

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING  
MINUTES

July 6, 2017  
8:30-10:30am

Bellevue City Hall  
Room 1E-113

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ethan Crawford, Judy Dowling, Sandy Shaw Jones, Beverly Heyden, Howard Katz, Eileen Rasnack, Janet Zielasko, Arlene Cheng, Jullie Gray, Jeanne Grote, Hannah Kimball, Gazel Tan, Lauren Emery, Desiree Leigh, Bob Megargel, Bill Merriman, Phyllis Smilen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Whitehead, Berta Seltzer, Diana Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Lassiter/Bellevue Parks & Community Services, Teri Ekstrom/Bellevue Parks Human Services

GUESTS:

RECORDING SECRETARY: Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

**WELCOME AND ROLL CALL** - The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chair Ethan Crawford.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 1, 2017** Ethan asked if there were any corrections or changes to the May meeting minutes. Joanne Gainnen of Eastside Neighborhood Network said the place of meeting is the Dilettante Mocha Cafe 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. Member Minutes were approved with the one correction. Approved.

**[PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION] Puget Sound Regional Transportation Council** represented by Gil Cerise ([gcerise@psrc.org](mailto:gcerise@psrc.org)), Jean Kim ([kkim@psrc.org](mailto:kkim@psrc.org)) and Meon Yu of Enviroissues.

**Puget Sound Regional Council is a planning council to update a transportation strategy up to 2040 identifying gaps and ways to fill those gaps in a timely manner that allows federal funding to be received on an annual basis. This plan is updated every four years. The general themes of the review are investments and identifying gaps in funding, especially for county, city and local transportation funding needs. Key issues are technology, climate change, sustainable financial strategy and maintenance of preservation as seen at a Federal level. Federal and State level requirements include performance based planning with measurable targets, and special needs transportation. An environmental plan will also be completed. The plan needs completed, reviewed approved and in place by the spring of**

**2018 in order to keep money flowing in this region. Today's public engagement will be asking for each person to fill out a survey on perceived needs of transportation.**

**Special needs transportation covers seniors, disability, youth and low income residents. The Enviroissues company is hired to reach out to the groups that work with these individuals soliciting quality feedback. Jean highlighted the needs in King County which includes physical or developmental disabilities, age, low income, veterans and low English-speaking individuals. The study has been reviewing these needs since 2008. Special needs make up 48% of the regional population with King county at 46%. King County has highest population of special needs of surrounding counties. Seniors 65+ has seen 21% increase in numbers since 2011, with 34% of those having disabilities, and seniors with low income 21% of the total. Seniors 85 and older are the fastest growing group. Seven out of ten at age 85+ have a disability. Ten percent of King County's total population have disabilities and 38% of those are low income. Limited English proficiency make up 10% of King County and 40% of those residents are low income. By 2040 ages 65+ will grow by 80% while the total population will only grow by 14%. Seniors will grow faster than any other identified group in the next 20 years. A solution needs to be found on how to move these people around within their community. It has proved difficult to get good feedback from individuals who are unable to use a computer or understand how to self-advocate. A questionnaire has been sent to North Bellevue Community Center and other sites to be available to community members to submit their opinions.**

**Five sets of gaps have been identified for which feedback is sought out. They include: 1) mobility needs and challenges, location of service in comparison to where a person lives; 2) temporal gaps such as not receiving services at certain times of day; 3) institutional gaps such as a rule or regulation that keeps a person from accessing service; 4) infrastructure such as a sidewalk not available to get to the spot where the bus is; 5) awareness gaps such as people not knowing what is available to them including travel training services. The BNOA was asked to put up dots on each of the gaps located on sheets on the walls that identified the most important according each person's opinion. A section existed to write needs not identified as a gap on the five areas identified. Howard pointed out Sound Transit has been ignoring the request for seat height at bus stops or on the bus and for bells that go off to help hard of hearing or lights that flash for deaf or vibration floors for those who are blind when a bus/train is approaching. Sound Transit says they are meeting federal government standards and will not entertain these changes. Phyllis says a gap exists of letting people know about the availability of services because people are isolated. Diana said she understands 2040 goal but a need to plan for 2020 is evident so what will be done now? Answer: the plan is updated every four years for federal funding reasons. The plan was originally developed in 2010. Prioritized strategies are federally required. Priorities of quality of transportation include moving people with efficiency. Plans are then turned into projects and given to groups that can address the needs and gaps with services such as Catholic Community Services. If things are easy to fix then they get an action plan much quicker, even if they are not of the highest priorities.**

**The draft plan will be developed by this fall and released for public comment in December 2017. The plan must be approved by the spring of 2018. Hannah – How many pages will the report be and is 45 days long enough for the average citizen to review it? Answer: A more succinct and readable plan is being developed so the document is not so overwhelming.**

**See BNOA site for slideshow and presenter names and phone numbers.**

BREAK (10 minutes)

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Advocacy** (reported by Janet Zielasko)

The advocacy group was moved to meet on July 10<sup>th</sup> so no report today. Some of the group met with Senator Murry's assistant in June and Representative Reichert's in June when the committee members shared the BNOA federal agenda. Senator Smith's assistant met with Diana and the spoke of the Medicare hospital observation status. A committee meeting with Senator Smith's assistant on August 10<sup>th</sup>. The details of Aug 10<sup>th</sup> meeting will be sent out by Diana early August. Reichert signed on to the hospital observation bill for the first time ever, which is very encouraging.

