

**Age-Friendly Maple Grove
Leadership Team Meeting**
October 9, 2020 | 8:30am-10:00am
Webex Meeting

Attendees: Jim Betzold, Liz Faust, Karen Jaeger, Tim Conaway, Patty Anderson, Marie Maslowski, Lydia Morken, Kelly Swanson, Cheryl Theuninck, Mark & Nancy Carpenter, Giannina Posner, Kris Orluck & Ioana Childs

MINUTES

Welcome, Introductions, Overview - Lydia

Introductions were made.

News and Updates - All

- Patty and Marie report on Community Support & Health Services subcommittee
 - This subcommittee initiated a meeting with Twin West Chamber of Commerce and had productive meeting with the Chamber on 10/8. Groundwork was laid for future collaboration or partnership, and we plan to stay in contact.
 - The subcommittee will meet MG Fire Department to share information about AF-MG and learn about the FD's observations and experiences with older residents. AF-MG met with FD representatives several years ago; this will be a good reconnection with new staff to both receive information from them and to provide information about AF-MG.
 - Marie is working with a writer from North Memorial to develop an article for the next edition of the City Focus newsletter. The subject will be mental health, loneliness, and depression among older adults.
 - North Memorial is sponsoring a Mental Health First Aid for Older Adults class in December. It is being led by NAMI MN.
 - Maximum participant number is 20; Two hours of prep work is required to participate in the six-hour class.
 - The audience is people who work with, live with, are a friend or neighbor to older adults.
 - Not targeted for professionals; it would be a review for them.
 - Our goal is to fill the class. Marie asked for help in recruiting participants; will follow up with flyer when available.
 - Patty is working for the City as part-time election staff; she provided information about voting.
 - Maple Grove voters may now vote in person 8-4:30 at the Government Center. You may either vote when you arrive, or drop off a completed absentee ballot at a trailer outside the Government Center. Identification will be validated with a driver's license or SSN. Full information available on City of Maple Grove website if any questions.
- Liz, City of Maple Grove
 - City Park & Rec activities and summer outdoor events are winding down.

- Pickleball indoor opportunities have started with three sites; advance sign-up required. The City is renting a former Forever 21 retail space and using it for City activities, including pickleball.
- Ioana thanked Liz for the opportunities Beehive residents have been able to participate in, with both being close distance away via their bus and excellent safety protocols followed.
- Giannina, Three Rivers Park District
 - Hispanic Heritage Month is 9/15 – 10/15. In two weeks, Giannina initiated and organized an event in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month attended by 80 people on Saturday 10/3 at Fish Lake Park. Socially distanced event with activities, music and food enjoyed by all. Giannina expressed her thanks to Three Rivers Park District and her excitement to organize more events for underrepresented populations.
- Ioana Childs – Beehive Homes of Maple Grove
 - Family involvement/visitation has begun to a limited extent at Beehive. No Covid cases to date; there is weekly testing for staff and residents.
 - Celebrated their one-year anniversary from grand opening.
 - Held an Alzheimer’s Walk around Beehive on 9/26. A 1.7-mile route. Others participated virtually. It was very successful and will be held yearly.
- Jim, Maple Grove Rotary Club
 - Rotary Gala will be held virtually this year on 11/22.
 - Details and registration form are available at <http://www.maplegroverotary.org> and on their Facebook page. Free to attend virtual gala with donations accepted.
- Tim, Maple Grove Lions
 - Lions will be bell ringing for Salvation Army this holiday season.
 - The annual Holiday Baskets assembly/distribution partnering with Maple Grove Fire Dept. will still be held, but on a smaller scale.
 - Both Jim and Tim stated that fundraising has been difficult in Covid times, directly affecting their ability to approve many funds requests and support the community as they traditionally do.
 - Nancy thanked Jim and Tim and then suggested for a new Zoom interview (or blog post?) theme: “Giving Back to Community” featuring the above organizations and CROSS.
- Lydia
 - AARP MN Livable Communities virtual conference will be held on November 17 & 18
 - One of the panel topics focuses on responses to COVID-19 in age-friendly communities. AF-MG has been invited to participate on that panel to discuss its Zoom interview series.
 - Leadership Team members are invited to attend. A detailed agenda of the conference is attached.

