

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES

September 6, 2007  
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall  
Room 1E -120

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christina Coulter, Lynne Robinson, Stephen Lam, Eileen Rasnack, Eve Stern, Berta Seltzer, Catherine Brallier, Dwayne Dilley, Diana Thompson, Marjorie Todd, Gary Dickerman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Valentina Kiselev, Jim Messner, Eileen Putter, Howard Katz

STAFF PRESENT: Cathy VonWald, Department of Parks and Community Services

OTHERS PRESENT: None

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m. by Chair Robinson who presided. All committee members were present with the exception of Valentina Kiselev, Jim Messner, Eileen Putter, and Howard Katz.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. July 12, 2007

**Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Ms. Seltzer. Second was by Ms. Rasnack and the motion carried unanimously.**

3. DISCUSSION

A. Bellevue Network on Aging Logo

Ms. Von Wald informed the Network that the city has directed that separate logos for various city initiatives not be created. Their intent is to avoid creating confusion for the public as to who owns each initiative. She suggested including a header and/or footer on all official correspondence from the Network with "Bellevue Network on Aging" and "Making Bellevue a Great Place to Grow Up and Grow Old."

It was agreed both phrases should be located at the top of the page, and should be included with the minutes.

B. Bellevue Network On Aging Library

Mr. Dickerman commented that the Network on Aging is pioneering in its field and should consider what will be left behind for those who follow. He suggested developing a library of materials that can serve as tools for others use.

Chair Robinson agreed with the idea and suggested the repository should be the Network website. Ms. VonWald said a documents resource page could be set up with links to it from the main Network webpage. All meeting handouts and pamphlets available in electronic form could be housed there along with the resources for each subcommittee. All of the materials should also be available in hardcopy form. The history of the committee is well covered by the minutes taken at each meeting; all of those are available online.

Ms. Rasnack suggested that a year-end report by each subcommittee summarizing their accomplishments and outlining the steps to be taken in the future would be a useful document. Ms. VonWald said year end reports will be developed and forwarded to the City Council.

It was agreed that a library of all hardcopy materials should be housed at the North Bellevue Community Center.

#### C. Kirkland Senior Council – Meeting Sign Up

As discussed at the previous Network meeting, it was agreed that a member should attend each Kirkland Senior Council meeting and provide a quick report to the full Network. The focus will be on learning what initiatives Kirkland has under way and providing information with regard to what Bellevue is doing.

A sign-up sheet was passed around.

#### D. City Initiatives

Ms. VonWald said there are a number of city initiatives, including large planning processes, happening throughout the city. She suggested the Network may want to be involved in some of those, either as a group, a subcommittee, or as individuals acting on their own.

The Bel-Red Corridor Study has been under way for about a year and a half. The steering committee completed the draft concept plan in June and is anticipated to make a final recommendation to the City Council by the end of September. Once that is done, the issue will be sent to Planning Commission, Transportation Commission and Parks Board for specific revisions to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Code. Ms. VonWald said the steering committee would be meeting later in the day at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room. Information about the study is available online. Housing is one component of the plan.

Ms. Thompson said upzoning the Bel-Red corridor is one aspect of the proposed plan for the area. When upzoning occurs, the door is opened for bringing in the need for low-cost housing. The city could allow upzoning only in cases where low-cost housing is included in the overall mix.

Ms. Seltzer noted that the Bel-Red corridor will take a long time to convert to new uses from the current established uses, many of which may oppose the change through legal channels. Ms. VonWald allowed that the corridor will change slowly over time, but pointed out that the rezoning action does not involve any land takings or eminent domain actions, except where roadways will need to be widened. The transition will take time, but it will be important to stress the need for affordable housing options.

It was agreed that each subcommittee should be involved, and that a sign-up sheet should be sent around and that at least one person from each subcommittee should attend the various meetings. Mr. Dilley proposed that the housing subcommittee should focus on housing issues, and that the transportation subcommittee should focus on transportation issues.

Ms. VonWald called attention to the fact that a committee comprised of persons from the city boards and commissions has been formed to focus on light rail best practices. She suggested that the Network may want to be involved in that effort.

