could certainly offer coupons and have individuals or sponsors cover the cost of the discounted meal.

Senior Resources Guide

The Commissioners reviewed the draft Senior Resources Guide prepared by Ms. Heidorn, which was completed since the last meeting. Ms. Heidorn asked that the Commissioners provide comments or revisions to the guide sooner than later, and said that she had asked the IT Director for a quote to print 500 copies. The Commissioners discussed distributing the guide at the Civic Center, Village Hall, and other locations throughout the community.

Chairperson Hornstein said that it's amazing what the Village does with what they have, especially communications for seniors. Ms. Heidorn noted the dramatic difference between Morton Grove, Niles, and Skokie in terms of budget and staffing, adding that Morton Grove is always compared to the abutting communities even though it is working with significantly fewer resources. Morton Grove tries its best to work with what it has to produce helpful materials and the highest quality services to residents.

Resident Handbook

Ms. Heidorn then referred to the 2026 Resident Handbook and offered the Commissioners copies. Chairperson Hornstein said that the handbook is very helpful and well-loved by Morton Grove seniors. Clerk Scanlon Harford said that staff should put a little sign up where people pick up the handbooks and encourage them to view the handbook online. Ms. Heidorn responded that they have a couple of signs with QR codes linking to the handbook online, but that they should install more.

Senior Expo

Ms. Heidorn said that they have 26 registered exhibitors for the upcoming Senior Expo on Friday, March 13, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Morton Grove Civic Center. She said that organizations have been very responsive and appreciative of the opportunity to meet with residents. She reviewed the list of exhibitors with the Commissioners and added that she expected a few more in the coming weeks. The group discussed the ability to offer presentations by exhibitors and decided that the space might be too confined, and sound might be an issue. Commissioner Rosas suggested that staff follow up with the vendors after the event to see what topics they would be interested in presenting on next year based on attendee interest and feedback.

Commissioner Pietron asked if the DMV would be interested in attending to provide information on the services they provide at the Evanston location, which are excellent. Chairperson Hornstein said that their services are not known to many seniors. Ms. Heidorn said that the last time the Village contacted them, they were overwhelmed with the Real ID initiative, but that she would reach out to inquire. The Commissioners continued to discuss the registered exhibitors, set up, and logistics of the event.

Community Updates

Ms. Heidorn said that the Police Department confirmed that the next Fraud Prevention Seminar is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2026, at the Civic Center. More details would follow. She said that the next Dempster Corridor Plan Community Workshop would be held on Thursday, March 19, at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center. She also mentioned the proposed Dempster Street TIF District and encouraged anyone with questions about the TIF District or the current Village Hall site to contact her directly. She confirmed that there are no current plans for redevelopment or sale of the Village Hall site, and that the Village would probably not move to the new location until 2028.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Pietron asked if Ms. Heidorn knows of any support groups for senior caregivers. She knows an individual who is seeking a group. Ms. Heidorn said that she would ask Ms. Schild and follow up.

Clerk Scanlon Harford said that some residences that employ caregivers offers support groups. Ms. Heidorn said that she was aware of specific illness support groups, but not of general support groups. Mr. Salgado said that he knew of a place that could offer free support services, and that he would connect Commissioner Pietron.

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.**

Clerk Scanlon Harford made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pietron. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Minutes by: Zoe Heidorn, Assistant Village Administrator