

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES**

February 1, 2024, Hybrid Meeting held at North Bellevue Community Center, 8:30a – 10:30a

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andrea Kline; Abigail Brown; Eleanor Lee; Barbara Carey; Mary Rita Hurley; Beverly Heyden; Diana Thompson; Elaine White; Shana Aucsmith; Kari Marino; Beth Hanley; Anne Rittenhouse; Julie Hart

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bhavana Pahwa;

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services – Rec. Div.

GUESTS: Hannah Kimball; Heidi Dean

PRESENTER(S): BNOA Orientation – Dan, Anne, Abigail, Hannah,

RECORDING SECRETARY: Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order by Anne Rittenhouse

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Guest Heidi Dean thanked the group for allowing her to attend. She had been invited by Gazel Tan. Heidi indicated that her background was senior living services.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 2024 minutes were approved.

PRESENTATION: BNOA Orientation - led by Dan, Anne, Abigail, and Hannah

Each member of BNOA had been previously supplied with the 2024 BNOA Orientation Manual. The subjects were split up for presentation by Dan, Anne, Abigail and Hannah and members of BNOA who had additional information to add to each subject were encouraged to provide input during the presentation.

Subjects Covered:

City of Bellevue Council - members were reminded that this network is not a City Council appointed committee but has been born and organized under the Bellevue Parks & Community Service Department and report to it's director, currently Michael Shiosaki. The BNOA bylaws describe this expectation, and the bylaws are located in this orientation packet. The BNOA members were reminded that all specific communication with the City Council, Park Board or any official organization site need to be preapproved by the entire BNOA team.

Park Board - The names of the park board members are listed, and a description of the park board duties was reviewed. It was made clear that the Park Board is not connected to the BNOA, but they do request an occasional presentation on the workings of the BNOA.

Parks & Community Services Organizational Chart – the chart was presented to the group.

Role of BNOA member was reviewed to include the mission, composition of the group, and a description of the three typical committees. Ad hoc committees were described to take care of business for issues that could not be completed in one of the usual meetings.

Staff responsibility – The Network was given the general duty description of the City of Bellevue staff liaison position which was generally described as, “this person works to set up meetings, meeting prep, information referrals, record maintenance to create a platform from which the members can work.

BNOA BYLAWS – The bylaws were reviewed in detail again emphasizing the purpose, expectations, composition of the BNOA. The housing & transportation, advocacy and outreach committees were discussed in more detail and members asked to decide which committee they would commit to for 2024. Also, the officer's terms/duties were discussed and then the modified Roberts Rules of Order were covered. These items are all in the orientation book in detail.

Criteria for selecting new projects requires at least three interested members.

Decisions are made by votes called by the chair on all issues.

All members were encouraged to read through the orientation packet and keep available as it also has everyone's contact information.

The group had some general discussion about committees, voting and when and how it was ok to represent BNOA in public. Orientation ended.

Human Services Report – Christy Stangland

Christy reported that Human Services Applications for Funding for 2025 opens March 4th and ends April 8th. Monies distributed will include housing (part of the 1590 fund) health and support services. They expect to have approximately 7million to distribute. BNOA members indicated the need for this group to spread the word to those who serve older adults in Bellevue to possibly seek funding. Christy stated that the HS Commission makes the decisions on funding priorities. The HS Commission is expecting approximately 150 applications this year. Human Services has completed the HS Plan which will go to council February 12th for approval.

New Business

An Ad hoc committee was formed to continue the follow-up work for future communications with the City of Bellevue on reflecting the needs of Bellevue older adults in planning processes. Anne, Beth, Beverly, Kari, and Abigail showed interest in being on a committee. Dan will set it up.

Some members on the committee would like to talk about BNOA having more of a connection with the Bellevue City Council. There was no time to discuss and will be taken to the next meeting.

Old Business – none for this meeting.

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

Advocacy Committee Report - Diana

Diana communicated that the Advocacy Committee members had been hurriedly meeting with state legislators as the time to do so is short this year. Diana reported that HB1859 had died. Other details are in the Advocacy minutes. The next Advocacy meeting will be on 2/5/2024.

Outreach Committee Report – Shana

Shana is asking for all members to step forward to help with Neighborhood News delivery. Also, a request was made to the entire BNOA to step up to help at the Farmers Markets Outreach events at Bellevue Farmers Market and Crossroads Farmers Market. A discussion was had on the amount of required help per event, per month. Nine different members indicated they could help and will contact Shana. Shana also made the announcement seeking interesting, older adult related articles to be written and submitted to Neighborhood News. Individuals will contact Shana if interested.

Housing and Transportation - Anne

The committee will remain on the 4th Wednesday of each month. All other information is contained in the committee report.

Community Meetings Attended Discussion

One of the members attended a ZOOM talking about the organization End of Life WA and referenced endorlife.org to check out the information.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45a.