

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING  
MINUTES**

July 6, 2023                      Hybrid of Virtual – Zoom utilizing the OWL product and in person at North Bellevue Community Center.

8:30am – 10:30AM

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**                      Abigail Brown, Beverly Heyden, Diana Thompson, Eleanor Lee, Anne Rittenhouse, Gazel Tan, Kira Hackett, Julie Hart, Shana Aucsmith, Barbara Carey.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**                      Phyllis Smilen, Hannah Kimball

**STAFF PRESENT:**                      Dan Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

**GUESTS:**                                      none

**PRESENTER(S):** Donna Adair, CoB Human Services – Home Repair Program.

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

**WELCOME AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order by Abigail Brown and the roll call taken.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June 2023 minutes approved.

**PRESENTATION: CoB Human Services Division of Parks & Community Services  
Dept. — Home Repair Program**

To access the Home Repair Program a Bellevue resident must first qualify for funding. Eligibility includes:

- Must own and occupy the City of Bellevue residence.
- Have an income of under 80% of the AMI.
- Have homeowners hazard insurance.

A reverse mortgage may keep one from being eligible as the value of the home could be greatly reduced at the time of sale. This type of situation could possibly apply for a grant from King County Housing Authority.

Value of home is determined by King County and the Zillow current market rating.

Loans. Leverage loans are available are deferred loans for anyone under 80% AMI and are paid back at the time of a home sale.

Amounts allowed: \$35,00 for the first year and \$50,00 for the lifetime of a residence. The loan review committee can make exceptions.

Repair costs are covered 100% by the City loan. Loans are only paid back at the sale or the transfer of the title of the home. Fees associated with the loan are added to the loan.

**Weatherization Grants:** King County Housing Authority (KCHA) provides grants to very low-income homeowners in eligible areas of King County including Bellevue. Grants are available at a 50% match for qualified Eastside Energy Smart Heat Pump installations.

Grants are available to households at or below 50% AMI:

- Roof and Gutters- repairs and/or replacement
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Furnace and Hot Water Heater replacement or repairs

- Siding repair and exterior painting
- Driveways, decks, fences, ramps, and handrails
- Various health & safety repairs
- These grants are not paid back. The maximum amount is typically \$10,000. Homes that are 1978 or earlier must have a \$1,200 lead paint test performed prior to work being done.

If a person is in too much debt it is possible that they will not qualify for a loan.

The weatherizing program is in operation through King County Housing Authority program. Mostly this is insulation of a house and not the windows.

### **Home Repair Process:**

- Application submitted and eligibility approved.
- Environmental Review by City and Site Visit
- Scope of work and bidding requests through KCHA or Habitat for Humanity
- Contractor selected and work scheduled.
- Work completed, customer satisfaction and sign off by KCHA or Habitat
- Invoices paid, reimbursement from City (funded by CDBG)
- Project complete and homeowner signs off final loan documents with City.

### **BNOA questions:**

How many projects are funded annually?

*A: 2022 20 projects were funded. 2023 30 projects have been funded so far.*

How many people get turned down annually?

*A: no one has been turned down so far as long as they meet the requirements.*

Who does a community member contact for service?

A: Donna Adair directly [dadair@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:dadair@bellevuewa.gov) or call 425 452-4069.

What percentage of program users are seniors?

A: 60-70% of the program recipients are seniors.

## MONTHLY REPORTS

**Human Services Report:** Christy Stangland

Christy was unable to attend the meeting and no report was given.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** *Members were asked to read the following committee reports before the meeting for discussion.*

**ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT:** *Diana Thompson*

- *Some of the advocacy committee members attended Rep. Walen's open house where Diana thanked Rep Walen for supporting issues impacting older adults. Rep. Walen wants to visit case managers of homes that assist those living with dementia and Diana is hoping to arrange a meeting. Discussion was held on dementia action initiative and that one of two was enacted.*
- *The advocacy committee has decided to work through the summer at building the Seattle based Gold Card program which provides discounts to older adults. Few items are on the list for eastsider's, and the committee members will each work to gain local business to join the Gold Card program.*

**OUTREACH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Gazel, Julie

- The June meeting focused on the Farmers market schedules and materials needed. The report indicated that a good number of people stopped to talk at the booth at Crossroads, especially with the older adult living situations nearby.
- The group discussed creating a binder that would contain all the material used for outreach so a depleted item could quickly be identified and re-ordered. Abigail will work on the project. Hannah volunteered to review

the box of material prior to each outing to ensure all desired materials were present.

- Gazel has reminded everyone that it is difficult to get two BNOA members per time-slot for the outings. The group agreed that two people per time-slot is not mandated, so Gazel will work to get one person and two if someone is available.
- Hannah announced that Sound Generations has a recognition program that on an annual basis recognizes community members doing worthwhile activities for the community. Hannah made a point to tell members to think about who could be nominated in the future.

#### HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: *Anne*

- At the June meeting, Linda Abe, CoB's new Affordable Housing Manager (planning department) joined the meeting to give us an update on the 2017 Affordable Housing Plan/Strategy and future endeavors. Linda reported that the greatest category need for affordable housing is 50% of AMI and below. Linda brought up the idea of Universal Design as a continued need hand in hand with the ADA requirements. This Universal Design code should include curb cuts, automatic doors, short drinking fountains and chair-level crosswalk buttons.
- BNOA members reflected that they would like the CoB to reach out to those 55+for housing and transportation input, like they did in Kirkland.
- For a full report see June's committee minutes.

#### **COMMUNITY MEETING REPORTS:**

Anne reported participating in some Neighborhood walks in Wilburton Spring District. Anne reports having to park three blocks away just to get to the trail. The trail appears to be designed and developed for a young generation. Anne gave her concerns to the City of Bellevue Employees who were on the walk.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Further BNOA discussion was had on what should be include in the invitation to City of Bellevue Departments for the talk on older adult services scheduled for October 11, 2023. The hopeful results are to get information on activity and services for a specific demographic of age 65+ and then 85+ as both are older adult populations but typically have very different needs.

The group discussed who should be involved with general consensus of Planning, Transportation, Parks & Community Services, Utilities, Police and Fire Departments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Needing new presentation ideas. Utilities will not be able to meet BNOA for some time. The group talked of potential presentations.

*Meeting adjourned at 10:30am*