

SENIOR ADVISORY COMMISSION

Minutes – February 18, 2021 – 9:00am

Via Zoom Meeting

Attendance:

Commission Members Present: Carolyn Durbin, Lois Schultz, Cathleen Williams, LaVonne Kroells, Kay Hampshire, Tom Simmons, Alan Krueger (City Council)

Advisors Present: Anne Marie Stolp (Oak Grove), Brenda Schmitz (Peace Villa)

Community Representatives: Corp. Jordan Voigt, Dawn Plummer (CCPH)

Staff Present: Karen Hallquist (Economic Development Director)

Others Present:

1. Call meeting to order

Kroells called the meeting to order at 9am.

2. Oath of Office – Renewal of Commissioner JR Hoernemann

Hoernemann was not present.

3. Adopt agenda

Motion: LS/CD to approve agenda. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Approve minutes from January 21, 2021

Motion: CW/LS to approve minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Updates

Monitor and expand housing options for seniors –

5.1 Senior Residence Updates

a. Harbor / Haven

Schmitz shared the report on behalf of Heilman for the Harbor/Haven and memory care:

- Open apartments – 4 in the Harbor, 8 in the Haven and 5 in memory care
- All have been COVID free for weeks
- Everyone is back to communal dining
- Vaccine dates Jan 26, Feb 26, Mar 22

b. Peace Villa

Schmitz reported that there is one apartment currently available. If people are interested in living at Peace Villa they should call Brenda. Wait time for an apartment has been up to two years, however, much less now.

c. Oak Grove

Stolp reported that all apartments are full. Hampshire has helped residents with signing up online for vaccine clinics. LaVonne & Richie Kroells helped with food distribution to apartment doors on Feb 3. Oak Grove staff delivered Valentine treats to all residents.

Provide safe options for seniors to get around –

5.2 City Bus

Hallquist shared the city bus is running Tuesday's and Thursday's to grocery stores in the area.

Identify and promote education and social options for seniors -

5.3 NYA Senior Center - None

5.4 Carver County Public Health

Plummer reported the following:

- Vaccine planning has been going well in NYA – vaccines given to Peace Villa, Lakeview Clinic and Marsden. Marsden has been calling patients for appointments.
- As of Feb 14, over 40% of 65+ seniors have been vaccinated in Carver Co.
- Carver Co working on connecting with those seniors who do not have email. Thank you to those people who are assisting with this.

- Carver Co has a website page to sign up for a vaccine newsletter that has the latest information
- Ridgeview set up large clinics on Feb 4, 5, 8 – over 3,000 people in three days. Schultz commented that the event was very well organized. There is another clinic on Feb 19 – Ridgeview patients notified first.
- Simmons commented on the need for smaller community clinics and having smaller health professionals administer them.
- Simmons suggested Carver Co to work with the NYA library to serve as a hub for people to go to sign up. Plummer shared that Carver Co is working on a call center to assist.
- Schmitz suggested Oak Grove to be a clinic sight. Stolp shared that the CDA needs to make a decision on opening up the community room

5.5 Carver County Sheriff's Department

Corp. Voigt reported on local happenings:

- There are phone and email scams going around. He advised not to give our any personal information over the phone or email.
- No one was injured in the fire on Elm Street. Unsure of the cause.
- The stoplights at Faxon/Hwy 212 are still under the review of MnDOT.

5.6 Senior Buddy Program

Kroells shared that the Senior Buddy Program was not approved by Carver Co. Plummer confirmed it was due to staffing. Kroells shared that the county would like communities to take it over. The county would pay for background checks on all the volunteers. Volunteers would need to be coordinated and have a list of resources for all scenarios of senior needs. Simmons commented the Senior Linkage has all this information. The senior assistance contact list that Heilman created could be included in the city newsletter. Durbin shared a "Fix It" Help Clinic that is sponsored by Dakota County to assist seniors. Hallquist will look into the logistics of the program. Plummer confirmed the Carver Co Office of Aging is still in existence, however, time allows her for meetings only and not enough time for developing programs. It was suggested to add a question in the Senior Survey about the Senior Buddy Program and participation.

5.7 Community Education

Hallquist shared that she has been in contact with Julie Kuenzel, Director of Comm Ed for Dist 108. Kuenzel invited information on any senior event/function to be included in the Comm Ed quarterly newsletter.

6. New Business

6.1 Senior Survey in March 2021 City Newsletter

Hallquist shared a draft of the Senior Survey. Simmons commented about a previous study that was done and no one did anything with it. Plummer will forward that survey to Hallquist. It was done in 2019. Senior Buddy Program will be added to the survey.

7. NYA City Council Update

Krueger reported that city staff is looking for bids on the trail lighting, reviewing the Oak Lane and 2nd Ave/Lift Station project for Summer of 2021, and thanked those who helped with the food distribution.

Other updates:

- Schultz shared that she has been talking to representatives about the preferred pharmacy situation. The main concern is that seniors should be able to go anywhere for their prescriptions. Kroells has a list of representatives/commissioners/senator contacts. She will forward to Hallquist to get out to everyone. Simmons suggested a "united message" about this when calling.

8. Adjournment

Motion: CW/LS to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.

Next Senior Advisory Meeting – Thursday, March 18, 2021 @ 9:00am – method of meeting (zoom or in-person) yet to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Hallquist, Economic Development Marketing Director