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#### Abstract

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE AGE-FRIENDLY LITTLE ROCK COMMISSION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.


WHEREAS, a Mayoral Task Force on Aging was created in 2018 to look at the possibilities and programs the City could and should develop to deal with its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2019, the Taskforce on Aging: Report and Recommendations was presented to the Little Rock Board of Directors; and,

WHEREAS, it was determined that a standing commission of the City should be created to deal with age-friendly issues; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayoral Task Force on Aging has made recommendations about the formation of such a Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. The Age-Friendly Little Rock Commission ("the Commission") is hereby created subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this ordinance.

Section 2. Finding. The Board of Directors finds that it is important to have a Commission that will meet:
(a) to ascertain the current level of services for older people - defined as fifty-five (55) years old and above - by the City and other significant providers such as the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences ("UAMS"), CareLink and churches; and,
(b) to ascertain the current infrastructure to access such services; and,
(c) to compile and study the demographics of the population of the City of Little Rock ("the City") in terms of age; and,
(d) to identify the level of services which older people in various parts of the City may obtain, and if gaps are found to address those gaps; and,
(e) to make specific recommendations to the Board of Directors about such issues, and any others that may be addressed to the Commission by the Mayor and Members of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Membership. The membership of the Commission shall be selected as follows:
(a) Seven (7) members shall be elected with one each from the Ward Districts established for election to the Board of Directors; further, if at any time there is an increase or decrease in this number of Districts, this provision shall automatically be changed to reflect such change;
(b) Eight (8) members to be selected at large.

Section 4. Term. Each member of the Commission, except the initial membership, shall serve a four (4)-year term. The initial Commission appointees shall draw lots as set forth below to determine the initial term for the initial seat. After a person's term has expired, or a successor has served the balance of the initial term, the successor will be selected for a four (4)-year term:
(a) Four (4) persons shall be selected to serve a term of one (1)-year, and upon the completion of that initial term, the successor shall be selected for a term of four (4) years;
(b) Four (4) persons shall be selected to serve a term of two (2) years, and upon the completion of that initial term, the successors shall be selected for a term of four (4) years;
(c) Four (4) persons shall be selected to serve a term of three (3) year, and upon the completion of that initial term, the successor shall be selected for a term of four (4) years; and,
(d) Three (3) persons shall be selected to serve a term of four (4) years, and upon the completion of that initial term, the successor shall be selected for a term of four (4) years.
Section 5. Bylaws and Officers. The Commission is permitted to adopt bylaws, and to elect as Officers a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary, as deemed necessary to fulfill its obligations. The term of office for each Officer shall be two (2) years, provided that if an initial Officer only has a one (1)-year term, then the initial term for that Officer will be one (1)-year, and the successor shall be elected for a two (2) year term.

Section 6. Compliance with City Policies \& Procedures. The Commission shall always conduct its business in a manner that complies with the policies and procedures of the City, complies with Arkansas State Law including, but not limited to, the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act, and complies with any applicable Federal Law.

Section 7. Life of the Commission. The Commission shall continue to operate until such time as it may be abolished or merged at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 8. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional was not originally a part of the ordinance.

Section 9. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 10. Emergency Clause. The assurance of appropriate programs for the City population aged fifty-five (55) and above is essential to the public health, safety, and welfare, and the creation of this Commission to continue to monitor these matters and make recommendations or reports to the Board of
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Directors is crucial to meeting this need; an emergency is, therefore, declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage.
PASSED: February 5, 2019
ATTEST:

Susan Langley, City Clerk

## APPROVED:

## APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

## Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

