

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES

February 2, 2023, North Bellevue Community Center via Virtual – Zoom.

8:30am – 12:00pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Abigail Brown, Anne Rittenhouse, Beverly Heyden, Diana Thompson, Eleanor Lee, Gazel Tan, Hannah Kimball, Julie Hart, Kira Hackett, Phyllis Smilen, Shana Aucsmith.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shelley Gehring couldn't connect with Zoom.

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Christy Stangland, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

GUESTS: Barbara Loomis, Karen Hartman, Kathy Iverson, Alex O'Reilly

PRESENTER(S): Elizabeth Erickson – COB Planner
Kate Nesse – COB Planner
Discussion of older adult needs in the City of Bellevue.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order by Abigail Brown and the roll call taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 2023 revised minutes approved.

PRESENTATION: City of Bellevue Planners discussing housing and transportation Bellevue data concerning older adults. “Senior in the Planning Process”.

Questions BNOA had previously asked to be answered:

- *What is the City of Bellevue's definition of a 'senior' for planning and for human services?*

- *Where do Bellevue seniors fit in the AFH AMI levels? For example, qualification for affordable housing is usually based on 30/60/80% of AMI -- where % of Bellevue seniors fit in these AMI ranges.*
- *What is the difference between senior housing vs. affordable housing vs. middle housing?*
- *How can BNOA help?*
- *What is the current gap for senior housing?*
- *Are there statistics for those >65 who plan to move away vs remain in Bellevue?*
- *During current Comprehensive Plan update, will input will be gathered from 55 and older age group for planning future senior housing needs, and what was done in the past to plan for seniors of today?*
- *What does a developer pay when it chooses to donate money instead of providing affordable housing units in a development? How is that donated money used for affordable housing?*
- *Will you plan to require new homes and condos to comply with universal design standards in order to meet the needs of seniors and disabled persons. (e.g., accessible bathrooms, homes one can entered without needing to go up one or more steps)*
- *Will you maintain single family resident neighborhoods in Bellevue?*
- *How do you plan to enable small businesses to remain in Bellevue?*

Definition of a Senior in the City of Bellevue Planning Department:

Most census data uses 65+.

Some family definitions use 62+.

Senior housing may be age-restricted, often at 55+.

Bellevue Older Adult Adult Stats

Increasing Senior Population with Senior living alone has doubled since 1990.

Family households age 65+ in 1990 was 5,614, in 2020 was 6,816.

Nonfamily households living alone 65+ 1990 was 2,164 and increased to 4,586 in 2020.

Definition of Types of older adult housing in Bellevue.

“Housing Affordability” – Ability to afford housing costs using only 30% of income.

“Affordable Housing”- Housing affordable to households earning 80% or less of Area Median Income (AMI). This category is income-restricted vs naturally occurring.

“Senior Housing”- Restricted by age, often 55+. This category is less than 10% of income-restricted units are senior housing. Most seniors don’t live in senior housing in Bellevue. Assisted living included in this category.

Cost Burden Stats

Half of seniors living alone are cost burdened. Senior households paying more than 30% of income. Of the families in Bellevue in this cost-burdened category, 30% of them are seniors.

Past Community Planning

In the past the Comprehensive plan has, 1) encouraged a range of housing types for seniors affordable at a variety of income levels. 2) supported housing options, programs, and services that allow seniors to stay in their homes or neighborhoods. 3) Promoted awareness of Universal Design improvements that increase housing accessibility.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN BELLEVUE

- Inclusionary: Income-restricted units included within market-rate housing.
- Fee-in-lieu in BelRed is \$26.85 per bonus square feet. An example is: 100 bonus units, 19 would need to be affordable or the owner of the building pays \$2.7 million to a affordable housing fund.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES GATHERING OLDER ADULT INFORMATON

- Random Sample Survey
- Presentation to Kin On.
- Presentations to two senior housing groups.
- Touchpoints with BNOA.
- Gathering of Housing Stories.

HOW CAN BNOA BE MORE INVOLVED?

Attend formal engagement opportunities when announced in the City of Bellevue.

Invite staff to present to BNOA and other associated groups.

