

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING

MINUTES

October 2, 2025. 8:30a -10:30a

MEMBERS' PRESENT: Anne Rittenhouse, Beverly Heyden, Kari Marino, Hannah Kimball, Eleanor Lee, Elaine White, Julie Hart, Lisa Corcoran, Bhavana Pahwa,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Barbara Carey, Lori Reinvik, Abigail Brown, Shana Aucsmith, Andrea Kline, Beth Hanley, Barbara Carey

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

GUESTS: Alex Tsimmerman, Surish Velagapudi, Ellen Kwon, Tim Hay

PRESENTER(S): PSRC - Transportation Planning, Jean Kim, Ellen Kwar, Erin Hogan -Metro Planning for Puget Sound covering 4 counties

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: Minutes approved for September.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Alex Tsimmerman commented that BNOA meetings should be later in the day and had general comments against the PSRC and Mayor Robinson.

Tim Hay introduced himself as did Surish and Ellen.

Presenters: Jean, Ellen and Erin

Regional Transportation Plan

The regional transportation plan considers every common form of transportation needed in four counties. They coordinate a mobility plan, looking for service gaps

as reflected by the users. Specialized transportation is reviewed. This plan is updated every four years. Two surveys have been released and used with older adult groups to gain input. Everyone's voices are heard and reflected. Transportation needs are identified such as timetables, health care rides, accessible and safe infrastructures with amenities for older adults and more rider education is identified.

BNOA members commented that bathrooms are needed for older adults and kids; road noise is awful and to reduce it if possible; a system needs to be in place to arrange a ride that doesn't take hours to get set up; better access points to various types of public transportation need improved; it takes too long to get to a destination.

PSRC responses: all these comments will be put to the plan; there is a 20-billion-dollar gap in needs vs what is funded and a priority must be in place to work on basic needs; a one-call-one click system is in the works for setting up rides. For information on this contact Erin Funk with Hope Link .

Human Services Needs Update – Christy Stangland

Feedback on the Needs update is needed immediately. Data was collected June through June. Over 160 languages are spoken in the Bellevue community and over 700 members contributed their opinions.

The findings: there are a low number of language accessibility services; there is fear of accessing services given our current political environment; agencies are cutting or lowering services.

The areas of need: While funding is being cut an increase in need is reflected in the community; food, shelter and childcare are the most critical needs; homelessness has had a large increase; language access is limited. Homelessness increases number of kids that will not graduate from school. Qualified kids for free school lunches have increased to 1 in 5 kids from 1 in 4 kids. Crime has increased as homelessness increases. 50% crimes against people is a new focus on domestic violence in our city. Childcare is \$3,400 per month, and many families do not have it. Behavior health crises are on the rise. A high number of

kids are reportedly considering suicide. Resources access is an issue. The Human Services Commission is working out the priorities with the available funding.

Human Services Report - Christy

Bellevue Food Truck is looking to find a better location. The truck is a 2x month, no reporting system that gets people food. The program needs to be better advertised, but they are also wary that over-advertisement will mean a rush on resources. An Essentials-for-all drive is underway in the city with the community centers involved in collecting items.

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

Community Meetings Attended

None for August.

Other Business

- October 6th, 1-2 p, is the King County Assessor Office presentation on housing tax breaks for older adults at the North Bellevue Community Center. Members will attend and set up chairs, tables and snacks provided by North Bellevue Community Center and clean up afterward.
- Elevator Speeches will be developed for BNOA members to take to city department meetings as an effort to make sure older adults are included in the thought processes of planning. Hannah has several in the works for review. A final committee meeting needs to be arranged.
- Recruitment Team for BNOA: Volunteering for the task includes Hannah, Anne, Julie, Elaine and Eleanor. Dates of interviews were set and more will come as applications continue to be gathered. Anne will lead the interview arrangements at North Bellevue Community Center.

Next meeting is November 6th. Presenters: Bianca Siegle and Hanna Bahnmler with talk about City of Bellevue Affordable Housing Strategy updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30