

DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY

ISSUE NUMBER: YSS 7

ISSUE CATEGORY: Youth & Senior Services

SOURCE: Citizen, Charter Convention
Workshop on Seniors, 11/7/10

RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS:

RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:

RELEVANT LAW(S):

ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT: Create a Seniors Department and related issues. See the notes and summary of the Workshop on Seniors (below) for related items:

- No address of seniors
 - Future, comfort, health, Sr. Dept.
- Needed back – senior population growing rapidly
- Hospitals send seniors to
 - Suburban nursing homes – how to keep seniors in Detroit?
 - No assisted living in Detroit
- Include rationale for including these things in charter, for implementers and future charter commissions
- Exclude ability of elected officials to remove Sr. Dept. from existence
- Sr. Dept. – access to all city departments with city services, e.g., transportation - sr. citizens, grant \$\$ - does it go to DAAA, or to various service departments/mayor’s office?
- Mayoral/Executive Branch involvement in Sr. Dept. to ensure results
- One person – a department head – accountable for delivery of city services to seniors
- Communication / referrals between service departments/agencies to provide effective services to seniors (housing, transportation, clinics, etc.)
- Income guidelines > priority to seniors re: NOF; lower/exempt taxes for seniors vision care, foot care, walkers, in-home care – bonded staff
- Sr. services – create jobs, e.g., snow removal
- Advocate/Ombudsman to provide info re: available services, benefits. Keep up-to-date on this; able to act in legal arena on behalf of seniors
- Sr. Council needed to advise on sr. needs, issues
- Wellness Centers, Health Care, Counseling, Referrals to other available sr. services, preventive services
- Somehow create “bridges” between youth – adults – seniors, e.g., seniors into schools, organize youth to protect seniors
- Part of CDC’s: include seniors and youth groups

- Senior calls to DPD should be priority calls
- Eating clubs in neighborhoods
- Seniors involved in farming
- Schools needed to serve more than students, i.e. seniors
- Utilize media (Public – TV) to communicate senior resources

❖ **All recommendations coming to Charter Commission should be documented and referred to appropriate officials and archived.**

- two senior information fairs
- get school children to perform at conventions
- no Sunday sessions
- children, youth and seniors mentioned in charter – mission statement

RATIONALE: See Notes from Charter Convention Workshop on Seniors.

ANALYSIS: On April 12, 2006 Mayor Kilpatrick filed amendments to the Executive Organization Plan required by §7-102 (Assignment of Authorized Functions) of the Charter, which were approved by the City Council resolution and effective July 7, 2006. Amendment No. 3 and Item No. 5 of Amendment No. 6 transferred to the Office of the Mayor (Neighborhood City Halls) the functions of the former Department of Senior Citizens. These functions related to senior citizens advocacy, information and referral activities. [NEED MORE INFORMATION ON WHETHER THIS ADVOCACY FUNCTION IS CURRENTLY SERVED WITH CURRENT ARRANGEMENT; HOW ITS BEING SERVED,ETC, Why gotten rid of?]

DISPOSITION/COMMISSION ACTION:

NOTES: