

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES**

February 1st, 2018
8:30-10:30am

Hidden Valley Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Dowling, Gazel Tan, George Twiss, Diana Thompson, Phyllis Smilen, Janet Zielasko, Berta Seltzer, Beverly Heyden, Desiree Leigh, Lauren Emery, Howard Katz, Bill Merriman, Christy Stangland, Jeanne Grote, Peggy Foster

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Whitehead, Bob Megargel, Jullie Gray, Ethan Crawford, Arlene Cheng,

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter/Bellevue Parks & Community Services,

GUESTS: Anna Loffing- Hopelink Eastside Mobility Coordinator

RECORDING SECRETARY: Abby Burdick/Bellevue Parks & Community Services

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order by Hannah Kimball and roll call taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 4th, 2018 minutes. Changes identified and then minutes approved.

PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION:

Heidi Sheldon - *founder of Options for Seniors LLC, presenting about the Association of Senior Referral Professionals of Washington*

Self-Introduction: Heidi started in Senior Housing in 1990 and worked her way up to be a Corporate Marketing Director over many communities then found herself working with owners, budgets and staff and not with families and seniors anymore. At that point she decided to open "Options for Seniors" in 1999.

Options for Seniors has since grown over 18 years to represent about 1,200 housing options just in King County alone, and represent the full continuum; everything from independent to retirement to assisted living, adult family homes, skilled nursing, in-home care etc. Options for Seniors will typically put together and arrange 4-6 options and tours according to the individual's needs and act similarly to a realtor where they will drive the customer to a variety of sites, ask all the appropriate questions so the customer can make an informed housing

decision etc. Whichever housing situation the customer chooses to live, it's that agency who pays the Options for Seniors fee, so there is no charge to the senior for the service.

Presentation: Washington State is the first in the nation to regulate referral professionals. The Elder and Vulnerable Referral Act RCW 18.330 was passed in 2011 and went into effect January 1, 2012 leading the nation on this issue.

This act affects referral agencies that provide referrals to consumers seeking senior care or senior living. They must comply with these requirements, including those related to:

- disclosure and acknowledgments
- record keeping
- refunds
- referral and intake forms
- gathering and disclosing of certain information referred housing and care providers

A violation of the Elder and Venerable Referral Act RCW 18.330 would be unfair or deceptive acts in trade or commerce and unfair competition under the Consumer Protection Act. It does not apply to providing general information about providers. A referral representative cannot give a personal recommendation of a specific agency over other agencies to their client. **Giving the name of a provider is the moment of a referral.**

Heidi Sheldon's [Full Presentation](#) can be found on the [Bellevue Network on Aging Web Page](#).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Outreach, Education & Diversity Committee *(reported Gazel Tan)*

The most recent Outreach Committee meeting was several Thursday's ago and the group reviewed the Power Point Presentation that was given at Newport Presbyterian Church which acted as the sort of the "Beta" test run. Feedback was positive and a check-list has been developed on what to do different for the next presentation. At the presentation many questions about in-home care services were asked, and the committee presenters are unsure on how to give recommendations. A verbal invitation was given to BNOA audience for suggestions.

The committee recently went over the list of where they should be present when it comes to outreach. The group is going to go back out to the Bellevue Farmers Markets as a result. Diana reached out to Bob Megargel to attempt to get into the Bellevue Farmers Market approval. Gazel is attempting to get back into the Crossroads Farmers Market and Dan will reach out about getting representation at the Bellevue Strawberry Festival.

Saturday, March 3rd is the Overlake Active Senior Fair. The committee is seeking volunteers to attend and help staff the table. Gazel will circulate a list for volunteers to sign up for 2-hour shifts. <https://www.overlakehospital.org/activeseniorfair>

It was suggested by a member of the audience to build a “Master Calendar” of events.

The Outreach Members are organizing a list of groups for presentation.

Transportation & Housing Committee *(reported by Judy Dowling)*

The most recent Transportation Committee meeting was Monday, January 22nd (4th Monday/month). Alex O’Reilly attended this meeting and the upcoming meeting with King County Metro and Human Services Commission on Tuesday, February 6th at City Hall at 6:00pm was discussed. It was decided personal stories, such as Hannah’s leg injury, would be discussed toward the topic of getting a Circulator Bus or some kind of transportation options besides Metro buses and expensive cabs. This meeting is more of listening session, sharing concerns, not sharing solutions. If you are able, PLEASE attend this meeting to have the greatest impact.

Advocacy Committee *(reported by Diana Thompson)*

Senior Lobby Day is Thursday, February 22nd. Reminder that pre-registration is encouraged for those who choose to attend. Registration is \$20 and can be done online. <http://www.waseniorlobby.org/>

The committee has been trying to get appointments with legislatures and it has been very difficult. Judy managed to get appointments for the 41st and Diana has gotten appointments for the 48th district.

Discussion around the Bills the Advocacy Committee intends to support will happen at the next Advocacy meeting, Monday, February 5th. The committee will likely support the Hearing Aid bill, bills related to Property Taxes, bills related to putting money aside for Long-Term Care services by workers, Respite Care, Housing Trust Fund and Affordable Housing etc.

An invitation was verbalized for any input on what the Advocacy Committee should do on the Local Agenda. Smart 9-1-1 was suggested by a member on the audience.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS REPORTS:

Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative *(reported by Hannah Kimball)*

Tuesday, January 30th was a meeting with Anna Loffing of Hopelink with discussions about concerns and issues with mobility and transportation. Some draft materials were presented from the latest City of Bellevue needs assessment then Anna facilitated a discussion around the

workplan. Several local needs assessments were reviewed and it was discovered that Transportation and Affordable Housing were the top two needs in every assessment which aligns with the vision of our committee in the upcoming year.

Eastside Human Services Forum *(reported by Christy Stangland)*

The Eastside Human Services Forum is doing a legislative day and they will be going to Olympia on Monday, February 12th. The legislative agenda has been finalized and it is open to members of the legislative committee and board members but depending on interest they may open it up to more.

Timebank of Puget Sound *(reported by Jeanne Grote)*

The next meeting is a potluck on Thursday, February 8th at Redmond City Hall at 6:30pm.

Aging & Disability Services *(reported by Beverly)*

Veterans Levy is interested in helping Senior Centers and will be requesting proposals for funding.

Senior Lobby *(no report)*

New Business

Cathy VonWald is soon retiring. Dan is to invite Cathy to attend the March meeting at about 10:15 so the BNOA can thank her years of service and for initiating the BNOA.

Staff Report *(reported by Dan Lassiter)*

An invitation was given to the BNOA audience to attend the North Bellevue Community Center Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on Wednesday, February 14th sponsored by the Bellevue Fire Department.

May is Aging Adult Awareness Month. We will be doing a proclamation at Bellevue City Council. Volunteers are needed to stand up and be at the Council Meeting to receive that proclamation.

ADHOC Committee Meeting announcement. Gazel is organizing meetings to discuss approaching neighboring communities to begin advocacy groups such as the BNOA.

An orientation/initiation is needed for Peggy and George. A volunteer was requested. Hannah Kimball agreed to meet with them both and go through expectations and workings of BNOA.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.