

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING

MINUTES

May 7, 2026. 8:30am - noon

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kan Liang, Shilpa Mehta, Madhu Kachru

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter -Community Services Supervisor
Christy Stangland-Bellevue Human Services

GUESTS: Cassie- The Key In-home care and skilled nursing; Alex Tsimmerman.

PRESENTER(S): Alma Plasencia-King County Library System, Linda of Kirkland KCL and Meredith of Kingsgate KCL

RECORDING SECRETARY: Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order by chair Elaine White at 8:30a

Approval of MINUTES: Minutes for April 2026 were reviewed and approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Alex Tsimmerman- Complained about the City of Bellevue government. Expressed the unaffordability of housing in Bellevue and those places indicated as affordable are not. Alex provided a handout showing the lack of affordability in Bellevue.

Presentation: King County Library System

Linda-Kirkland Library

Meredith-Kingsgate Library

Alma Plasencia – King County Library (KCL)

Kirkland Resources Specific to Older Adults

- Talk Time English Conversation Classes
- Tabling by community service providers like Conversations With Council, Hopelink, WorkSource, Eastside Legal Assistance
- Tax forms, bus and ferry schedules, city codes, building codes, voter's guides, voter's registration forms
- Library Information desk: referrals to other agencies
- Computers, Wi-Fi, photocopier, scanners, fax & printers
- Community Information board: including information on social events and volunteer opportunities, inclement weather shelters, meals on wheels, affordable internet programs, caregiver support groups
- Kirkland Senior Council
- LeadingAge Washington
- Hopelink
- American Red Cross Northwest Region
- Lifelong
- National Council on Aging Benefits Check Up
- Evergreen Enhance Wellness Social Work Consultation
- Community Resource Specialist Consultation
- Peter Kirk Community Center Events
- Crisis Connections
- AARP Tax helps

- Volunteer opportunity

Online in KCLS

- Book clubs and author events
- Online Talk Time
- Mixed Media Scribble and Paint
- Free Courses for Learning Software
- Rent Smart: Mold and Your Tenant Rights
- Watercolor Painting
- Aging Well Learning Community
- English Language Learner for Beginners
- Health Literacy

In person

- Scottish Country Dancing
- Crafternoon
- Jewish American Heritage Month: A Celebration of Jewish Music
- Talk Time: English Conversation Practice
- Weaving: Trees and Tales
- Chess Club
- Conversations with Council at Kirkland Library
- Fabulous Furoshiki: A New Twist on an Old Idea
- Movie Screening & Panel Discussion at Kirkland City Hall: Gen Silent Documentary

Databases and eBooks - for research and recreation

- Databases for research
- Consumer Reports and Chilton's Auto Manuals
- Genealogy: Ancestry Library Edition
- Language learning: Mango languages
- Book recommendations: Novelist, NextReads
- Downloadable books, graphic novels, audiobooks, current magazines
- Streaming music and movies for all ages
- Tech help

Book Group Kits & Help by Appointment

Group Kits

- Book Group Kits: Borrow a bag of 10 copies of the same book for up to 8 weeks — great for book clubs, friends, or family reading together.
- Reserve a kit up to 6 months in advance, [online](#).

Help by Appointment

- KCLS offers up to 45 mins appointments (in person or by phone) with a librarian who can help you find trusted information, navigate library services, and connect with community resources
- Contact your local library or Ask KCLS 425-462-9600 to set up an appointment

Museum & Park Passes

KCLS cardholders can borrow free passes to local museums, gardens, zoos, and Washington State Parks. Reserve [online](#) or ask at your local library.

