

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES**

November 5, 2015
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-121

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanne Grote, Beverly Heyden, Howard Katz, Arnold Kern, Eileen Rasnack, Berta Seltzer, Diana Thompson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ethan Crawford, Jullie Gray, Hannah Kimball, Bob Megargel, Bill Merriman, Janet Zielasko

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter, Parks & Community Services Department

GUESTS: Joanne Gannin, Virtual Village; Milica Veselinovic & Tanya McGee, Senior Services

RECORDING SECRETARY: Teri Ekstrom

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:38 am by Chair Rasnack. Roll was taken and all members were present with the exception of Ethan Crawford, Jullie Gray, Hannah Kimball, Bob Megargel, Bill Merriman, and Janet Zielasko.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Joanne Gannin, Virtual Village said that she brought copies of the flyer for the Virtual Village and it has links to their website. There will be a meeting on November 17th at North Bellevue Community Center @ 3:30 pm in regard to the “Village Concept”. Ms. O’Reilly said that she belongs to the Phinney Neighborhood Association and they have established the “Village Concept” in which community volunteers match up with people in their community that need help (i.e., yard work, someone to drive them to a doctors’ appt., etc.). Ms. O’Reilly said she took a three hour training to be a volunteer, they do background checks on all volunteers, and the community director oversees the program. People in the community apply to receive services. Every other week they send out an email stating what needs people have and volunteers indicate whether they can help out. The director matches people to the needs. They have also done fundraising to raise funds to pay the staff. Ms. Gannin said that for the Virtual Village, Senior Services has agree to be their fiscal agent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 1, 2015

There was a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. Lassiter indicated that at the December meeting the group will be voting on the Chair/Vice-Chair. Please send him any nominations to the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Mr. Lassiter will check with each of the nominees to see whether they are o.k. with the nomination.

The next meeting is also the holiday party and everyone should bring a gift under \$5 and some food item to share. The first half of the meeting will be business and then we will do the gift exchange. The new members will be invited to this meeting, and they have also been invited to the Legislative Forum.

Mr. Lassiter told the group to start thinking about what committee they would like to serve on next year. He would like feedback from the group on what we want to see happen at the January retreat. Ms. Thompson said it would be great to have a special meeting to talk about the revision of the bylaws. Mr. Lassiter said he will set up a meeting in November for this.

[PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION] COMMUNITY LIVING CONNECTION

Angela Miyamoto of Aging and Disability Services, indicated that she would be talking about the Community Living Connections. She will talk about what it is, difference from what it was before, how does it work, and what to expect.

The Community Living Connection is an expansion of the Senior Services Information and Assistance system. Typically across the United States it is called the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC), but we will be calling it the Community Living Connections (206-962-8467 or 1-844-348-5464) in the State of Washington. It is an expansion of the Information and Assistance model in that it deals with older adults and people living with disabilities populations. It is intentional in that it is created using a network structure. They are creating a network of agencies for this program model and expanding the depth of services.

How does it work? There is a central phone number in which you call and they connect you to an agency that will help you with the services/resources that you need. When you call, staff have easy access to let callers know what services and resources are available. Ms. Thompson said she heard that if you call 2-1-1 and ask for something in regard to older adults they will refer you to the Community Living Connections line. Ms. Miyamoto said that there are staff that are dedicated just to this program. Senior Services is keeping their main resource line phone number but it will not be a resource line any more. Mr. Katz asked how they are getting the word out to the older adult/disability population to call this Community Living Connections phone number instead? Ms. Miyamoto said they are spreading the word in the community doing presentations, and they will be coming up with a marketing plan to see how to fully get the word out.

Older adults should call the Community Living Connections phone number for service and resource information, and the access to information is free and confidential. The staff is trained and knowledgeable.

The Community Living Connection is a provider network made up of thirteen contracted providers. Each provider has different services available, and different languages available. A list of the providers was in the handouts.

As said before, the program is an expansion of the old information and assistance program. You get assistance accessing services and help planning for long-term care needs, and access to family caregiver services. It is a comprehensive program.

