

Age-Friendly Maple Grove Leadership Team

Minutes

July 09, 2021, 8:30am-10am | via Webex

Attending: Mark and Nancy Carpenter, Kris Orluck, Liz Faust, Cheryl Theuninck, City Councilmember Karen Jaeger, Jim Betzold, Giannina Posner, Patty Anderson, Kelly Swanson, Tim Conaway, Jeanne McTootle, Carmen Mazzuchella, Lydia Morken, Ioana Childs (Beehive). Team welcomed Beehive Activities Director Caitlin Enright.

Subcommittee Reports:

Civic and Social – Liz

- Volunteer Opportunities flyer finalized to help publicize local organizations that have regular volunteer opportunities. Will be added to website and Facebook and will be printed (see attached).
- Lydia suggested two revisions. Liz agreed, will revise, and get copy emailed to Mark for distribution with meeting minutes.
- Liz met with Kirstin from Farmers' Market. Busy season with best weather so far yesterday. "Senior September" will be featured at the Market. Liz discussed the possibility of Age Friendly and 55 Forward Programming splitting an informational table. Details TBD.
- The new Intergenerational Gardening has been going very well! It is held each Thursday at 4 p.m. Krystal from Teen Center is main person organizing from the city with Liz and volunteer garden advisor Byron assisting. About 10 people attend each week and a total of 16 are registered.
- Liz seeking volunteers to help staff Volunteer Hospitality Room at Maple Grove Days Saturday, July 17th at the Community Center. Help especially needed in the afternoon. Please contact her if you can assist at efaust@maplegrovern.gov.

Community and Health Services – Patty

- Dementia Grant Update – great progress thus far; to be completed by end of September.
- The community member survey has wrapped up, and interviews with church leaders are being held during the month of July.
- Patty said grant process has been a great opportunity to also raise awareness of the AF-MG initiative among faith communities.
- Nancy thanked Ioana and Caitlin from Beehive Homes for their client care and compassion.

Communications – Tim

- AF MG's fourth of four *Osseo Maple Grove Press* front page ads coming out week of 7/12. Will revisit possibility of more ads in the future.
- AF-MG ad in special *Press Maple Grove Days* insert will go out to approx. 10,000 residents.
- Tim stated that advertising costs are under budget this year.

- Article due next week for the fall edition of City Focus. The article will highlight examples of how AF MG is being further integrated into the City's work.
- Tim will coordinate a date for interested Leadership Team members to help do a thorough review of the AF MG website in person at the Community Center to determine changes that should be made to improve and strengthen the site.
- Website visits metrics down somewhat, possibly due to summer vacationing.
- Lydia thanked Tim for his work leading the Communications subcommittee.

Transportation – Cheryl

- State legislative session and budget are completed. Transportation team will meet with Mike Opatz in the future, date TBD, to discuss the impact on Maple Grove's transportation operations.
- Bench Audit – Mark shared that he received an overlay of trails on the city bench map from Ben Jaszewski, Director of MG Parks. Tim and Mark will divide the map into sections and create a flyer asking for volunteers to help visit the trails and document/verify the location and style of benches.

Housing – Lydia

- Lydia and the Housing Team will present the AF-MG Housing Brief at the August 2nd City Council meeting. PowerPoint presentation will be approx. 10 minutes, with Q&A from council after. The subcommittee meets next week for final preparation. Lydia will email presentation to Leadership Team members at least one week prior to August 2nd to allow time for review and return comments. It will largely be a slide version of the policy brief.

Other News and Updates

Councilmember Karen Jaeger – City of Maple Grove

- Shared a number of new retail stores and restaurants coming to Maple Grove.
- Maple Grove Days start Wed., July 14th. Parade starts at 5:45 on Thursday the 15th with Mayor Steffenson as Grand Marshall. Other activities for 7/14 – 7/18 can be found online at mgco.org.

Liz – City of Maple Grove

- Busy reopening of 55 Forward programming at the Community Center.
- Lydia thanked Liz for completing the mailing of the Year 2 Progress Reports.

Giannina – Three Rivers Parks

- Programming for Latino Older Adults has restarted. It had kicked off right before the pandemic and was finally able to restart in June. Target participants are those who are socially isolated. The first event was at Silverwood Park and went very well. Participants greatly enjoy and appreciate the programs.
- Giannina gave thanks to both Hennepin County and Maple Grove Hospital for sponsoring.
- She stressed how valuable this program is in bringing people to the parks and offering programming/familiarize them with what the parks have to offer/encourage return visits.
- She is creating a blog that will also be posted on the AF-MG website. Thanks!

Jim – Maple Grove Rotary

- Maple Grove Days Bed Races Saturday the 17th, 7 p.m. Jim invited all to attend. Main Street Maple Grove

Tim C. – Maple Grove Lions

- Maple Grove Days – Corn Feed, vision screening for children 6 months to 6 years
- Concert on the Lawn 9/17-18 (can buy one night only or both nights) 4-11 p.m.
12000 Central Park Way, Maple Grove Tickets & Information at maplegrovelions.org

CROSS Services – Nancy reported on fill the backpacks in the absence of Pat Schwalbe,

- CROSS is having a “Fill the Backpacks” school supply drive from now through August 3rd. Many delivery sites in Maple Grove and CROSS is also accepting donations at its site in Rogers, also. Residents can also participate through National Night Out neighborhood events. See attached flyers for details, including supplies needed.

Kelly S – M Health Fairview

- Volunteering (with masks) will soon be started again. She will connect with Liz to share information on the AF-MG Facebook page when official.
- **National Night Out** was discussed. AF-MG will participate in the daytime outdoor event (11am-1pm) at the Community Center parking lot. AF MG materials/resources will be compiled prior to the event to distribute to attendees. Ideas thus far include bookmarks, the new area volunteer flyer, housing resources guide, dementia resources. Kris and Tim volunteered to be at the table. If other would like to volunteer, contact Liz.

Lydia – Age-Friendly County and State Initiatives

- New members in the AARP age-friendly network: Lake County and soon Ramsey County. This will bring MN’s total to 11 city/county members.
 - State of MN is poised to enter the network very soon.
 - Age-Friendly Minnesota legislation was passed as part of the final budget for this session. Main elements include:
 - Governor’s Council on Age-Friendly MN extended and now expires June 30, 2024.
 - Two categories of funding:
 - Age-Friendly Community Grants - \$875,000 each year for State Fiscal Years 2023 (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023) and 2024.
 - Technical Assistance Grants - \$575,000 each year for State Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024
 - These grant programs will be developed by the Age-Friendly Council, MN Department of Human Services, MN Board on Aging. Funding also includes administrative support to help provide staff to lead this work—details TBD.
- Lydia referred people to the state age-friendly website for more information but will also provide ongoing updates to the AF MG Leadership Team: mn.gov/dhs/age-friendly-mn.

Next meeting is Friday, August 13, 2021.