Give feedback today or when you think about an item in the future. Especially concerning 1) what you are hearing in the community, 2) what are today's gaps, 3) What issues are growing, 4)what is working today and could be enhanced.

FUTURE ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR BNOA.

March 18 & 21 2023: Housing Forums.

Late Spring 2023: EIS Public Comment Period.

Fall 2023: Open House opportunities.

Winter 2023/2024: Planning Commission.

Spring 2024: City Council.



Future Engagement Opportunities

- Today: BNOA
- March 18 + 21 2023: Housing Forums
- Late Spring 2023: EIS Public Comment Period
- Fall 2023: Open Houses
- Fall 2023: BNoA (and other boards and commissions)
- Winter 2023/2024: Planning Commission
- Spring 2024: City Council



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OLD BUSINESS:

Position Paper Follow-up: The meeting on 2/3/23 with Michael Shiosaki and Shelley Brittingham was successful. Michael is willing to take the position forward and present to the Bellevue Leadership Team except for the request to hire an FTE to work on older adult issues within the City of Bellevue. Other suggestions by the Parks leadership included organizing a question-and-answer time 2x per year to invite Dept Heads or their representatives to a group discussion on older adult concerns with BNOA and maybe even the older adult public.

Women's Health Letter discussion: Kirkland Senior Council and BNOA advocacy committee have drafted a women's health support letter. The letter was presented to the BNOA at the January meeting for group approval and the decision was made to move the potential approval to the February meeting giving members time to think through the content. "The letter was presented at today's meeting. Concerns voiced included: "is this really an issue that

concerns older adults and there should be no reference to Roe vs Wade and the statement as not representing the views of Kirkland and Bellevue cities is not a true statement as both these older adult groups are part of Kirkland or Bellevue. It was pointed out that health issues reflect all ages, even as grandmothers of children with women's health issues. It was decided to remove the Roe vs Wade line and the "no reflection of Kirkland and Bellevue" then Dan will have the attorney of Bellevue review the letter, and if no other changes are needed the group approved that version of the letter.

Repository site for BNOA documents status: Christine Stangland approached COB IT Department about the possibility of the COB allowing the BNOA to have a repository site to load BNOA documents. The IT department approved the idea and now will need a BNOA team to develop the content.

Follow-up Zoom vs Microsoft Teams for BNOA meetings: Zoom meetings were being reviewed as possibly not being used by the COB IT department the beginning of January. It has been determined that NBCC is able to keep the ZOOM system for at least this year.

Welcomed new BNOA member: Shana Aucsmith was welcomed on to the BNOA as a new voting member. Shana's term will be 2023, 2024, and 2035. Shana will review all committees to see which will be the committee of choice to participate.

NEW BUSINESS:

Using Roberts Rules of Order was to be discussed but due to lack of meeting time as been moved to next month's new business.

HUMAN SERVICES REPORT:

- Request for Proposal for groups to apply for funds has been released.
- Contracts for groups receiving funding is under development.
- Christy has been put in charge of funding contracts for user groups that have services that affect older adults.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MINUTES:

Discussed the approved legislative agenda and encouraged the entire group to sign up for meeting with legislators to convey the agenda's message. The meeting dates are being arranged by Diana Thompson and Kathy Iverson.

Members were encouraged to consider joining the Advocacy Committee. Diana will no longer lead the committee after March.

Meeting times for the BNOA Advocacy Committee have been changed to the first Monday of each month from 9:30 – 10:45.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES:

Eastside Unitarian Church is seeking to receive a BNOA presentation on 3/8 or 3/21. volunteers are needed.

The Forever Young Catholic Group would like a BNOA presentation.

Discussion concerning the COB website. Engaging Bellevue site needs typed in specifically in order to view. Consider suggesting to COB a more visible way to find “Engaging Bellevue”.

HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES:

The Transportation Matrix that BNOA developed is currently being updated by the team. Eastside Easy Riders Coalition (EERC) discussed the current status of the Hyde Shuttle pilot as busy and successful and appearing to be approved for further use in Bellevue. More parking sites will be needed, especially in Bellevue. Hyde is seeking a third driver.

STAFF REPORT:

No report given.

ADJOURNE: 10:45a