Q3/Q4 Meeting with the City – Liz/Mark

- Liz and Mark met with Chuck Stifter, Parks & Recreation Director, and Aimee Peterson, Superintendent of Parks & Rec, to give an update on Age-Friendly Maple Grove’s progress over the last four months.
- Very positive meeting with discussions of goals and each subcommittee’s work.
- Chuck asked Liz to investigate re-starting the Outside Spaces and Buildings subcommittee.
- Will continue to provide monthly meeting minutes and quarterly updates to Chuck and Aimee and give a presentation once per year to City Council.
- Next meeting anticipated in January.

Scam Information - Kris

- Kris presented “Get Wise to Scams” to the Leadership Team with positive feedback. This is part of the Communications & Information team’s action plan work for Year 2. Kris thanked Lydia for professionalizing the information provided. (See attached.)
- Marie commented that there is a great need for this material. She inquired about the possibility of translating the content into multiple languages for our various community populations. Giannina volunteered to translate into Spanish. Kris will follow up on a possible translator for Russian language used previously by AF-MG. Other languages may be added if translators are located with free or low-cost services.
- Lydia incorporated into the document and shared a helpful graphic produced by ScamSpotters that provides a quick-step way to assess and respond to potential scam calls.
- Team thanked Maple Grove City Council member Karen Jaeger for sharing AF-MG information at their recent meeting.

Subcommittee Updates

- **Housing – Lydia**
 - As noted during previous meetings, the City of Maple Grove is in the process of developing a housing recommendations report to present to City Council in 2021. The City has hired consulting firm Maxfield Research to develop the report. AF-MG has been included as a stakeholder in the process. Lydia had a productive conversation with Joe Hollman from Maxfield Research recently to share information about local housing needs and opportunities from the perspective of AF-MG.
 - The Housing team plans to develop a brochure with housing information. It will include select information from the housing resources on the AF-MG website. This will help fulfill a Housing team goal from the action plan to make housing information more broadly available to the community. There is a great deal of information on the website, but we understand that many residents do not access the internet or computers.

- **Transportation – Cheryl**
 - Mark, Cheryl and Tim shared the results of the walking audit in a Webex meeting with John Hagen, MG Transportation Engineer. He was very receptive, shared useful city information and is looking into the issues raised during the audit. Mark thanked all involved and gave a particular example where Jim discovered a crosswalk signal that was not working, and, when reported to John, was fixed the next day. Thank you, John, and city employees!
 - Cheryl reported that the Transportation Subcommittee study on future transportation options is largely complete and a draft version will be available before our next Leadership Team meeting.
 - Lydia suggested that AF-MG apply for a community challenge grant through AARP with a possible City partnership. This is an annual grant that invites applications beginning in February; funding is announced in April, and work must be completed by November. Kris commented that these projects need a fast turnaround, so if we want to apply, a project needs to be identified with communication to the city/planning ahead of time. Further research to be done regarding past winners/projects and identifying a potential project.

- **Civic and Social Involvement - Liz**
 - Recent committee networking meeting regarding goals and projects.
 - Yesterday, several members of the Leadership Team attended a TwinWest Chamber of Commerce meeting and made connections. Confirmed that companies are looking for employees and that AF-MG could help facilitate connections between employers and older jobseekers. Team will follow up for details.

- **Communication - Kris**
 - Zoom interviews continue and are going well. Tim is editing the last one recorded on Alzheimer’s Support Groups with Deb Stock. New topics are being continually added to the Zoom list to investigate. Members welcome to give ideas to Kris.
 - Website pictures will be refreshed in some areas, and website content reviewed so that in the future a Zoom interview could be recorded displaying its contents and providing training on the use of it as a community resource.
 - Lydia reported that the AF-MG Facebook page has over 100 followers.

- **Community & Health Services – Marie/Patty**
 - *See above.*

- **Fundraising – Mark**
 - Mark reported that we have spent \$13,268 vs. income of \$20,754 year-to-date
 - He shared with the Leadership Team that, with the Covid-19 impact, there are many uncertainties about next year’s funding sources.

In concluding the meeting, Lydia thanked members for attending and for all the continued hard work on the AF-MG initiative virtually during the pandemic.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 13, 2020 | 8:30am-10:00am