

MINUTES

Age-Friendly Maple Grove Leadership Team

March 12, 2021, 8:30am-10am | via Webex

Attending: Liz Faust, Mark and Nancy Carpenter, Kris Orluck, Elizabeth Brown, Cheryl Theuninck, Jim Betzold, Joe Hogeboom (City of Maple Grove), Giannina Posner, Carole Lothian, Councilmember Karen Jaeger, Patty Anderson, Tim Conaway, Jeanne McTootle, Marie Maslowski, Lydia Morken, Chuck and Pat Schwalbe.

Membership welcomed Karen Nelson and Deb Stock from the ACT on Alzheimer's Grant Action Team.

News and Updates

- Liz – City of Maple Grove Parks and Recreation 55 Forward programs
 - Spring programming continues with Covid guidelines.
 - Summer brochure entries due next week for opportunities through August
 - Liz will be presenting on AF-MG at the MN Parks & Rec. State Conference this fall along with Kelly Mertes from Brooklyn Park. They will be discussing their cities' age-friendly initiatives.
- Karen Jaeger
 - Very positive about progress of both vaccinations and residential care visits.
- Joe Hogeboom
 - Maxfield Research's *Comprehensive Housing Needs Analysis for the City of Maple Grove* is completed. Joe Hollman from Maxfield presented a summary of the analysis and some recommendations at a City Council work session on February 16. Two notable shortfall areas included were: 1) the "missing middle" – lack of appropriate housing product for young older adults selling their single-family homes, and 2) lack of affordable one-level older adult housing, including housing with services, in Maple Grove.
 - The report is attached with these minutes. Information about senior housing is included throughout, but the Senior Housing Analysis section begins on page 110.
 - View the Feb. 16 presentation by [clicking here](#).
 - Recommendations to be shared in an upcoming work session, date TBD, regarding both types and locations of housing in future projects, including tools for helping to finance affordable senior housing.
 - Main Street Revitalization project – public input received after very strong community response planning work continues.
 - Joe updated members on business, retail, and housing growth in Maple Grove.
 - CM Karen Jaeger added that the State of the City address from Mayor Steffenson, held virtually this year through interview with CCX/Dave Keiser, can be viewed at this time at this link: [Maple Grove State of the City 2021](#).
- Pat Schwalbe and Elizabeth Brown – [CROSS Services](#)
 - Pat, Director of Volunteers & Community Engagement, gave information about Minnesota Food Share's 40th Anniversary Campaign March 1 – April 11.
 - Food and financial donations requested.
 - Matching \$ gifts from sponsors Otto Bremer Trust and Kottemann Orthodontics.

- Two local drive-up donation sites:
 - Cub Food, Sunday, March 14 (Northwoods Church) from 11-3
 - Lord of Life Church, Maple Grove, Sunday, March 28th from 12:30 – 4:30
 - Pat expressed gratitude both to the Great Greek Mediterranean Grill/MG and Maynards/Rogers restaurants for the very successful percent-of-sales fundraisers.
 - Elizabeth Brown, CROSS CEO/Executive Director, gave information regarding the reconvening of the CROSS intentional vision planning which had been interrupted due to the pandemic. CROSS is seeking interested potential team members to contribute to this planning. If interested, please email Liz at elizabeth@crossservices.org
 - Giannina Posner – Community Engagement Specialist, [Three Rivers Parks](#) update
 - Parks have been very busy with both planned activities that follow Covid guidelines and with individuals of all ages enjoying the outdoors safely. Continually adding future programming/activities on website.
 - Giannina briefly reviewed the newly released Three Rivers Parks 2040 System Plan, a comprehensive plan with this vision statement: “Our vision is that every person can connect with nature every day.” Three major goals include: “You Belong Here,” “Parks Matter,” and “Lead by Example.” Giannina expressed Three Rivers Parks’ desire to work with community partners to realize their vision and invited all to view the 6-minute plan video. Nancy commented very positively about the video’s content and professional presentation and encouraged all to view it and the Executive Summary of the plan. Links to [2040 Video](#), [Executive Summary](#)
 - Giannina shared a very heartfelt thank you from a family who was able to be part of the Recreation Pass Plus program. Through it, they were able to experience many of Three Rivers Parks activities offered over this past year during the pandemic. These passes allow people with limited incomes to take advantage of park amenities (e.g., renting kayaks, going snowtubing, etc.) at no cost.
 - Pat suggested a partnership with CROSS regarding a fundraising race possibly at Elm Creek and will make connections/follow up with Giannina.
 - Lydia
 - Lydia requested ideas for how AF-MG could recognize upcoming National Older Americans Month (May).
 - Age-Friendly Legislative Efforts: A bill to establish a permanent Age-Friendly Minnesota Council has been introduced in the house (HF 1807) and senate (SF 1786). Rep. Todd Lippert (D-Northfield) and Sen. Karin Housley (R-Stillwater) are bill sponsors. You can help by contacting your state representative and senator in support of this bill.
 - Lydia shared a 30-second video developed to help support the legislation: <https://youtu.be/XrGRhMsobN4>.
 - AARP created a fact sheet (attached) summarizing the legislation.

