

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING  
MINUTES

December 3, 2015  
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall  
Room 1E-121

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ethan Crawford, Jeanne Grote, Beverly Heyden, Howard Katz, Arnold Kern, Hannah Kimball, Bill Merriman, Eileen Rasnack, Janet Zielasko

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jullie Gray, Bob Megargel, Berta Seltzer, Diana Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter, Parks & Community Services Department

GUESTS: Linda Whitehead, Robert Dalglish, Sandy Shaw Jones, Judy Dowling, and Shellie Gehring – new members of the BNOA starting January 2016

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 Jullie Gray, Bob Megargel, Berta Seltzer, and Diana Thompson.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Mr. Lassiter said thank you to those members that served on the nominating committee and went through the process to finalize the new members of the BNOA. At this time, each of the new members, Linda Whitehead, Robert Dalglish, Sandy Shaw Jones, Judy Dowling, and Shellie Gehring told a little about themselves. Philip Gough is also a new BNOA member in 2016 that was unable to attend today's meeting. Then each of the current BNOA members told a little about themselves.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS** – None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 5, 2015**

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Outreach Ad Hoc/Diversity** (reported by Ms. Grote)

Ms. Grote said that they did the Overlake Active Senior Fair in March this year in which there was great turnout. We will do this again in 2016 on March 15<sup>th</sup>. The group participated in the Chinese Information Fair at NBCC in September and they plan on doing it again next year. They also did the Strawberry Festival in June. In the past we did farmers markets and we didn't this year, but hope to do them in 2016.

We attended the new Police Neighborhood meetings and also attended the Neighborhood Outreach event this fall to plan on how neighborhoods can work together. Council has passed matching funds for this program to do neighborhood projects.

The Eastside Human Services Forum (EHSF) is having the Targeted Funding event coming up next week, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 at NBCC.

The Outreach group did a flyer for Fall Prevention. Members of the BNOA have also done reports to the city council on issues including elder abuse, etc.

In regard to Diversity, the group has worked with the new Diversity Team for COB and have attended their events such as the Advantage Breakfast in October, and meeting with the team and Indian Association of Western Washington.

The next Cultural Conversation meeting will be December 8<sup>th</sup> at Crossroads CC from 1-2:30. This meeting is held once a month and all of the members share information about their cultures.

The group attended the Diversity Training in November and some will be attending December 17<sup>th</sup> at City Hall.

### **Transportation/Housing Committee** (reported by Ms. Grote)

Ms. Grote said the group updated the ARCH website – which lists housing available on the eastside for older adults.

Every month we get updates from Janet Lewine, City of Bellevue Planner, in regard to affordable housing projects on the eastside. They just recently opened August Wilson Place and they have new projects at Crossroads, along with other upcoming projects on the eastside. She also gave updates on the new Spring District in the Bel-Red area.

We found that there is special funding for repairs on homes for seniors in need and there is also grant funding available to purchase housing for those with limited funding.

We had an update from Bellevue Cares, a program through the police/fire departments that help people that have special needs and call 911 a lot. Social workers in this program go out and visit with these constant callers and provide them resources for them and their families.

We had the Police Department come to our meeting to share with us tips on safe driving, yellow lights, and neighborhood safety. We toured the Transportation Department last month.

We had updates on the homeless sites/shelters this year. We took flyers out to locations to give people resources.

We also attend the Easy Rider Program meetings and KC Mobility Coalition for updates on Sound Transit, Metro service, and Orca programs. The Sound Transit hospital station will now be called the Wilberton Station.

Mr. Crawford said that the Neighborhood News is available in City Hall every month and this is how we can get other people engaged and network. It is published monthly. Ms. Grote said she thought it would be go out and speak at neighborhood group meetings so get information out about the BNOA.

#### **Advocacy Committee** (reported by Mr. Lassiter)

It was indicated that the Advocacy Committee consists of people from Bellevue BNOA and the Kirkland Senior Council. They work jointly on addressing issues on the eastside. Mr. Lassiter said that the Legislative Forum was December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Kirkland City Hall from 4:00-6:00 pm, and it was well attended. They had more legislators available than ever before. It was great. The legislators heard us and our issues. They agreed to keep in contact with us and this group is affecting a much bigger area than just Bellevue.

Mr. Lassiter indicated that this group is instrumental in getting important older adult issues in front of legislators. Every year the BNOA has the Attorney General come and talk with the group and we see how we can support his work. The group is the one who puts together the Legislative Forum with EHSF, Seattle-King County Aging and Disability Services, and WA Senior Lobby. We also go to Olympia to meet with legislators.

Mr. Katz indicated that we are the only group like this. We have tried to get other cities aboard and should continue working on this.

Ms. Zielasko said that the Legislative Forum was a very real meeting and the stories hit the legislators and there were some great, meaningful presentations. Legislators were engaged.

#### **Ad Hoc Memory Care** (reported by Mr. Crawford)

Mr. Crawford said over the last year they looked at the memory care issue and discussed what we could do to provide more information and resources to people that need them. We found the Alzheimer's Association doing the Alzheimer's Café's at Tutta Bella Pizzeria's in the area. They just opened a Tutta Bella in Crossroads in Bellevue. We set up the Alzheimer Café's at the Bellevue Tutta Bella for the fourth Tuesday of every month from 3:00-5:00. Every month they have entertainment and get information for resources out to people that need them. The group

helped to get the resource brochure completed and out to people. There is a benefit in the outreach and it would be great to continue it under the Outreach Committee. The next Alzheimer's Café is December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Ms. Grote indicated that the Overlake Resource Guide will be produced again this year and should be available at the end of January.

### **Chair/Vice Chair Elections**

Mr. Lassiter handed out the voting ballots for electing 2016 Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. He thanked Ms. Rasnack for doing a great job as Chairperson this last year and helping to get him up-to-speed on items since he is new to his position. After members voted, the 2016 Chairperson is Ethan Crawford and the 2016 Vice-Chairperson is Diana Thompson.

### **New Business**

Mr. Lassiter sent around a sign-up sheet so people could sign up for times to gift wrap during the holidays at Crossroads Mall. The money raised from gift wrapping goes to the NBCC.

The January Retreat will be on the first Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and will be from 9:00-noon in Conference Room 1E-121. This is the time that we will talk about the committees and which ones we would like to keep and what each member would like to participate in. You can also send any retreat ideas or suggestions (in the next week) to Mr. Lassiter that he can forward to the Retreat Facilitator. It was currently discussed that we may want to meet in different locations, and this can be discussed at the retreat also. We need to get out in the community and represent everyone in the community.

Mr. Lassiter will be looking for ideas/topics for presentations at upcoming BNOA meetings. Send any ideas to him.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.