It was noted that the City has an open house slated for September 13 to focus on the options for extending light rail through Bellevue to Redmond. It is very likely such a line would pass through the Bel-Red corridor. It was agreed the Network should be represented, at least the Easy Rider Collaborative.

Ms. VonWald said the Great Streets project is an urban design planning exercise that will provide guidance for developing unique identities for the various downtown streets through the use of materials, the design of sidewalks, the inclusion of pedestrian amenities, landscaping and public art. More information, including the project timeline, is available online. Once the visioning process is concluded, the various commissions will be tasked with revising the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Code as necessary.

Walk and Roll is a pedestrian/bicycle plan being worked on by the Department of Transportation. Ms. VonWald provided the Network members with copies of the latest project newsletter and noted that the draft plan will be presented to the Transportation Commission on September 27.

Ms. VonWald said the Meydenbauer Bay Park project is under way. She said the city has been purchasing lots along Meydenbauer Bay for a number of years and now has enough contiguous parcels to create a downtown waterfront park. A steering committee has been appointed and has been busy holding meetings. An event called Bellevue Waterfront Day at the Bay is planned for September 8, mostly at Meydenbauer Beach Park from noon to 3:00 p.m.

Finally, Ms. VonWald said information about each of the boards and commissions of the city, along with their agendas and meeting minutes, is posted on the website. She suggested that the Network members may want to peruse those and determine which meetings they would like to attend and which subjects they would like to follow.

**\*\*BREAK\*\***

#### 4. STAFF REPORT

Ms. VonWald reported that the draft Area Plan on Aging report has been released. She said anyone wanting a copy of the July 17 draft should ask her, adding that the information is also available on the Area Agency on Aging website.

Ms. VonWald announced that she will be out of town November 1, the date for the regular Network meeting that month. She proposed rescheduling the meeting to November 8 and the decision was made to do that.

## 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Transportation

Mr. Dickerman announced that the subcommittee is moving forward with the Bus Buddy program. Official approval for the pilot project on the Eastside was received on September 5 through the Easy Rider Collaborative.

Mr. Dickerman said the subcommittee is also working on the Dial-A-Ride program, marketing tools, and the downtown circulator.

### B. Housing

Ms. Todd said the Housing subcommittee has been very busy. The survey is almost finalized and will be mailed out in the near future. The survey is designed to generate a full-blown inventory of what is out there in all venues. The survey will be mailed out to every entity in the city that operates any type of senior housing. The responses will be compiled and people will be invited to participate in a community forum to share in general terms the results of the survey. The forum will be scheduled to occur before Thanksgiving.

Ms. Todd said the survey asks the respondents if they would be interested in receiving updates from the Network. That will serve as one more way to brand the work of the Network and get the name better known in the community.

### C. Support Services

Ms. Coulter said the last subcommittee meeting included a gatekeeper training session. Gatekeeper training involves a presentation by Senior Services of King County that explains how to connect older adults with services offered in the community. Several City of Bellevue employees participated. The next step will be determining ways to bring the gatekeeper training to other community organizations.

Ms. Coulter said Cheryl Kuhn, the neighborhoods coordinator for the city, also attended the subcommittee meeting and talked about how the history of neighborhood associations and how they are structured. Ms. Coulter said the subcommittee wanted to know more emergency preparedness and ways to reach out to the more isolated and vulnerable adults following natural and other catastrophes. Ms. Kuhn raised the concept of a handful of help in which each person checks on five people, and those people check on five more people. The subcommittee intends to work with the neighborhood associations to encourage them to implement that approach, and to bring the gatekeeper training to them.

Ms. Coulter announced that the Home Sweet Home Fair committee is looking for volunteers to help with the event. The fair is scheduled for Saturday, November 3, and volunteers are being asked to serve three-hour shifts.

## 6. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Robinson reviewed the list of items to be covered at the next Network meeting.

Chair Robinson raised the issue of a sitting chair also serving on a subcommittee. The group discussed the matter and concluded that no conflict of interest is involved and that she should continue to serve on the subcommittee.

It was agreed that the agenda should include an opportunity for public comment as well as an update regarding the Kirkland Senior Council.

7. ADJOURN

Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 10:03 a.m.