

PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY (Revised Effective 11/18/13)

The Area Agency on Aging Pinellas Pasco welcomes input from citizens. Members of the public will be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a matter prior to official action by the Board (except for ministerial acts or where the Board is acting in a quasi-judicial capacity) and during the open agenda for items not on the agenda. Public comment pertaining to items set for action will be heard at the beginning of the meeting. If a member of the public would like to speak on an item not set for action they may do so on the open agenda at the end of the meeting. In the event a situation arises where the Board decides to take action but the item is not on the agenda, the Board will call for public comment and hear public comment prior to action being taken. AAAPP has established procedures for public comment that comport with s. 286.0114, F.S.

Public Comment Procedure:

1. If you wish to speak in front of the Board on either an agenda item or during the open agenda, please fill out the Public Comment Card and provide it to the designated Board representative. If you do not wish to speak in front of the Board but wish to designate a representative to speak for you or indicate your support, opposition or neutrality on a proposition please fill out the appropriate section of the Public Comment Card and provide it to the designated Board representative.
2. When your name is called, come to the podium, be recognized by the Chairman, state your name, and make your comment. If you are speaking as a representative of a group or faction please state the group or faction on whose behalf you are speaking. Comments should be concise and to the point. Supporting documentation may be distributed to the Board. Documents will be filed with the minutes.
3. Individual speakers have up to 3 minutes.
4. A spokesperson representing a group or faction has up to 5 minutes. In addition to completing the Public Comment Card designating their representative and indicating their support, Supporters may stand while the comment is being made.
5. Clapping, heckling or verbal outbursts in support or opposition to a speaker's comments is discouraged.
6. Repetitious comment(s) are also discouraged. If a speaker is saying what you signed up to say, if you so wish, you may stand during their comment and then decline when your name is called to speak.

Note:

Comment to the Board does not constitute a formal complaint, is not considered a request for records under the Public Records Act, and does not require staff response unless directed to do so by Board.

Persons needing an accommodation may request it by calling Brenda Black at 727-570-9696 ext. 233 at least three business days prior to the Board meeting.