



Senior Advisory Commission Minutes
August 19, 2021
City of NYA Council Chambers

Attendance:

Commission Members Present: Carolyn Durbin, LaVonne Kroells, Kay Hampshire, Elroy Latzig, Lois Schultz, Mary Spille, Tom Simmons

Advisors Present: Lisa Johnson (Harbor/Haven), Brenda Schmitz (Peace Village), Anne Marie Stolp (Oak Grove)

Community/City Representatives Present: Alan Krueger (City Council), Karen Hallquist (Economic Development/Marketing Director),

Others Present: Peggy Hoef (Bus Driver), Carol Lagergren, Betty Settergren

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Kroells called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM

2. Adopt agenda

Add 5.4 Senior Insert in City Newsletter

Motion by Latzig, second by Schultz to adopt agenda as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Approve minutes from June 17, 2021

Add to 4.3 - Elroy Latzig and Lisa Johnson volunteered to be on the Senior Advisory Committee.

Correction to 6 - restoration of the Mau Cemetery not Center

Motion by Durbin, second by Hampshire to adopt minutes as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Updates

Monitor and expand housing options for seniors

4.1 Senior Resident Updates

- a. Harbor/Haven:** Johnson shared that the Harbor has 7 openings with 2 reserved. The Haven has 5 openings and Reflections has 3 openings with 1 reserved. Jackie, the Head of Food Service is retiring and Justin Gorlack will be replacing her. The Harbor/Haven has completed their Assisted Living Licensure which focused on person centered care and required more transparency in pricing as well as updates to the current Online Health Plans. Johnson updated the Commission on the repairs needed after a recent lightning strike and updated COVID protocols from Ecumen to include weekly antigen tests for all unvaccinated team members.



- b. Peace Village:** Schmitz shared that they are at 100% occupancy in spite of 13 recent turnovers. Repairs and updates to the facility, to include updated sprinkler system, new elevators, softeners and enhanced fire safety measures are moving forward. These repairs and updates are funded by a grant from Minnesota Housing Authority and the timeline for completion has been extended due to COVID19.
- c. Oak Grove:** Stolp shared that the National Night Out Gathering was a success. They have received two notices to move.

Provide safe options for seniors to get around

- 4.2 City Bus Updates:** Hallquist shared information on the new weekly shopping routes implemented for Peace Village, the Harbor/Haven and Oak Grove. These routes were available prior to COVID and have been re-started based on the pre-COVID schedule. There is a maximum of 12 passengers per bus and all must be masked. The cost will be free to trips in town and \$2 for trips outside of the community - these rates are subsidized by the city. Recommendation to publish pick-up times to the community - perhaps with an initial time at Peace Village with follow-up stops at the Harbor and Oak Grove. These routes will be piloted for one month before additional trips are added. All reservations for the bus must be made 7 days in advance through SMARTLink.

Hallquist shared that the busses will be used for Stiftungsfest weekend with one bus on Saturday and Sunday making continuous loops between Peace Village, The Harbor/Haven, Oak Grove and Willkommen Park. The rides will be free to all.

Identify and promote education and social options for Seniors

- 4.3 NYA Senior Center:** Kroells shared that the Senior Center will be opening on September 15th from 10-2 with a boxed meal at Willkommen Pavilion. The plan is to continue to have the Senior Center open on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month with individually wrapped snacks available on the first Wednesday and a boxed meal available on the third Wednesday. There will be a \$1000 grant application submitted to Thrivent to offset the costs of transportation and meals in 2022.
- 4.4 Carver County Public Health:** Hallquist shared an email update from Dawn Plummer: *Carver County Public Health is continuing to focus on COVID vaccinations. Many of us including myself are still spending a majority of our time working on COVID related projects. As we watch the Delta variant continue to*



spread, Carver County is now ranked at "High" rate of transmission.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view> We are following the CDC guidance to wear face coverings indoors regardless of vaccine status. We are continuing to offer vaccine clinics at the Government Center every Tuesday 2-4 pm. All three vaccines offered and walk-ins welcome, the call center is still operating so call with any questions 952-361-1559.

4.5 Carver County Sheriff's Department: Hallquist shared that Coffee Corner with Deputy Voigt will be a quarterly addition to the newsletter.

4.6 House maintenance assistant resources: no report

5.0 New Business

5.1 2022 Senior Advisory Preliminary Budget: Hallquist requested feedback on any proposed needs of the Commission. The recommendation to dedicate a line to bussing reservations has been handled by SMARTLink at no additional cost to the city. Currently, the only item budgeted is Music in the Park. No new items came from the Commission.

5.2 SHIP funds for benches: Monies have been requested and benches ordered.

5.3 Indoor Walking Track Partnership: Lagergren shared information on a potential partnership with Central Schools in an upcoming bond referendum request for a facility expansion. As part of that expansion, there is the potential for an indoor 150 meter, four lane, sports court surfaced walking track would be included at a cost not to exceed \$830,000 to be funded by the city. Discussion focused on the possible benefits to the community, the concern regarding the cost when streets need to be repaired, and the possibility of increasing the size to 200 meters to encourage additional uses for indoor track meets.
Motion by Krueger, second by Durbin to recommend to the City Council to explore the option of partnering with Central Schools to add a walking track to the upcoming facility expansion.

5.4 Senior Insert in City Newsletter: Hallquist requested additional information to be included in the quarterly Senior Section in the September newsletter. Suggestions included information on the City Bus and the opening of the Senior Center.

6. NYA Council Update

Krueger shared the following: search continues for the new City Administrator, Highway



212 expansion updates, Wilson Street sidewalk completed, Willkommen Grandstand mural completed; Mau Cemetery restoration completed; Highway 212 Trail Lights almost completed; Willkommen Pavilion painting completed, Fire Department Rescue 11 detailing almost completed; Little Library at Legion Park completed, Ordinance on dogs and cats on athletic fields completed. In addition the following are works in progress: replacing the playground equipment at Legion Park, new signage for Industrial Park Boulevard, Downtown Streetscape Redevelopment Grant; marketing video by Orangeball Creative, West Carver Retail Committee work on researching food retail options for the community.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Simmons, second by Krueger to adjourn at 4:00 PM. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hallquist, Economic Development/Marketing Director