

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES**

**September 7, 2017
8:30-10:30am**

Bellevue Youth Theatre

MEMBERS PRESENT: Arlene Cheng, Jullie Gray, Jeanne Grote, Hannah Kimball, Gazel Tan, Lauren Emery, Desiree Leigh, Phyllis Smilen, Ethan Crawford, Sandy Shaw-Jones, Beverly Heyden, Howard Katz, Eileen Rasnack, Berta Seltzer, Diana Thompson, Janet Zielasko

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Whitehead, Bob Megargel, Bill Merriman, Judy Dowling

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter/Bellevue Parks & Community Services, Kristy Strangland-Bellevue Human Services

GUESTS: Cheryl Cohen, City of Bellevue Mediation, Tracie – volunteer with Bellevue Mediation

RECORDING SECRETARY: Abby Burdick, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL - The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chair Ethan Crawford.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 3rd, 2017

Any required changes need to be sent to Dan Lassiter.

[PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION] Cheryl Cohen – City of Bellevue Meditation Program presents “Aging Adult Mediation” a Simulated Session

The Mediation Program exists to help coach and problem solve neighborhood issues such as fence placement, parking, barking dogs, noise, property lines, trees, trees and more trees! Diversity is often what creates issues in neighborhoods and community. The Mediation Program is an education process to help people understand cultural standards.

Elder Mediation is a category of calls which refer to issues concerning siblings, property division, end of life issues, family decisions, assisted living and nursing home decisions between staff, staff and patients, staff and family etc.

The mediation process starts with a phone call, a lot of time is spent coaching people over the phone to solve their problems. If they can't or don't want to talk to their neighbor or other party a Mediator will call the second party and try to conciliate over the phone. If there are multiple issues to solve, and when otherwise applicable, a Mediator will facilitate an in-person meeting

called a pre-mediation conference. Pre-mediation conferencing is when a Mediator meets with the parties, explains the processes, and begins to understand all sides of the issue. It is ok to bring your lawyer bring your care manager, bring your spouse etc. to these meetings. The Mediator will then set or state the goal of the mediation. It is crucial the mediator remains totally neutral (omni-partial) throughout the entire process. All the mediation services are volunteer based. All the mediation services are free of charge.

Tracey and Dan roleplay a mediation scenario between the daughter of an elderly woman receiving in home rehabilitation and health care and the health care administrator to simulate an actual tense situation. Cheryl then questioned the BNOA members on what steps should be taken. In this way Cheryl outlined the steps of mediation to a point of resolution.

Cheryl is a great resource for questions, comments and/or concerns circling the Mediation Program. She can be reached at (425)452-5222 or has encouraged you to visit their web-page for additional information.

<https://planning.bellevuewa.gov/community-development/conflict-assistance>

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advocacy (reported by Janet Zielasko)

There was no meeting September 4th due to the Labor Day Holiday. Janet will send August 7th meeting minutes and the upcoming meeting agenda out to the advocacy group today. Meeting with Adam Smith August 10th.

Veterans Human Services and Senior Levy Proposal discussion – Dianna summarizes, 1/3 of the levy will go to seniors, 1/3 will also go to veterans and 1/3 will go to human services. The 1/3 that goes to seniors initially will need to be spent on veterans housing unless someone else picks up the expense. Throughout the 6-year levy there will be plenty of money for senior services. Each group will need to spend 25% of their money on housing. Advocacy will continue to monitor and keep a close eye on this proposal as it goes forward.

There was consensus at a meeting we are not going to hold the legislative forum this year. It was agreed that whoever fills in for Representative Hill's seat, the BNOA would meet with that person directly to present advocacy issues.

Kirkland has submitted their resolution to the Kirkland Senior Council regarding the retirement security crisis. Councilmember Lynn Robinson will come in December to hear the concerns the BNOA have on some federal issues that affect Bellevue aging population. Kathy from Kirkland Senior Council sent out an inquiry about the Redmond Shuttle, just curious how that was going. No current updates regarding the medical observation status. Dianna brought up and is perusing the importance of getting telecoils added to all the hearing aids. Kirkland Senior Council has received one bid to do a senior survey in their city, it was very expensive so they are perusing other options the goal is to get a handle on senior needs that will best direct them for the future. Janet Zielasko will have a discussion with Joanna Donahue from Sound Generation and the person from Puyallup about "elder friendly communities".

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Introduction was made of a new member from Human Services from the planning side, Kristie Stangland. National Welcome Week – hosting welcoming events throughout the community. Human Service Forum – the advocacy meeting will be held on Tuesday. A summary of the Human Services Needs Assessment needs updating and will be distributed.

Outreach, Education Diversity Committee (reported by Gazel Tan)

Our power point is progressing. Hopeful to wrap up edits this week to then share with the committee for review. Ethan has volunteered his church to be the first to receive the presentation. Chinese Information Service Center hosted a Senior Resource Fair at North Bellevue Community Center on September 6th. Over 300 attended and BNOA passed out Vials of Life and information flyers. As the event has great diverse attendance, a suggestion was made to seek marketing materials in languages in addition to English, including facilities, parks and trails guides. The BNOA Resource Directory should be translated to other languages (at the very least Police contact information). FYI, Safelink Wireless provides cell phones to qualified individuals as a part of a federal program. FYI, Sound generation gives out free toilets and retrofits them for individuals. Smart 911 does not reach Bellevue so BNOA will continue to give out Vials of Life during outreach events. Ethan will attempt to contact Overlake Hospital for a further donation of vials. The BNOA will be looking for other donors as well. A vial costs \$1/each. Medic-One provided them free previously.

Transportation/Housing Committee (reported by Hannah Kimball)

Transportation Opportunity Matrix. A draft of a huge matrix has been set up with all the transportation opportunities for older adults. Working on how to pair it down to make it effective. We have learned through this process that Bellevue needs something additional for older adults who aren't going to be able to drive or afford a taxi cab. We have started to think then, "what do we want to ask for". A survey may follow. FYI, Lyft has a concierge service where someone else can make a ride reservation on someone's behalf. Loop of Redmond has agreed to be at a Transportation Committee meeting in the future to report on its success status.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS REPORTS

Eastside Rider – No report was given.

Eastside Human Services Forum – No report was given.

Timebank (reported by Jeannie Grote)

Welcoming Potluck at Redmond City Hall 6:30pm in the Café. Easy Rider Meeting on the 16th 2:30pm.

Aging & Disability Services (reported by Beverly Heyden)

Issaquah is having a Senior Housing and Resource Fair 1-5pm with a King County Assessor Panel and King County low cost programs.

Senior Lobby – No report was given.

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New Business – No report was given.

Staff Report (presented by Daniel Lassiter)

Member changes for 2018. Eileen Rasnack and Sandy Shaw Jones will not be returning for another term on the BNOA. Linda Whitehead has requested a position as a liaison member for the BNOA. Desire Leigh would like to stay as a liaison member. Phyllis Smilen and Lauren Emery were asked if they would like to be voted on as voting members. They both agreed and were voted into non-liaison member status beginning January 2018. There remains one voting position and two liaison member positions available for 2018. Please recruit for applications. A meeting will be set with the recruitment team for interviews.

Web Page Volunteer. Lauren Emery has agreed to be the BNOA web-page monitor and will work with Dan Lassiter to update the web page and help decide what content should remain on it.

Adjourn: 10:30am