

Age-Friendly Maple Grove Leadership Team Meeting

May 12, 2023 | 8:30am-10:00am
Maple Grove Community Center

MINUTES

Attendees: Jim Betzold, Liz Faust, Deane Gradous, Len Langkau, Carmen Mazzachella, Carrie McLachlan, Lydia Morken,

Welcome, Introductions, Overview

Team Updates:

Carmen – Arbor Lakes Commons

- Residents are organizing to address significant building repair issues that need attention. Many windows are in need of replacement (e.g., some residents' windows don't close) and the parking lot is in terrible condition with many large potholes. They have contacted U.S. and state elected officials and city government, but CommonBond is responsible for finding funding to address these issues.
- Some residents have left and others are trying to find somewhere new to live, even though they would rather not leave were not it for the building issues. It's very frustrating, as many people don't have anywhere else to go.
- Some action may be taken this summer, but it will be a slow process. There may be a little funding from HUD to finance some of the repairs.

Carrie – North Memorial/Maple Grove Hospital

- Work continues related to the Community Health Needs Assessment. The Community Health Improvement Plans should get approved by the Board this week.
- North Memorial will likely become a Trauma Informed Health Care System – working toward this. There will be a trauma conference in the fall.
- Lydia mentioned the Age-Friendly Health System model, an effort led by the John Hartford Foundation, as something to consider at an appropriate time.

Jim – Rotary

- They continue to make beds for children, working with CROSS. MG Quilters Guild provides quilts for the beds. Deane noted that the Senior Quilters may be able to provide quilts for this effort, too.
- Preparing the annual Bed Races that are held at Maple Grove Days each summer.
- Will be planting \$10K worth of trees at Central Park soon; the city would like to turn that area into a forest. There will be a variety of trees.

Len – Wiser Wings

- Len continues work on his project focused on better coordination of health care and social services. He is developing a summary of the concept and will have that ready to share sometime soon.

- One model of note is the [Institute for Healthcare Improvement \(IHI\) Model for Improvement](#) as a useful one.

Liz – 55 Forward

- Programs going strong; there are many offerings for people to choose from – from chair yoga to hula dancing.
- The intergenerational garden club will start soon; 33 people have registered! The program is still free this year.
- Maple Grove got an Age-Friendly MN grant for about \$14,000 to support the pickleball project at Lakewood Knoll. That was less than requested, but will still be helpful in supporting aspects of the project.

City Updates

Councilmember Janigo was unable to attend, but she sent a written update to share:

I do want to let the group know that their elected city leadership is fighting for housing for seniors. We recently denied a proposal for 2-story homes in an area that we are really pushing for single level homes. I spoke specifically about how 2-story homes are generally unsuitable for seniors. We were unanimous in our feelings on this as a council and tabled the issue, letting the developer know that such a proposal would not be approved in its current form. Here is the story on CCX media: [Maple Grove Council Rejects 2-Story Homes on Smaller Lots in Rush Hollow Development - CCX Media](#)

Needs Assessment Findings and Next Steps:

- Lydia shared highlights from two aspects of the community needs assessment, which is now complete: city staff interviews, and key informant interviews. [Click here to view that information.](#) (Survey highlights were going to be shared, as well, but we ran out of time.)
- Subcommittees are being asked to review findings and report back to the Leadership Team in June as we work toward developing our next Action Plan. We will follow-up via email to move this forward.

Age-Friendly Action Plan Examples

This will be postponed to a later date as we ran out of time.

Next meeting: June 9, 2023