

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OLDER ADULT NEEDS COMMITTEE
CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.**

Member Casey called the meeting to order at 5:31 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Council Member Casey, Council Member Smith, Council Member Thomas, Kathy Crawford, Jay Dooley, Kim Nice, Debbie Wrobel

ALSO PRESENT: Victor Cardenas, Interim City Manager
Jeff Muck, Director of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

OAN 23-02-01 Moved by Dooley, seconded by Crawford; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the Agenda as presented.

Voice vote on OAN 23-02-01 **Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford,
Dooley, Nice, Wrobel**
Nays: None

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The committee members introduced themselves and spoke about what their goals were for the committee. Topics included discussing the needs of older adults as well as adults with disabilities, supporting the "sandwich" generation, finding out what makes people move from Novi, and exploring having senior services under one roof.

MEETING SCHEDULE AND MEETING NORMS

Member Casey said meetings should be less than 90 minutes. They will occur on off-Council Mondays at 5:30pm. The first meetings will be educational. They will hear from other agencies such as Oakland County, Area Agency on Aging, Public Safety, Library, and Code Enforcement to see what needs they see as they interact with residents. They will also discuss ADA and disability needs. The scope established by the resolution is very broad. She said they will also find a way to gather public input.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Member Casey said the resolution requires they appoint one of the members as Secretary. Member Crawford nominated Member Nice.

OAN 23-02-02 Moved by Dooley, seconded by Wrobel; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To appoint Kim Nice as the Secretary of the Older Adult Needs Committee.

Voice vote on OAN 23-02-02

**Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford,
Dooley, Nice, Wrobel**

Nays: None

OLDER ADULT SERVICE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Director Muck discussed the Older Adult Services key services that they offer, including exercise and fitness, health and well-being, life-long learning, and transportation. He pointed out that it's more than just the two OAS employees, but the entire Parks Department that contributes to OAS programs and services. He also touched on social enrichment, special events, Nature/Nurture/Novi, and support services. He spoke about the increase in Civic Rec users since 2020. There are over 1,500 registered riders for transportation services and we average 10,000 rides annually. There are 200 residents at Meadowbrook Commons. The loan closet has also seen an increase in use with over 1,300 users in the last fiscal year. Member Thomas asked if Meadowbrook Commons was at capacity. Director Muck said yes and there is a waitlist. Member Thomas asked for statistics, if possible, on how many of the people on the waitlist need housing immediately. She was also interested in statistics related to transportation and how many people get declined for a ride. Director Muck said it was rare for transportation services to be declined.

Director Muck spoke about the AARP Tax Aide services and Meals on Wheels. We also partner with other organizations and communities for various programs and services. He spoke about the survey performed in winter 2021 and provided statistics that resulted from the survey. Member Thomas asked if there were numbers on how many older adults want to sign up for a program, but are unable to. Director Muck said they can usually accommodate all interested people, but they do have to turn people away for pickleball because it's so popular and the spots fill quickly.

Member Crawford said some of the classes are cost prohibitive for some older adults. We are trying to encourage them to sign up for programs, but there is usually a cost involved. Director Muck said that is a deeper discussion they will have to have. The Parks Department subsidizes OAS. They do not get senior specific funding and OAS brings in very little revenue. He added that they do surveys to monitor what other communities charge for programs, but they are careful so they don't outprice ourselves.

Member Nice asked if there was any discussion about allowing e-bikes in some of the parks. Director Muck said they are monitoring that trend but follow DNR rules which prohibit them. He said there are concerns about allowing them. Member Nice said there are different types of e-bikes and maybe they could hold a clinic to educate people on what they are and especially how to practice safety.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 P.M.

Transcribed by Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Date approved: March 13, 2023