

## **BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING**

### **MINUTES**

**July 3, 2025.** 8:30a -10:30a

**MEMBERS' PRESENT:** Anne Rittenhouse, Elaine White, Eleanor Lee, Bhavana Pahwa, Shana Aucsmith, Hannah Kimball, Lisa Corcoran, Beth Hanley, Kari Marino, Julie Hart, Abigail Brown, Beverly Heyden, Andrea Kline

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Barbara Carey, Lori Reinvik,

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dan Lassiter -Community Services Supervisor

**GUESTS:** Karen Hartman KSC; Gazel Tan; Nichole Myers; Sophia Fall; Colin Munson

**PRESENTER(S):** **Sophia Fall & Colin Munson** – City of Bellevue Community Development Dept – Sustainable Bellevue Update

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** June minutes approved

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Presenters:** Sophia Fall & Colin Munson - City of Bellevue Community Development

**Presentation:** “Sustainable Bellevue Update”.

Objective of Sustainable Bellevue is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and this touches every department of Bellevue.

Bellevue climate change includes extreme heat, rain, flooding, drought, stream changes and wildfires.

Focus areas include climate change, energy and buildings, land use, natural systems, waste management.

The Sustainable Bellevue work group is gathering what everyone is doing and bringing it to the attention of all departments.

The Plan's timeline is currently in Phase II which is preparing to report to Bellevue Council by July 22, 2025. A draft plan will be in place by August 2025, labeled "Vision 2050".

The question is, "how do we get the City of Bellevue to 0 waste as a city." A study was conducted.

The study engaged 250+ youth, 110+ in-person contacts, 50+ community at tabling events and 470 survey respondents.

81% of residents seem to have experienced climate change.

68% respondents think the city should prioritize environment.

Climate resilience = how can we greatly recover after a major event.

Resilience And Emission reduction can overlap and help with climate change to decrease the impact of a major event.

Concerning Older Adults, it is suggested to prepare in advance for floods, wildfire smoke, and help expand alerts and energy communication . Prep for extreme heat in your living space. Expand gathering centers abilities at being a warming site or cooling site to deal with cold and heat waves. Secure backup power to community sites. Insulation in homes improves the indoor air quality. Grants are needed to improve air conditioning and insulation.

Questions:

Hannah asked about the 482 survey respondents according to age demographics. Answer: Information will be sent to you.

The question was asked about how much this group is doing to encourage air conditioning in new facilities. Colin indicated that heat pumps are being pushed for installation in new facilities, places such as Siver Glenn.

Question asked: How successful are the conditioners and insulation program?

Answer: There have been excellent discussions and information shared with the public. The fight seems to be between State Builders Code vs Sustainable living and as always comes down to affordability.

Anne pointed out that tree canopies are being lost and structures are allowed to be taller all leading to a poorer environment. Answer: advocate for keeping the biggest trees as they provide the most air filter. Livability and affordability, and walkability (green space) are needed with planning division.

Abigail question: is the Development Dept working to have an outreach network that can be seen such as Nextdoor site, people know where to go to see information?

Colin encouraged everyone to participate in the survey of the sustainable Bellevue plan.

End of presentation.

### **Human Services Report – Christy Stangland**

No Human Services Report for this month.

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

### **Advocacy Committee- Abigail**

No Advocacy meeting has been held since the last BNOA meeting.

## **Outreach Committee Report – Shana**

Christy Stangland has been able to provide names of non-profits that may do some tabling at the Older Adult Day at the market September 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **Housing and Transportation – Elaine**

See committee minutes for information.

The committee was very disappointed in the “density vote” by the city representatives and feel housing will not be affordable. Public voices need to be heard about providing affordable housing with less density living sites.

King County Assessor public presentation concerning older adults tax breaks on homes will take place at North Bellevue Community Center October 6<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. Set-up help will be needed.

## **Other Business**

Ad hoc – Annual Department meeting

- Elevator speeches need written for members to take to City of Bellevue meetings for public statements which ensure the group knows older adults are listening and involved.
- An information repository status. Abigail and Lisa have developed the site but need ability to share calendars. Dan is working with IT.
- Hannah Kimball has been officially named a member of the Seattle Aging Services Advisory Council.

Next meeting is August 7th. Presenters: Bianca Siegle - Division of Office of Housing

***The meeting was adjourned at 10:30***