

## **Age-Friendly Maple Grove Leadership Team Meeting**

August 14, 2020 | 8:30am-10:00am  
Webex Meeting

*Attendees:* Jim Betzold, Liz Faust, Maple Grove City Councilmember Karen Jaeger, Marie Maslowski, Lydia Morken, Kelly Swanson, Cheryl Theuninck, Mark & Nancy Carpenter, Giannina Posner, Heidi Schneider, Kris Orluck  
Welcome Ioana Childs from Beehive Homes of Maple Grove  
(Special appearances from Cheryl's cat and Kris's granddaughters!) 😊

## **MINUTES**

### **Welcome, Introductions, Overview - Lydia**

Introductions were made.

### **News and Updates - All**

- Liz – Presented information on the fall Parks & Rec class offerings brochure. Small booklet will be mailed to all Maple Grove individual and business addresses. Digital brochure will show fall (Sept-Dec) offerings; almost half will be Zoom format. Summer activities have been mainly outdoors and small special events.
- Giannina – Reported on Three Rivers Parks and the Northwest Project she is leading. She recently organized a camping experience with 16 Black and Latinx women at Marshview/Baker Park. It was very successful program that included activities like Zumba and paddleboard and an overnight camping experience.
- Karen – Updated the group on Maple Grove City Council news. Also spoke of the upcoming Council election November 3<sup>rd</sup> with six women running for two seats. Conversation was held regarding following the League of Women Voters/Chamber candidate forum and how AF-MG could be helpful in informing public about this and other news on website and Facebook.
- Heidi – SilverCreek on Main – Provided information about the MN Dept. of Health's newly-released visitation guidance to support long-term facilities and clients. Visitations in the past have been in phases: outdoor, window, and upcoming will be essential caregiver within state definitions. (Complete information is available by visiting the MN Dept of Health's website at [health.state.mn.us](http://health.state.mn.us) and referring to the 8/10/2020 news release).
- Lydia – Governor's Council on Age-Friendly Minnesota recommendations being submitted to the Governor in a few days. Lydia will share when available. Lydia expressed appreciation to AF-MG team members for their input and presentation to the Council and to Giannina for her work helping Spanish-speaking older adults complete an AARP survey associated with the state's age-friendly planning efforts.
  - Giannina shared that language is not the only barrier to completing such surveys. Many of the questions are rooted in White American culture and feel confusing

or irrelevant to immigrants and/or those from other cultural backgrounds. This makes it difficult to actually capture their experiences.

### **Website Analytics / Changes/Communications Committee Update - Kris**

- July Website analytics (attached)
- Website: A reorganization of the Services & Resources categories is being considered. “Civic and Social Engagement” and “55 Forward Programs” will instead become something along the lines of “Civic Engagement & Employment” and “Social Involvement & 55 Forward Programs.” This suggestion was mostly driven by the desire to add some employment resources to the site. Kris will coordinate changes with Avallo.
- Zoom interviews - Three were completed successfully; Kris thanked all involved. (Facebook and website directs viewers to YouTube). Kris has lined up more interviews and asked for additional ideas for Zoom, website blogs, and Facebook entries from anyone with ideas.
- CROSS Peace of Mind Breakfast, 11-9-2020. AF MG hosted a table in 2019. This year, given Covid-19, members agreed to support virtually with independent donations.
- Facebook – Lydia  
Growing number of followers. Lydia and Liz are now co-managing, which is helpful and working out well. Post ideas welcome.

### **Subcommittee Updates**

- **Housing – Lydia**
  - Roxanne Smith will be rejoining the Housing Team.
  - Lydia has communicated with Joe Hogeboom at the City regarding AF MG contributing some information/resources to the housing recommendations that the City will be preparing to submit to Council in 2021. He supports the idea and will be connecting AF MG with project managers to move forward as stakeholders in the work.
- **Transportation – Cheryl**
  - The team met with John Hagen, City of Maple Grove Transportation Operations Engineer to discuss the upcoming Walking Audits. Mark Carpenter is coordinating and assigning areas to audit. Community volunteers requested.
  - Meeting with Uber representative held recently. Information obtained will be organized for research report and follow up.
- **Civic and Social Involvement - Liz**
  - Team met to discuss the action plan goals and ways to continue to progress.
  - Job Opportunities/Volunteerism – Pat Schwalbe contacted Peak Staffing, an employment agency with over 30 years of experience in Maple Grove to discuss job opportunities for older adults.
  - Liz discussed interest in pursuing Virtual volunteer opportunities, including possible partnerships with District 279 and Osseo Retired Educators. Nancy will assist in follow up after school routine is established this fall.

- Liz is working with city personnel to restructure ways to connect the public with both citywide and Age-Friendly Maple Grove volunteer opportunities.
  - Liz described the difficulty of completing Action Item 4.1b “Identify quality-based programs that connect older adults to other people and help MG residents utilize such programs – e.g. NextDoor, MeetUp groups or Facebook groups for local older adults” due to safety and privacy concerns. That action item may be refined or adjusted going forward.
  - Team member Vickie Parks provided Liz information about the Senior Citizen Education Program at U of M and other state colleges. Marie added information about that program for 62+ and asked the group to seek more information about free online courses through Coursera.org. Team will follow up and submit any information for website and Facebook inclusion.
  - Jim shared that the principals from Maple Grove and Osseo Sr. Highs recently presented at the MG Rotary Zoom meeting regarding the opening of schools this fall.
  - Lydia asked about the status of the tablet program. Liz explained that follow up work is being done to both see how current users are doing with tablet use—to ensure those that have them are utilizing them--and how many tablets will be available/how to add new users. Kris replied that she had assisted a few tablet users over the phone this summer.
- **Communication - Kris**
    - See above.
- **Community & Health Services – Marie**
    - Marie M. and Patty Anderson will be meeting next week to discuss Patty joining as a co-chair of this subcommittee.
    - Marie discussed opportunities through Maple Grove Hospital/class changes and excitement of possible increased participation with Zoom platform.
    - Falls Prevention course not able to be given at this time.
- **Fundraising – Mark**
    - No change in financial status. Funds available through December. No active fundraising at this time due to Covid-19.
    - Mark brought up the question of whether AF MG would like to purchase an ad in the Maple Grove + Osseo Residents Guide produced annually by Prime Advertising. Last year, a full-page ad with color was purchased that appeared on page 3. Due to budget constraints, further discussion will be held on interest in renewing/size of ad. Decision not due at this time.

***Next Meeting: Friday, September 11, 2020 | 8:30am-10:00am***