Mobile KCLS Services

Home Service for People with Disabilities

- Check out books and other materials
- Holds delivery
- Contact (425) 369-3456 or toll free: (877) 905-2008, email: library2go@kcls.org

Traveling Library Center: retirement & nursing homes, and assisted living communities

- Delivery of books and other materials by mail or doorstep
- Contact homeservice@kcls.org or (425) 369-3456 to request an application

Library Programs (In Person)

- **Library Book Group**
- **Chinese Book Group**
- **Queer Creative Connections**
- **Tech Tutor Saturdays**

Newport library

- **Exploration of Flavorful Asian Ingredients in Cookies with Local Author Kat Lieu**
- **Newport Way Library Association Book Sale**
- **All Ages Inclusive Board Game Afternoon**
- **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Info Se**
- **Music Therapy Programs**

Bellevue Library Makerspace Programs (In Person)

Intro to Digitization (Registration opens 5/27)

Mending Circle

Electronics Mending Circle

Volunteer Opportunities

Talk Time Volunteers

- **Volunteer Talk Time Facilitator** – Help community members practice conversational English.
- **Newport Way** (6-month minimum commitment)
- **Lake Hills** (May-August, once a month at the Crossroads Community Center)

Friends of the Library & Library Associations

- **Bellevue Friends of the Library** support Bellevue, Lake Hills, and Crossroads libraries through fundraising events (like book sales) and community advocacy, funding programs beyond the library's budget while raising public awareness of library services.
- **Newport Library Association, for more information contact:**
newportwaylibraryassociation@gmail.com

One Bellevue, One Book

Bringing Bellevue together to read, discuss and engage with one book.

Emperance by Sonora Jha

"A twice-divorced, 55-year-old Indian-American professor who decides to host an ancient Indian marriage custom, to find a third husband, challenging norms around age, gender, and love

Human Services Needs Update – Christy Stangland

The commission meeting was canceled for May and rescheduled for June 1, which is a good time for public comments, and only 30 minutes allotted for public comment on the distribution of funds. Nearly 6.4 million dollars will be allotted to successful agencies. The BNOA can expect a presentation to be delivered to the Human Services Commission later in 2026 on the top needs of older adults.

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

Advocacy: The new older adult apartment complex was discussed. Issues like no air conditioning and no parking are being questioned by the Kirkland Senior council.

Housing & Transportation:

The Hopelink tram excursion in April was very successful by the dozen BNOA and KSC members that attended. They left from North Bellevue Community Center (NBCC), drove then walked back after the excursion to Seattle. I took only about 20 minutes to walk to the transfer station from NBCC.

Outreach:

Crossroads Farmers Market begins BNOA outreach begins June 9th. Andrea, Hannah, Bhavana, Eleanor, Beth and Elaine will be working the event.

Bellevue's Farmers market will be September 24th for Older Adults Day only. Robin Crowder is the new Bellevue Farmers Market Director.

The Eastside Street Fair will be July 11 from 11 – 2 and organized by the Eastside Assoc. They have requested that BNOA participate by tabling resources. Anne has volunteered to help.

The Resource Book has been updated by BNOA members and submitted to the Graphics Dept. Upon its return the team will review the document, changes will be given to Graphics than 1000 copies printed.

Public Meetings:

Elaine White attended the Street Walk on safety. Elaine is looking to be involved transportation choices coalition.

BNOA will provide a statement to the Human Services Commission supporting funding of older adult related requests on June 1. Bhavana creating a letter for BNOA to review, then Parks Dept review, then send in and attend meeting.

Ad hoc committees:

Celebration Committee: Chelcy is working to secure a Chihuly glass sculpture and Dan is working with the Arts Director of the City of Bellevue to get approval by the Arts Commission. A list of past BNOA members is being developed for potential contact and save the date announcements. Emphasis will be to invite past members, valued partners, and City of Bellevue staff and officials involved in its development.

Older Adult Recreation Plan for Bellevue: Throughout the city a written survey will be provided at the community center and cultural groups in partnership with the city of Bellevue. The plan is to finish that project by end of August, arrange findings in September and make new goals for the PCS to work on. Then off to PCS for vetting and input and finally to print.

Guan-an has taken responsibility to get the BNOA information repository in place and members were in-service on how to use the system. For the month of May members will practice getting into the repository.

NEW BUSINESS:

The volunteer background checks were again discussed and packets handed out. The response to questions will be brought to the team at the June meeting.

The BNOA Repository for information has been set up, Guan-an reviewed the process with the team. An assignment was given to all BNOA members to practice during May and contact Guan-an with issues they may be having. Dan

will continue to post to the repository for now until everyone gets used to using this information sharing system. The system will be reviewed again at the June meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30a

Next meeting is June 4th, 2026. Presenters: Linda Hill of Silver Glen Living, a co-op program