

Draft Minutes of the Ridgefield Commission on Aging (CoA) Meeting  
June 16, 2025, at 2:30pm  
Small Conference Room, Town Hall

Commissioner Yaffa called the meeting to order at 2:35PM which was the first Order of Business. Commissioners Culhane, Nolan, Yaffa, Martin, Mullin, Tewes, Orr, Richards and Kabasakalian were present. Also present Tony Phillips, Director of Social Services and Karen Gaudian, Municipal Agent for the Elderly. Excused was Volunteer Rutvi Vohra. Eric Berkley attended as a guest.

As to the 2nd Order of Business, Ms. Yaffa invited public comment. Guest Eric Berkley Commented that the There was one comment stating that the Expo was great.

As to the 3rd Order of Business, approving the 5/19/2025 CoA minutes- Mr. Tewes made a motion to approve said minutes and Ms. Kabasakalian seconded the motion. No discussion, the said Minutes were unanimously approved.

As to the 4th Order of Business, Expo Report.

- Survey results - Participants, Mr. Tewes reported on the overall positive results in the areas surveyed.
- Survey results - Exhibitors, Mr. Tewes reported on the overall positive results in the areas surveyed.
- Gratitude emails to all, completed.
- BOS presentation to BOS on 6/11/25 - Ms. Yaffa and Ms. Nolan reported on conveying a report to the BOS which was well received.

As to the 5th Order of Business, Housekeeping

- Financials, Ms. Gaudian reported that we have \$134 remaining of the 2024-2025 budget. The CoA has been approved to receive \$500 for its 2025-2026 budget; fiscal year ends June 30, 2025. There is \$778.72 remaining in the Leir grant account and \$2,300 remaining in the intern account. Additionally there is approximately \$41,938.90 in the Expo special account.
- End of Fiscal Year 6/30/25, Mt. Phillips reported that the net proceeds from the Expo of approximately \$45,000 has been placed in a special account. This will assure that those monies will not get swept into the general fund and is reserved for improvements in transportation.

As to the 6th Order of Business, BOS appointed new Commissioner John Richards. Ms. Nolan and Ms. Yaffa announced congratulations to Mr. Richards and that the CoA has a full and complete complement of 9 Commissioners on its Board.

As to the 7th Order of Business, COA Priorities, review where Commissioners will be focusing. The group discussed their areas of interest. Mr. Tewes is looking into the possibility of Adult Day Care, Ms. Martin is pursuing the Time Capsule, both new areas of priorities. Transportation

remains an important focus. Ms. Kabasakalian discussed Senior Housing. Ms. Culhane is interested in adding the increased method of utilizing social media outreach to seniors. Additional comments will be at the next Board meeting in September. Other areas include food Insecurity and Senior Voices.

As to the 8th Order of Business, Need for a Board Secretary. No decision was made. Ms. Yaffa will remain as Acting Secretary and will raise the question in September.

As to the 9th Order of Business -

- Consideration of frequency of additional Expos, This requires further research and discussion. This is tabled until the next Board meeting in September at which time a decision will be made.

As to the 10th Order of Business, Commendations for Consideration. Ms. Nolan and Ms. Yaffa discussed the potential recipients. Suggested recipients and their areas of contribution were sent to the Commissioners in advance.

As to the 11th Order of Business, all agreed on the suggestions. Ms. Nolan and Ms. Yaffa will complete the descriptions of the named recipients.

As to the 12th Order of Business, Ms. Yaffa and Ms. Nolan discussed the CoA participating in the CoC Summerfest being held July 26, 2025. Everyone is in favor, discussion of who will work which shifts was determined.

As to the 13th Order of Business, Dues authorization for Chamber of Commerce. All agreed to ask to make partial payment now and the remainder in July. Ms. Yaffa will reach out to CoC to finalize.

As to the 14th Order of Business, Next Meeting date of September 15th was announced. This follows the standard Summer hiatus of no meetings held in July and August 2025.

As to the 15th Order of business, there was no further business before the CoA, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20PM following a motion made by Ms. Kabasakalian and seconded by Ms. Orr, no further discussion, passed unanimously

The above is a true and accurate summary of the CoA 6/16/2025 meeting.

Patricia Yaffa  
Acting Secretary