Eileen stated that The King County Council voted on the veteran tax and was voted in at 10 cents instead of the needed 12 cents. She stated that advocacy needs to occur to ensure seniors get what they need even though less money will be coming in. The Veteran/Human Services levy does not define where the 20 million will be spent.

**Outreach, Education Diversity Committee** (reported by Gazel Tan)

Good outreach occurred at the Strawberry Festival at Crossroads in June. The public came looking for information on programs and services that the City of Bellevue provides. Ethan spread the news of Alzheimer's Café occurring at Tutta-Bella restaurant at Crossroads. The Vials of Life were distributed and explained to public.

Diana asked if anyone knows anyone besides North Bellevue Community Center provides foot-care as it is no longer available at Redmond. Members stated that Northshore Senior Center has service. A power-point continues to be developed for BNOA presentations. Ethan challenged the BNOA to continually get information out to the public and find groups to come to BNOA meetings. Howard wants Sound Transit to come to meeting. Hannah asked to get information from presentations before they present to allow BNOA time to prepare input to the presenter. Volunteer outreach will be sought at Crossroads Farmers market after we will wait to see what will happen at the other Bellevue Farmers Market.

**Transportation/Housing Committee** (reported by Judy Dowling)

A transportation availability grid is under development indicating kinds of services are available for the eastside residents. Hopefully some funding will be found by the City of Bellevue to publish the grid when completed.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS REPORTS**

**Eastside Easy Rider Coalition** (Hannah)

No meeting in June. Last Mile Solution meeting was held with the purpose to improve access by health care design and was sponsored by Universal Design Council Northwest which supports successful transportation solutions. Gazel, Beverly, Hannah, Kirkland senior councilmembers, and Alex attended. The group is looking at ways to enable free movement around our city. PSRC Puget Sound Regional Council needs to be in contact with the Last Mile Solution people for transportation input. It was reported that Sound Transit and Hyde cost a third of Access. Dart services says transportation is overwhelming and crossover coverage is a sticky mess that needs steam-lined. Feet-First promotes walking in the community and we can ask them to build a map for Bellevue. [www.feetfirst.org](http://www.feetfirst.org) would be good to add in to the transportation grid information under development. Julie said go-go grandparent needs to be reviewed and added to the grid as well.

**Eastside Human Services Forum** (reported by Alex O'Reilly)

No info

**Time-bank (Jeanne)**

Meeting will be held at the North Bellevue Community Center 7/16/2017. Web site gives stats on members and changes on services needed and available. 4600 hours exchanged. Comfort Keepers is another group that helps others. They have great articles on their web site.

**Aging & Disability Services** (Beverly) Memory care was discussed and a speaker from the UW gave the address.

**Senior Lobby** (Diana)

Senior Lobby has mostly been looking at State budget which is now in place. Veterans Human Services Levy - Diana testified at the hearing on behalf of BNOA. 5177 is bill on training the caregivers for those with hearing loss was passed. Julie stated it would be nice if they would also make a training module so training would be consistent for everyone. 12 hours caregiver training is needed every year for caregivers. This training on hearing lost can be counted towards those hours.

### **New Business/Staff Report**

Howard – BNOA should get Federal Government to change seating height standards. Dan said maybe ADA has some regulations on seat height that can be pushed with Sound Transit. Hannah and Bob talked about other ways to solve the problem of getting up on ones feet vs higher seating. Phyllis indicated that you can't rely on others to meet your needs so you have to find a way to solve your individual standing issue. Bob talks about a portable device that an individual could use as an adaptive device that is located on the buses or trains.

### **Staff Report**

Outreach – Bob will check the Overlake Farmers Market to gain a spot for outreach. Likely September.

ACCESS is coming next month to BNOA.

November will have a presentation on State Alzheimer Plan

Council-member Robinson will be willing to come to BNOA so she can hear our concerns.

September and October are open. Diana would like Community Living Connections to come speak to us about referrals and some of the agencies that they refer people to.

August is the last month BNOA can be at City Hall for six years. Currently BNOA is set at Hidden Valley Boys & Girls Club. The Youth Theater has offered space for this group to meet beginning September. The youth center has a projector, hearing loop, and good parking.

Summertime is not available so we will need a different site. Howard suggested the Hyatt and said he would ask for free use. Howard will check it out. Janet suggested Bellevue Art Museum which is looped and has all AV, good parking. She will check on it. Howard will check with Lake Bellevue that may allow committee meetings space. Dan said Hidden Valley site is already set up to have committee meetings. Youth Theater is also open for committees. Dan will bring schedule of where to attend for September.

NBCC Administrative Assistant retired and Dan's position has double duty coming up.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:25a