Update on Working with the City

- Liz, Lydia and Mark recently met with Aimee Peterson from Maple Grove Parks and Rec. to discuss ideas on how to incorporate age-friendly practices into city decision making. Several ideas were discussed and will be followed up on.

ACT on Alzheimer's Grant

- Patty Anderson thanked Karen Nelson (Lord of Life Lutheran Church Staff) and Deb Stock (Alzheimer's Association volunteer and caregiver support group leader) for joining the March leadership team meeting and reported progress on the ACT on Alzheimer's grant. This grant will allow AF-MG to connect with faith communities to find out what dementia needs and resources currently exist. The team is currently working on survey development. Marie asked leadership team members to consider people in the community who could receive and benefit from completing the survey. Patty and team will update progress at April leadership team meeting.
- Cheryl asked about the possibility of NextDoor App to distribute the survey. Lydia added the idea of the survey being both in online and paper versions for wider distribution.

Year 2 Progress Report – Lydia

- Subcommittee reports received and ready for edit/final draft and team prior to April leadership team meeting. Report will be finished after discussion at meeting with possible quotes and photos added.
- Mark commented that AF-MG typically reports to City Council once per year, and that he and Liz as AF-MG co-chairs presented to City Council last year. He suggested they repeat this once the progress report is finished. Details TBD.
- Lydia thanked all subcommittee members for their work and Year 2 reports.
- Patty complimented the format with the easy-to-read color box progress markers and suggested a one-page executive summary, highlighting three to four major points. Lydia added that some of the detailed information about the AF-MG initiative that appeared in the Year 1 report will now be located in an Appendix section.

Subcommittee Reports:

- **Fundraising – Mark**
 - Reported that AF-MG is on budget.
 - Mark thanked Heidi Schneider and SilverCreek on Main for the fourth consecutive year of sponsoring the AF-MG initiative.
 - A full report of income and expenses will be presented at the April leadership meeting.
- **Social and Civic– Liz**
 - Year 2 Progress Report submitted to Lydia.
 - Liz discussed Year 3, Goal 4.1.d “Develop intergenerational programming around health food using the farmers market and community garden(s) and preliminary planning work regarding an intergenerational community garden.” City intergenerational community garden project has been approved with participation from AF-MG. More details to follow as progress is made.
 - Volunteer opportunities will be revisited as Covid pandemic numbers improve.
- **Housing – Lydia**
 - Housing for All – February 26th – St. Joseph the Worker Church
 - Lydia reported good attendance despite the event being held virtually (on Zoom) due to Covid.

- Lydia presented on behalf of AF-MG, an event partner.
 - Elizabeth Brown gave an update on CROSS, along with other speakers.
 - City and legislative representatives were present, including Heidi Nelson, and Joe Hogeboom and two MG City Council members.
 - The Housing team is finalizing a Housing Policy Brief which will be completed and submitted to AF-MG Leadership for review and then to the City of Maple Grove.
- **Communications – Tim**
 - Tim reported on two upcoming Maple Grove Lions Club events.
 - May 15th –Maple Grove Half Marathon, 10K, 5K in-person and 10K, 5K and biking virtual opportunities. Register at www.maplegrovehalfmarathon.com
 - June 12th – Maple Grove Lions 16th Annual Gift of Sight Golf Classic.
 - Tim expressed hope regarding fundraising and community giving opportunities in the future. Members thanked Maple Grove Lions for their support of the AF-MG initiative.
 - Communication Tools
 - Website traffic and Facebook followers are increasing.
 - Osseo-Maple Grove Press front page ads have been ordered for these dates: 4/22, 5/13, 6/17 and 7/15. First ad has been written; subsequent ad material can change topically with goal of keeping AF-MG brand identity.
 - Maple Grove City Focus production schedule – Summer article deadline is April 6th. Tim requested topic ideas from committee chairs. (mctimc@gmail.com)
- **Community and Health Services – Marie and Patty**
 - Submitted committee’s Year 2 Progress Report.
 - See above for ACT on Alzheimer’s Grant information.
- **Transportation – Cheryl**
 - Appreciation shown to the City of Maple Grove for the invitation to comment on the proposed Northwest Corridor project.
 - Continued communication efforts with Met Council and State Representatives in support of transportation funding for the city.
 - Further investigation of both Mobility 4 All and circular bus which were two more promising options in the AF-MG Transportation Recommendations Report.
 - CM Karen Jaeger added thanks to Maple Grove Transit for offering reservations for free rides on My Ride service to and from COVID state-approved vaccination sites that are within the current My Ride service area. Visit the City of Maple Grove website for eligibility details/how to make reservations.

Next meeting is Friday, April 9, 2021.