

MINUTES
Age Friendly Maple Grove
Leadership Team Meeting
8:30-10:30am | 11 December 2020
Via Webex

Attending: Kris Orluck, Mark Carpenter, Liz Faust, Jane Warren, Jim Betzold, Patty Anderson, Heidi Schneider, Joe Hogeboom, Cheryl Theuninck, Marie Maslowski, Carol Lothian, Giannina Posner, Karen Jaeger, Lydia Morken

Updates:

Liz, City of Maple Grove: Reported with new November COVID restrictions, all recreation programs cancelled. Park and Rec staff are 50% furloughed. Community Center mostly closed.

Giannina: Three Rivers Parks also closed to any formal programming, the parks and trails continue to be open. They are working on community engagement for 2021. Giannina has been appointed to be a member of the Maple Grove Hospital Community Engagement Advisory Team and the Board of Directors of CCX Media. (Congrats, Giannina!)

Heidi: SilverCreek on Main opened their new addition of independent apartments. Will have 21 new residents by end of December. Half of the new residents are from outside of Maple Grove.

Joe, City of Maple Grove: The Bottineau Ridge affordable housing development received approval for its final phase. Spring construction, 100-unit apartment building. There is also a 215-unit, market rate building going up by Maple Grove Hospital. Discussion in early stages for a senior building also by MG Hospital. All of these were approved before the City Council put a moratorium on new apartment buildings in the city.

The City is seeking public input on the redesign of Main Street. A new website is up to capture input. They will also have signs in local business telling how to participate in providing feedback. Can provide feedback online, go to City Hall, call Community Development, or request a paper copy.

The Maxfield Research housing study looking at housing needs in Maple Grove will be completed in early 2021. That study will be publicly available. The City will develop recommendations based on information in that report, and those should be presented to Council by April. Goal is to have that done by the time the moratorium on multi-unit buildings is over in May.

Karen, City Council: The City is also beginning a transportation study. This will look at traffic and mitigation of certain traffic in areas of the City as well as looking at transportation modes/availability around the City.

Jim: Thanks for all that participated in the Rotary Gala. It went very well with the new virtual platform. The event is still available on to view on YouTube, and people can still contribute.

Lydia: AARP Network of Age Friendly Cities is growing in MN. For several years only four MN communities were in the network. Now there are nine—seven cities and two counties. Added are Olmsted and Hennepin Counties, and the cities of Brooklyn Park, Princeton and St. Cloud. The Governor’s Age-Friendly Council is reconvening on December 21 to provide an update on what they are proposing.

It will be interesting to see how AARP connects and engages all the communities. And to see what kind of support/resource AARP brings to the growing network.

Website & Facebook Update:

Kris shared the new Google Analytics information that is available related to our website activity. It provides lots of insight into who and how our website is utilized. Kris needs assistance in interpreting the information, and how we can make changes to the site to improve the traffic.

Continued work on the Zoom interviews with Juniper (evidenced-based programs out of the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging), Fire Department, holiday tips for caregivers, and Joe all in line to provide information. Also NEED Blog posts. Fire Dept is doing one but looking for any ideas! Please share!

Lydia shared the Facebook Page, 115 followers currently. She and Liz can see the kinds of posts that get lots of review and sharing. They work on a mix of variety of topics, shared from the city site, articles submitted by others, general well-being opportunities, etc. If you see any articles or ideas to share send them to Liz and Lydia.

Looking into 2021

Lydia shared a PowerPoint on what to expect in the next few years.

2021 will be our last year of our current Action Plan work. Committees will continue to work on the action plan and in the end of 2021 begin to summarize their work for a formal report. Then repeat the framework: Assess, Plan, Implement, Evaluate

2022 will be an evaluation and report to AARP/WHO, as well as completing a needs assessment to begin our process all over.

2023 Develop a new Action plan

2024 Start new Action Plan

Discussion on how to continue the work in the 2 years of evaluation, assessment, and new plan. All domains will have unfinished work to carry on with. Important to continue the work while the development happens. More at upcoming meetings.

Subcommittee Updates:

Transportation: Cheryl reported that the transportation recommendations report is completed. It is an excellent report; comprehensive, realistic, and actionable. We will get it highlighted on Facebook, placed on the web page (both front page and in Transportation section) Also will be sent out to the wider email list. Cheryl has shared with MG’s Met Council representative, Judy Johnson.

Civic and Social: The tablet program is going well and has been a valuable asset during COVID to keep people connected. Liz will do an inventory to see how many / if any tablets are available. Liz also reported there are no further programmatic updates because of the limitations of COVID.

Housing: Lydia shared the trifold brochure that the committee has developed (attached). Please comment on any changes needed to Lydia. This is easily updated and printed so that when we are able to be out in the community again at events, etc., we have this available to distribute. It is a selection of housing info from the website. Broader goal is tied to action plan and need to pro Also, the committee is developing a short policy brief document to share with the City as it does it's work on developing the housing plan.

Communication: In addition to what was noted during earlier discussion of website and Facebook, there was discussion of the new scams flyer. The flyer is ready to go and will be posted on Facebook and the website. Lydia will work on this. We will plan to print and distribute to senior housing communities after the first of the year.

Community & Health Services: Patty reported the Older Adults Mental Health First Aid class was cancelled (due to issues at NAMI, the organization that provides the training) and will hopefully be rescheduled in 2021. The committee has met with Twin West Chamber of Commerce and City Fire department and will use the knowledge gained from those meetings as we prioritize work for 2021. The committee recognized improving and maintaining health and building partnerships with CROSS, Juniper, Fire, and the business community as important. Also, a reminder that Juniper classes are available for free online due to COVID. Many high-quality evidence-based programs such as bone builders, balance, mindfulness, tai chi are some examples. Patty is working with Juniper staff to get a baseline of how many from 55369 and 55311 ZIP codes are participating and hopes that through our work we can increase participation.

Fundraising: Mark shared the 2020 financials; we likely will have a \$3,000 carryover into 2021. This is good because we anticipate that we might see some reductions in contributions in 2021. Liz reported that there is likely still money coming from the hospital; should know more later in the month. This will also help with the carryover into next year. It was suggested that we post a year-end thank you to our financial supporters and those that also support us through the staff time on our committee(s). Karen asked about 501(c)3 status. Suggested that the Historical Society got that status yet remains connected through the City. Something to investigate in the future.

Next meeting: Friday, January 8, 2021 – 8:30-10:30am