Ms. Rasnack asked if it would be better to have a caregiver call for a person. Ms. Miyamoto said that either of them can call, depending upon what works for them.

We can't do it all alone though . . . the region lead is Senior Services and their purpose is to convene agencies in the region so staff know who to connect people with in the region. There will be an eastside office in the Together Center and staff will be there on Fridays.

We want clients to have seamless service. Ms. Rasnack asked about the library connection. Ms. Miyamoto said that libraries are natural gathering places so we connect with them. There is a King County Aging staff person and Seattle also has a person who works with these issues also.

Angela Miyamoto can be contacted at 206-684-0230 or Angela.Miyamoto@Seattle.gov

Tanya McGee, Senior Services said that they just had an eastside networking meeting at Evergreen Care in Kirkland. They got together to see what the unmet needs in the area are and what we can do to help. These meetings will be two times per year. You can get on her email list to get meeting notices. The idea is building relationships and seeing what resources are available in order to build a network of support. She said they will be referring people to Community Living Connections to see what resources are available to meet people's needs. In talking together, we can see how we can assist with people's needs.

Ms. Grote asked about Pathways? Ms. McGee said that they have volunteers answering the Senior Services line now. Ms. O'Reilly said that transportation is a big issue, and do they have resources for this? It would be good to have as many resources available for this. Milica Veselinovic said that for transportation and housing there are not enough resources and there is a big need. We can't affect that. We can connect people to what is available but we can't affect this overwhelming need. We want to bring what resources are available to the people. Joanne Gannin said there is Eastside Friends of Seniors that is one transportation source. Ms. McGee said that she plans to meet with them. Each agency brings a specialty to serve specific needs.

Ms. Rasnack said that we can add the Community Living Connection phone number to the BNOA website.

BREAK

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Memory care (reported by Mr. Crawford)

Ms. Grote said that she, Mr. Crawford and Ms. Thompson attended the ALZ Café at Tuta Bella and it had a good turnout. They will be needing more space there. Ms. Thompson provided the entertainment and will be doing so again on December 22nd. Talked with Cheryl from YMCA and Melissa from ALZ Association. Sarah Baker is doing a new guide with Evergreen Hospital, Overlake, Kirkland Senior Council and the Bellevue Network on Aging. Ms. Thompson said that the BNOA needs to be added to the ALZ Café flyer. Ms. Grote said that it would be added when they are printed again.

Transportation/Housing Committee (reported by Ms. Grote)

Ms. Grote said Officer Scott Montgomery from Bellevue Police attended their meeting. We discussed blinking yellow lights and recent accidents. They are looking at each intersection and the police make reports on accidents and changes to make traffic safer.

Ms. O'Reilly gave an update on the homeless shelters.

Talked with Sophia's Way at the Kirkland Fair and they would love to come and present to us. Sophia Way and Congregations for the Homeless are doing a special veterans dinner at Andrew's Glen in Factoria for Veteran's Day on November 11th.

We talked about how our group needs to set goals and not just have meetings. On November 23rd @ 8:45 am anyone can join them as they tour the transportation center at Bellevue City Hall. They are meeting in the lobby.

Eastside Easy Rider did not have a meeting this month. The next Easy Rider meeting will be November 24th from 1:00-2:30. A reminder will be sent out. There is a King County Mobility Coalition Meeting on November 17th at Seattle Goodwill from 9:30-11:30. The Eastside Time Bank is having their Thanksgiving Potluck on November 12th at 6:30 at Redmond City Hall.

Advocacy Committee (reported by Ms. Thompson)

Ms. Thompson said that the Legislative Forum is December 2nd at Kirkland City Hall from 4:00-6:00 pm, and please attend. It will be very interesting. Judy Clibborn is attending from the 41st District and all of the representatives are attending from the 45th District.

We will present the Legislative Agenda, will have time for comments by the legislators, and then time for open questions. Please read the legislative agenda and send any questions you may have to Ms. Thompson. At the Forum you can put any questions on cards (related to seniors).

