

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING  
MINUTES**

August 1<sup>st</sup> 2019  
8:30-10:30am

North Bellevue Community Center

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gazel Tan, Hannah Kimball, Judy Dowling, Michelle Trimble, Jeanne Grote, Jullie Gray, Janet Jelleff, Phyllis Smilen, Janet Zielasko, Berta Seltzer, Diana Thompson, Beverly Heyden

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Desiree Leigh, Bill Merriman, Bob Megargel

**STAFF PRESENT:** Christy Stangland,

**GUESTS:** Joanne Gainen, Deanna Edison

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Abby Burdick/Bellevue Parks & Community Services

**WELCOME AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order by Hannah Kimball and roll call taken.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** No changes identified to July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 BNOA meeting minutes. Minutes approved as written.

**PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION:**

**Betsy Anderson & Colin Walker** City of Bellevue – Parks & Community Services Park Plan input and discussion

About every six years, Bellevue updates it's Parks & Open Space System Plan. The City Council adopted the current plan in early 2016.

The Parks & Open Space System Plan contains the community's long-range vision for acquisition and development of parks and trails and preservation of open space. It also sets the standards whereby the park, trail and open space system is operated and maintained over time.

The purpose of the plan is to guide the department's investment in recreation programs, with a focus on programming and spending to meet the needs of those with limited opportunities for recreation and to establish a specific role for the City as a recreation service provider in relation to other provider, while helping the department comply with policies in the City's Comprehensive Plan.

There was an open discussion with the members of Bellevue Network on Aging to gain insight and feedback around the following questions:

1. How do you like to spend your free time?
2. Do you participate in recreation programs?
  - *If so, where?*
  - *What do you like about them?*
  - *If not, why not?*
3. Do your friends and family participate in recreation programs?
4. Do you have any recommendations for ways the City could improve recreation programs or make them easier to access?

For the full presentation visit the Bellevue Network on Aging Webpage or contact Betsy Anderson directly at [ehanderson@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:ehanderson@bellevuewa.gov) or 425-452-4280

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Advocacy Committee** *(reported by Diana Thompson)*

Diana met with a Legislative Assistant from Smith's office at North Bellevue Community Center. One of the Legislative Agenda items is to extend Medicare to cover Dental Coverage. Diana collected an affidavit from a person who has suffered severe dental degradation as a result of cancer therapies and was able to distribute this affidavit to the representative of Congressman Smith's office. It was additionally distributed to, Congresswomen Delbene's, Senator Murray's and Senator Cantwell's offices.

The Senior Property Tax Relief was successful on the State Legislative Agenda, but the problem is, people don't know about it. Joanne Gainen is hosting a meeting about it at the Bellevue King County Library on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> and is asking the BNOA to co-sponsor the event. The King County Assessor is the guest speaker. Joanne isn't asking BNOA to do much work, just to put BNOA on the flyers. The network voted to be a co-sponsor of this event under the conditions the BNOA must review and approve the flyer before it is distributed.

Observation Status patients ~~cannot have Medicare or access to skilled nursing care.~~ are not entitled to Medicare coverage of needed skilled nursing home care following hospital discharge. CMS is now deciding what type of care you get when you need home care. If you are getting home care after you are in an institution (e.g. hospital) then the person providing the help gets one set of money, but if you are coming from within the community or have been classified as observation status while in the hospital, the amount of money paid the provider is 19% less. This is something that will be discussed at the next advocacy meeting. A vote may be in order from BNOA to approve writing letter on this issue.

### **Outreach Committee** *(reported by Gazel Tan)*

At the last outreach meeting the committee is preparing for Senior Day at the Bellevue Farmers Market. There are a lot of flyers to distribute. The NBCC Advisory Board funded a \$5 coupon to the first 50 seniors good toward anything at the farmers market.

The next event is the Library and Bellevue City Resource Fair on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Diana and Michelle are looking into the Gold Card/discount card function. The cards are currently available at the North Bellevue Community Center Front Desk.

The Annual Senior Health Fair organized by The Chinese Information Service Center (CISC) at North Bellevue Community Center on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> then the India Association of Western Washington (IAWW) Health Fair is coming up in October (date TBD).

**Transportation & Housing Committee** *(reported by Phyllis Smilen)*

The committee (Phyllis) is connecting with Gwen Russo with City of Bellevue seeking demographics to seek out who seems to be currently isolated in Bellevue and in need of transportation. A suggestion was made to help with limited transportation for these individuals by seeking out potential grants and recommending them to City of Bellevue Transportation Department.

**COMMITTEE PARTNERSHIP REPORTS:**

**Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative** *(no report)*

**Aging & Disability Services Advisory Council** *(no report)*

**Washington Senior Lobby** *(no report)*

**NEW BUSINESS**

In since 2018 eighteen nursing homes are closing or are no longer going to provide nursing services. Case management program requested a need for 7+million dollars and ended up with 1.7 million. Diana Thompson recently wrote a letter summarizing and exploiting these issues.

**STAFF REPORT** *(reported by Hannah Kimball)*

Recruiting is beginning! Hannah will send out an e-mail to the group looking for help in the recruiting process for new BNOA members.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am