

Age Friendly Maple Grove Leadership Team

Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2022, 8:30am – 10 am

Via Webex

Attendees: Liz Faust, Jim Betzold, Deb Stock, Marie Maslowski, Councilmember Karen Jaeger, Joe Hogeboom, Carrie McLachlan, Sue Hyland, Jane Warren, Jessi Kingston, Kelly Swanson, Cheryl Theuninck, Giannina Posner, Patty Anderson, Chuck Schwalbe, Pat Schwalbe, Lauren Carter, Lydia Morken

Introductions

Needs Assessment Committee update (Lydia)

- The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) Committee met for the first time on Jan. 5. This team will be the core planning team for the CNA. AF MG conducted its first CNA in 2016-17; this will be its second.
- Eight people participated in the meeting (Liz Faust, Kris Orluck, Cheryl Theuninck, Heidi Schneider, Sue Hyland, Tim Conaway, Jane Warren, Lydia Morken)
- Lydia ran through the PowerPoint slides showing the main topics and notes from the meeting:
 - Monthly-by-month workplan and timeline
 - Survey development and considerations:
 - First time AARP conducted a phone survey in 2016 for the first needs assessment; AFMG did not conduct a survey at that time, so this is a first.
 - Engaging diverse residents
 - Community events presence
 - Marketing – will include using City Focus to help encourage people to participate
 - Budget: TBD
 - Creative ideating: TBD, but may include a contest (with high school art students?) to create an image similar to examples from Norway or British Columbia (as shared in the PowerPoint slides)
 - Next steps: Committee members asked to review three existing surveys (below) and provide input related to how we want to approach our own survey:
 1. AF MN survey
 2. AARP Community Questionnaire
 3. Community Assessment Survey Older Adults (Colorado, 2018)
 - We will also Review Maple Grove city survey to ensure we complement rather than duplicate what is gathered through that survey
 - North Memorial/MG Hospital community health needs assessment happening this year as well; both sides agree we will coordinate our efforts and this is a valuable opportunity to partner.
- CNA Committee monthly meetings will be on the first Wednesdays, from 2:30-4pm.

City/Housing Update (Joe)

- Update on affordable senior housing development: The City owns the site at Weaver Lake Rd/Main Street (by Lifetime Fitness) and is pursuing development of an affordable senior

housing building there. It has had early discussions with CommonBond Communities, a regional affordable housing developer for a building that might have approx. 60-70 units. City Council has supported the idea so far.

- A potential affordable senior housing development at Lawndale and Garland Ln (near Menard's) didn't receive tax credits and so is not proceeding as originally planned. The plan is now paused but still alive.
- Main St updates planned between Elm Creek Parkway to Government Center: ADA compliance, landscaping (details on city website: [Main Street Project Summary](#), [Main Street Design Review](#) – drone footage of proposed design). Work on the first stretch will begin later this year. The second portion will be completed in 2023.
- Hospice/end-of-life facility—developer is looking for an appropriate location in the city. An early possibility near RR tracks was decided against due to noise that would come from rail traffic.
- Arbor Lakes Commons residents can now use the library ramp for winter parking with permission from Hennepin County. Achieved through coordination with the county including collaboration centered on age-friendliness. (Future affordable senior housing to include underground parking.)
- Arbor Lakes Cinema officially closed. Developer is discussing turning theater into a Floor and Décor store with some restaurants and bank going into parking lot area.
- Name changes for Lawndale Lane to occur in March including a section in Plymouth. Will become Maple Grove Parkway.
- Pet Suites is adding a location in MG

Sub-committee Updates

Community Health Services (Patty)

- Food sources / seniors with CROSS: this subcommittee have a facility tour early Feb
- Mental health education for or related to older adults being reviewed; looking at different classes offered through NAMI MN on various topics and with different durations. Working to assess interest and demand among various audience.
- Alzheimer's class offerings through Parks & Rec promotion delayed due to return to virtual

Civic and Social (Liz)

- North Memorial Hospital donated \$2,500 for intergenerational garden, which launched in 2021 as a partnership between the Teen Center and Senior Center and was very successful. This contribution will allow the size of the garden to double, and AF MG is excited about and grateful for this opportunity.

Communication (Lydia and Liz)

- Article submitted to MG City Focus regarding upcoming needs assessment. Spring issue to be mailed end of Feb and cover March-May. We will include piece for summer edition that tells people how they can get involved in the needs assessment. Good opportunity as it is mailed to every household in the city.
- Regular Facebook posts continue.
- Given current lack of Communications chair, Lydia and Liz are maintaining core functions (Facebook, website, City Focus). Interested people can undertake some discrete projects anytime, however—such as a website audit.

Transportation (Cheryl)

- Have not met in 2022; some team members will be participating in CNA Committee work this year.
- Tim sent out a draft list of questions that might be used in gathering information related to developing a circulator bus route.

Housing

- Housing for All annual Legislative Breakfast meeting scheduled for Friday Feb 18, 8:30 – 10 am. Meeting will be virtual again this year. AF MG has participated for last four years or so. Anyone may attend.

Year Three Progress Report (Lydia)

- Will use abbreviated, color-coded format similar to Year 2
- Lydia will send templates to sub-committees so that they can provide information on reportable actions/progress this year. Directions will be included.
- Question from Cheryl regarding 8 domains and structure for work going forward. Suggestion to have a more focused discussion after survey data is evaluated to determine how we want to approach it for the next phase. Lydia will share sample plans for other places that may provide inspiring models for us to follow.

Other News and Updates

- Lydia – State of MN/Age-Friendly MN
 - The State of MN has officially joined the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities. Official announcement forthcoming. State will have funds for an age-friendly communities grants program to share over the next two years (about \$1.4 million each fiscal year).
 - The Governor’s Age-Friendly Council will meet every other month in 2022. The first meeting is 9am-10am, Wednesday, Feb. 9. Visit the [AF MN website](#) for additional meeting dates and info. All of these meetings are open to the public.
 - AARP MN holds quarterly meetings for representatives of age-friendly communities in MN. 13 communities now are part of network. Anyone from AF MG may attend the meeting if interested; Lydia can send information. Liz and Lydia usually attend these.
- Liz – City/55 Forward
 - Community Center redesign: Residents will vote on sales tax under consideration for funding; if not approved, property taxes will increase. Website under development to communicate to residents.
 - Senior programming continues with a couple of trips cancelled due to low enrollment and possible Covid impact.
 - North Memorial finalized contribution of \$2,500 to support the new intergenerational garden in MG that was a partnership with the Teen Center and Senior Center. This will allow the garden to double!
- Jim – Rotary
 - Virtual meeting about climate change scheduled on Jan 25, 2022. Contact Jim for link. Strive Steak Fry anticipated in March, Covid dependent.
- Carrie and Lauren - North Memorial

- Community Health Needs Assessment being developed; this is conducted every three years. Carrie new to team and will be a point person for their CHNA. She hopes to get engaged with AF MG's CNA Committee to help facilitate coordination between the two efforts.
- Lauren noted that the hospital is open to funding projects within MG. She will be pulling back from AF MG now that Carrie is on board.
- Pat – CROSS:
 - The holiday toy drive was very successful, exceeded goals. MG PD collected toys and contributed to the drive.
 - Upcoming events coming up include a restaurant fundraiser with The Great Greek and Empty Bowls event at Grove church. Info will be shared with AF MG for possible posting on Facebook.

Next meeting is Friday, February 11, 8:30am-10am.