

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES

June 4, 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, , Chelcy Flores, Anne Rittenhouse, Kan Liang, Eleanor Lee.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shilpa Mehta, Madhu Kachru, Julie Hart

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

GUESTS: Alex Tsimmerman.

PRESENTER(S): Linda Hill – Silver Glen Co-op Living Homes

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 May 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.

Presentation: Co-op Living Units of Silver Glen

What is Co-op living home? This style of living situations is common in the eastern U.S. and much less common at least in Washington State. Each unit is purchased by the owner at varying prices according to its size and location. All residents are expected to actively help the Co-op in some manner. The Co-op has a board of directors which are from the members of the units. Many activities are

available at the co-op, mostly developed by the owners as well as activities such as billiards, woodworking, cooking classes, yoga, and general exercise classes. Several meals are available each week at an additional cost to the monthly fee that is part of each unit, which allows for general upkeep. Background and financial checks are performed before a person(s) are accepted to as purchasers. The Fair Housing rules are followed and monitored by a committee. When you wish to sell and leave the value cannot be about the MTU. Improvements on the units depreciate in a 5-year time span. Plenty of parking is available to owners. The system is known as an Oasis in an Urban area.

The occupancy rate remains around 80%, with single bedroom units more available and 3-bedroom units rarely available. One bedroom's costs under \$300,000 with a monthly fee of approximately \$1,100 which includes the garbage and water. Electricity is extra.

A tour for BNOA members will be developed within the next couple of weeks so people can get a closer look at the living style.

Human Services Needs Update – Christy Stangland

Nearly 6.4 million dollars will be allotted to successful agencies. The BNOA has developed a letter of support indicating the need to assist older adults of Bellevue services with the funding. The letter was reviewed by PCS management before being submitted to the Human Services Commission. Decisions on agencies being funded will be completed and reviewed by city council in September of 2026.

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 Kirkland Senior Council(KSC) and BNOA State Legislative agenda will be due to legislators by September. Karen Hartman with KSC and Bhavana BNOA will be meeting with anyone wanting to help create a plan at NBCC Wednesday July 22 11a – 1p. When finalized it will need passed through city of Bellevue's intergovernmental dept then voted on by BNOA and KSC in August.

Housing & Transportation:

Please read the June committee minutes for activity, but the Road Safety Survey was singled out as an action for BNOA members to get involved. The program will be about safety not road noise.

Outreach:

Crossroads Farmers Market begins BNOA outreach begins June 9th. Andrea, Hannah, Bhavana, Eleanor, Beth and Elaine worked on the event, but it was closed early due to weather.

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 printed. 500 copies are being distributed to the public through tabling efforts and Neighborhood News delivery sites. More books will be produced as needed.

Public Meetings:

BNOA attended Bellevue City Council on June 9th to receive the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day proclamation. Elaine White received the proclamation and provided some local examples of abuse to be aware of and how to report what you see.

Ad hoc committees:

Celebration Committee: Chelcy is working to secure a BNOA fund raiser to help remove barriers for the public to enjoy the Botanical Gardens by providing up to two specialized wheelchairs to the Garden. The celebration will be moved to the Botanical Garden in the third week of October but has yet to be determined. 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. Progress has been good with three focus groups completed.

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 June members will practice getting into the repository.

NEW BUSINESS:

The volunteer background checks were discussed with the questions posed by BNOA members answered. BNOA members will need to complete their background checks using social security numbers to the background company only.

Guang-an is working on a personal computer project to get free or low-cost recycled computers into older adults' possession and then training on how to connect with internet for information sharing and receiving.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30a

Next meeting is July 9th, 2026. Presenters: Bhavana Pahwa speaking on how to be a good advocate.