



**Senior Advisory Committee
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of May 04, 2026
Assembly Hall
395 Magnolia Road
Pinehurst, North Carolina
03:00 p.m.**

The Senior Advisory Committee held a Regular Meeting at 03:00 p.m., Monday, May 04, 2026, in the Assembly Hall of Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The following were present:

Mr. Patrick Pizzella, Mayor
Mr. John Taylor, Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Council Member
Mr. Doug Willardson, Village Manager
Ms. Nicole Benbow, Recreation Program Coordinator

Ms. Kathy Beeman RN, SAC Member
Bill Grover MD, PhD., SAC Member
Ms. Carolyn Horton, SAC Member
Ms. Suzanne LaFollette-Black, SAC Member
Ms. Marti Harrigan, SAC Member
Mr. Mike Pearce, SAC Member
Ms. Lisa Smith, SAC Member
Ms. Patricia Smith RN, SAC Member
Hon. Beth Walker, SAC Member

1. Call to Order & Opening Remarks

Mayor Pizzella called the Inaugural Meeting of Senior Advisory Committee to order at 3:00 p.m. Welcoming remarks were offered by Mayor Pizzella and Mayor Pro Tem Taylor. Mayor Pizzella also noted and welcomed several interested citizens present in the audience. Councilman Fitzpatrick reiterated the mission and vision of the Committee. A packet containing recent press coverage regarding the formation of the Committee as well as the Village Council resolution which formally established the Committee was provided to each attendee.

2. Member Introductions

Councilman Fitzpatrick invited each member of the Committee to reflect briefly on their background and experience, their reasons for volunteering to serve, and their aspirations for the work and impact of the Committee moving forward. At the conclusion of these statements, Mayor Pizzella and Mayor Pro Tem Taylor again commented on the remarkable talent pool present in the Village as reflected most notably in the backgrounds and experience of the Committee members.

3. Operating Model

It was reiterated that the full nine-member Committee will meet on the first Monday of each month at 3pm in the Village of Pinehurst Assembly Hall. Schedules may be adjusted in the future as logistical considerations warrant. It was suggested that the full nine-member Committee meet each month without summer or holiday breaks. This suggestion was unanimously accepted.

Meeting notices will be published on the Village website in Civic Clerk™. Domain experts from healthcare, government, senior and emergency services, etc. will be invited to address the Committee

and help inform its deliberations.

The Chair of the Committee will be Mayor Pizzella or his designee. Councilman Fitzpatrick expressed the expectation that, over time, the Committee would become increasingly self-governing.

4. Establishment of Initial Objectives & Formation of Working Groups

It was determined that the Committee's initial objective would be to develop a clearer understanding of the current state of aging in Pinehurst. To help organize and focus this work, several potential areas of concentration were discussed. Following discussion, the Committee identified four initial focus areas. These include:

- Demographics
- Healthy Aging
- Communications
- Safety and Security

These focus areas are intended to help guide the Committee's early research, discussions, and future recommendations to the Village Council.

Committee members were asked to volunteer to serve on each Working Group and a Chair for each Working Group was appointed. The working groups are as follows:

Demographics Working Group:

Chair – Mike Pearce

Members – Suzanne LaFollette-Black, Patricia Smith, Lisa Smith

Communications Working Group:

Chair – Marti Harrigan

Members - Patricia Smith, Carolyn Horton, Kathy Beeman, Lisa Smith

Healthy Aging Working Group:

Chair- Bill Grover

Members - Marti Harrigan, Beth Walker, and Suzanne LaFollette- Black

Safety and Security Working Group:

Chair - Beth Walker

Members - Bill Grover, Kathy Beeman, Carolyn Horton.

The Working Group Chairs will coordinate meetings of their respective groups to develop preliminary approaches, priorities and research strategies related to their assigned topic areas. The Chairs will report back to the full Committee at the June 1st meeting.

5. Preliminary June 1st Meeting Agenda

- Reports for the Working Group Chairs.
- Presentation from [Dr. Karen Sullivan](#)

6. There being no further business, Mayor Pizzella adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

7. Next Meeting:

Monday, June 1st 2026.

3:00 PM

Village of Pinehurst Assembly Hall

Respectfully submitted, Councilmember Kevin Fitzpatrick