

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES**

September 6th, 2018
8:30-10:30am

North Bellevue Community Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Diana Thompson, Jullie Gray, Howard Katz, George Twiss, Beverly Heyden, Berta Seltzer, Phyllis Smilen, Hannah Kimball, Peggy Foster, Judy Dowling, Jeanne Grote, Janet Zielasko, Bill Merriman, Desiree Leigh, Arlene Cheng

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ethan Crawford, Bob Megargel, Gazel Tan, Christy Stangland, Lauren Emery

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter/Bellevue Parks & Community Services

GUESTS: Eileen Stevens – Overlake Hospital Palliative Care Program
Jen Russel – Outpatient Social Worker with the Palliative Care Team at Overlake Hospital
Rogers – Inpatient Social Worker with the Palliative Care Team at Overlake Hospital
Joanne Gainen – Eastside Neighbors Network

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: Changes to August 2nd, 2018 minutes submitted by Diana Thompson.

PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION:

Lalita Uppala – IAWW, Vice President and Community Program Director

India Association of Western Washington (IAWW) operates in the Greater Seattle area to help form a cultural, social and educational organization for the advancement, appreciation, performance, reservation, study and/or teaching of the performing arts (music, drama, dance, film-arts), and languages for the Indian community. They also provide a common identity to the Indian community through promotion of unity, friendship and good will based on mutual understanding and cooperation. Their objectives also include promoting and providing social, educational and cultural programs which will enable children of Indian heritage to understand Indian traditions and lastly to encourage and foster the activities that improve mutual

understanding and appreciation between the Indo-American community and the mainstream American community.

The IAWW Community Program was established in March 2015 by the India Association of Western Washington and a group of community patrons to address wellness, civic engagement, vocational mentoring and workshops for women, and early childhood education for families. Immigrant families experience significant isolation because of drastic changes in lifestyle, culture, language, traditions, and weather. The intent is to provide the Asian Indian community of Greater Seattle, a common platform to connect and integrate into the mainstream community.

They have established a memorandum of understanding with the city of Bellevue which allows to run a pop-up community center at North Bellevue Community Center every Thursday and similarly a second pop up center at the Sammamish Teen Center every Monday. From June to September of each year, they will be at the new Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Park.

IAWW hopes to extend these pop-up centers to provide the community with a platform and a space to connect while they identify the needs of our community and address them through resource referral and cultural navigation programs providing legal services, transportation, insurance, career needs in addition to addressing voter awareness and engagement.

Thursdays at North Bellevue Community Center often include:

10.30 a.m. – Meditation, Conversational English, Women’s Fitness

11.30 a.m. – Chair Yoga

12.30 p.m. – Community Lunch

1.30 p.m. – Informational Sessions, Music, Bingo, Art, Cultural Education

2.00 p.m. – Preschool Enrichment (3+ years)

Evening programs include bridge club, community conversations, Music Therapy for Autism Spectrum Children (2nd Thursdays), ANVI Women’s Workshops, Legal Clinics etc.

Contact Lalita Uppala at directorcommunity@iaww.org for more information.

<https://iaww.org/>

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advocacy Committee (*reported by Diana Thompson*)

Age Wave Candidates Forum – Friday, September 28th at North Bellevue Community Center (2:30-4:30pm). Everyone is encouraged to submit questions ahead of time to Diana for candidates to address. Please register online. Some topics to be addressed may include

property tax exemption based on outdated income level, care for increasing dementia population, etc.

Met with a representative with Senators Murrays Office – transparency in Medicare regarding drugs and would like some experiences sent to her from people that have had bad experiences buying drugs. Part of the Legislative Agenda is to ‘scrap the cap’ on social security, in other words, when its withheld from your wages when working your taxed up to the first \$128,400 and thereafter you do not pay any additional social security tax. Eventually that will cause social security to not be able to pay full benefits.

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

Annual Senior Resource Fair was yesterday at North Bellevue Community Center. There were over 30 vendors that participated. There was an 80/20 mix, 80% Chinese and 20% other in attendance. Very well attended. Materials were translated in Chinese, Russian and Spanish.

https://www.agingkingcounty.org/ill_calendar/cisc-annual-senior-resource-fair/

Farmers Market Senior Day was good. The gal in charge is willing to change the day. The BNOA should take this event on a bit more.

How can we get “in front of” different groups? Who can attend the monthly potluck lunch at Mary Queen of Peace in Sammamish Thursday, September 13th?

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

Dan made the connection with Mike Garner with Moving to a Simpler Life to attend the next meeting to discuss the idea of a hosting a housing “salon”. <http://www.eldermove.com/> Is there a conflict of interest with their business model? The Senior Care Coalition is potentially another option? <https://seniorcarecoalition.org/>

The Affordable Housing Discussion is at South Bellevue Community Center is Saturday, September 8th.

Don Okazaki will be at the Human Services Committee meeting – September 18th at City Hall (6:00pm). Please let Dan Lassiter know if you will attend.

Sound Transit is currently Recruiting Volunteers to serve on its Citizen Accessibility Advisory Committee. Applications are Dues September 30th. <https://www.soundtransit.org/About-Sound-Transit/Accountability/Citizens-Accessibility-Advisory-Committee>

Voted and Passed. Letter of support for a grant that Hopelink and the Eastside Easy Rider Mobility Coalition are requesting from WSDOT.

Voted and Passed. Posting the BNOA Transportation Matrix on the Eastside Neighbors Network Web Page.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS REPORTS:

Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative *(reported by Anna)*

Tristan Cook presented at the last meeting. He is a transit planner with Metro. The discussion was about the North/Eastside Mobility Project.

Eastside Human Services Forum *(reported by Diana Thompson)*

Met with a representative with Smith's Office – he and 5 other representatives support the Medicare Observation Bill. He is also in favor of expanding medical to cover vision, hearing and dental.

Aging & Disability Services *(no report)*

Senior Lobby *(reported by Diana Thompson)*

Senior Lobby meetings are the 3rd Monday of the month 10:00am – 12:00pm in Lacey.

New Business & Staff Report

Changing meeting time and location discussion.

BNOA recruitment month. For those that have served for 2 years, Dan Lassiter needs to know if you plan to continue. Voting will take place before the October meeting. Bellevue Reporter will feature BNOA recruitment month. Several new members have already shown interest.

ADHOC Committee is maybe coming back in the fall. Alex is wanting to resurrect the idea of several committees from the Eastside forming and meeting a few times a year to form a larger voice on alike issues.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.