On the Legislative Agenda, we are trying to coordinate with AARP on Medicare providing hearing aids. We need them to add "services" to the request, since hearing aids will need repair. After "services" is added we can be listed as a partner with them.

There was a motion to approve the Legislative Agenda as written. The motion was seconded and it was approved unanimously. Mr. Lassiter will send out the Legislative Agenda to everyone.

Mr. Katz said that a lot of thanks goes to Ms. Thompson for all of her hard work. Ms. O'Reilly said that the BNOA Legislative Agenda will be incorporated into the Eastside Human Services Forum's (EHSF) Legislative Agenda. EHSF's Board will be meeting on November 17th and will go over it at that time. From there it will go on to the eastside cities City Council's (Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, and Issaquah). So it is far reaching.

There will not be an Advocacy Committee meeting in December. They will meet in January, and Ms. Thompson will invite the new members to attend.

Outreach & Diversity Committee (reported by Ms. Grote)

Ms. Grote said she attended the first Police Neighborhood meeting in south Bellevue. The Chief talked about his plans for changes at the Police Department. They shared with us the report of crimes in our area and ways we can work with police for greater safety, new alarm registration and the crimes in our area. He indicated that neighborhoods should establish block watch groups.

Ms. Grote attended the VIVA Volunteer Fair on October 24th in which they had all generations. Kids, grandkids, parents, and grandparents looking at things they could do together.

The next Cultural Conversation meeting will be December 8th at Crossroads Community Center from 1-2:30 pm. There is an EHSF meeting on December 9th from 2-4 pm at NBCC and the topic is "targeted funding". There is a Diversity Training on November 12th and December 17th in which BNOA members are attending. There is a meeting on November 17th from 3:30-4:30 to learn about new launch of more villages/committees at north Bellevue.

Seniors Services has changed its name to Sound Generations effective January 1st.

Recruitment (reported by Ms. Heyden)

Ms. Heyden stated that the Nominating Committee was made up of Mr. Katz, Ms. Grote, Ms. Seltzer, and herself. They interviewed seven of the eight people that applied, and will be bringing four new voting members onboard.

There was a motion to accept the four suggested new members, the motion was seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously. All of the new members either work or live in Bellevue.

Mr. Katz indicated that there would be an addition of two new liaison members. They can speak at meetings but they are not allowed to vote. It is nice to have these liaison members that could possibly replace people who have to leave the group.

They will be looking at the bylaws in the event of a BNOA member vacancy.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS REPORTS

Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative (already reported).

Eastside Human Services Forum (reported by Ms. O'Reilly)

Ms. O'Reilly said the Save the Date has gone out for the EHSF Annual meeting on December 9th at NBCC in which they will be talking about "targeted funding".

Time Banks of Puget Sounds (already reported).

Aging & Disability Services Advisory Council (reported by Ms. Seltzer)

Ms. Seltzer said that Community Living Connections has asked everyone to use the full name.

Washington Senior Lobby (reported by Ms. Thompson)

Ms. Thompson said she attended and it was very interesting. Ms. Rasnack said there were some interesting graphics presented that showed the tax structure in the State of Washington. Ms. O'Reilly said she also thought it as good information and there were some interesting information from the governor's budget. We as a state are not catching up to what the needs are since we don't have a tax system to support it.

Staff Report/Upcoming Agenda Items

Mr. Lassiter said he has set up the 2016 meetings. He told everyone to start putting together the committee accomplishments. We need to show why we do what we do.

New Business

Mr. Katz said there will be some changes on the City Council and we should possibly lobby to them to get a community center in the downtown area. Ms. Seltzer said that the agreement with Boys and Girls Club on their new building includes access to the facility during different times of the day. Mr. Lassiter said that it would be useful to encourage older adults to go to programs at Hidden Valley and SBCC or the programming for aging adults are at risk to go away. We will need to find out what activities they will have for aging adults. We will talk about this in January.

The next meeting is December 3, 2015, 8:30am-10:30am. Remember your \$5 gift and food/snack item.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.