

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING

MINUTES

January 8, 2026. 8:30am - noon

MEMBERS' PRESENT: Elaine White, Bhavana Pahwa, Beth Hanley, Anne Rittenhouse, Andrea Kline, Chelcy Flores, Guang-an Wu, Kan Liang, Shilpa Mehta, Suresh Velagapudi, Kari Marino, Hannah Kimball, Madhu Kachru, Julie Hart, Eleanor Lee, John DePalma, Roxi Wilson,

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter -Community Services Supervisor
Christy Stangland-Bellevue Human Services, not present

GUESTS: none

PRESENTER(S): BNOA RETREAT – Closed Meeting

RECORDING SECRETARY: Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order by co- chair Elaine White

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved for December 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

Retreat Topics and summaries.

All members of the BNOA had an opportunity to self-introduce and provide their background information.

Orientation Packet Reviewed. The new member orientation packet had been updated and presented to the entire group by Bhavana, Elaine and Dan. The relationship between BNOA and Council and the Parks Board was described as not actual an official connection, but that as a group two proclamations are received annually by the BNOA and an occasional invitation to speak in front of Park Board. The members were made clearly aware that the protocol to speak to council and park board as a BNOA member is that all comments and content would need

reviewed and approved by BNOA, and then the Parks & Community Services (PCS) Director. The BNOA was described as a direct product and under the direction of the PCS and ultimately the director of PCS.

The purpose and formation of BNOA was described, it's mission, composition and member commitment was described. The three usual committees of advocacy, housing and transportation and Outreach were described to the group.

The regional collaboration with Kirkland Senior Council for advocacy and housing/transportation was discussed and potential for other collaborations with other cities.

The City of Bellevue staff responsibilities were outlined and described as a platform to assist the BNOA with their activities to advocate for older adults of Bellevue and that the bulk of the actual work involved must come from its members.

The bylaws were reviewed in semi-detail including the method to update bylaws would include approval from PCS leader and legal counsel. Part of the bylaw includes a modified description of Roberts Rule of Order which will be used for meetings, to include subcommittees.

General goals for 2026 were reviewed but need updated and the committees were described in detail with instruction that each member must participate in at least one of the committees throughout the year.

The networks 2025 accomplishments and activity were reviewed by team members.

Criteria for selecting new projects was discussed and the procedure for making official BNOA decisions through majority votes preceded by a move for vote to include a description of the item being voted on.

All BNOA were given a packet and have one electronically which they can refer to for guidelines, procedures and contact information of the entire group.

The members then were asked which committee(s) they would be joining, and dates were set for meetings. At those meetings a chair and notetaker will be decided upon and reported to the staff liaison.

Human Services Needs Update – Christy Stangland

No report given

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Members were asked to read the committee reports before the meeting for discussion and due to time restraints were skipped this month.

NEW BUSINESS:

The staff liaison, Dan Lassiter, asked for help on the 20year celebration of BNOA being in existence. Volunteers include Elaine, Chelsey, and Bhavana.

- Helpers to update a five-year plan concerning older adult recreation in Bellevue include Hannah, Andrea, Beth , Kam, Eleanor, Shilpa, and Suresh.
- Members to finish the BNOA repository project include Bhavana and Guang-an.

BNOA goals.

- New goals will be developed by each committee and reported to the group by the March BNOA meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at noon

Next meeting is February 5th, 2026. Presenters: Erin Funk of Hopelink, Travel Ambassador program.