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Don't forget the function

The Senior Program was created in the mid-1970s to assist Ashland senior citizens find help with needs they could not deal with alone.

Many seniors have relatives and friends who provide this type of help, but we discovered that too many do not. As we age, many of us lose these friends and relatives because they move away, die, or have health or other problems. For the first 10 years or so, providing this type of help was the sole function of the Ashland Senior Program. Then, gradually, it became possible to add recreational, educational and health-related activities to the program's functions.

Today the Parks & Recreation Commission appears to be seriously considering eliminating or reducing the assistance function of the Senior Program by moving the management of the program to a different and much less convenient location and laying off the staff members who have experience in providing this type of help to needy Ashland seniors. These seniors live in our city and need qualified people with knowledge and experience to provide that help. Please, let us not forget this original and still very real function of our Senior Program.

Don Laws, city councilor, 1975-2004
Ashland