

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OLDER ADULT NEEDS COMMITTEE  
CITY OF NOVI  
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M.**

**Member Casey called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL:**               **PRESENT:** Council Member Casey, Council Member Smith, Council Member Thomas, Kathy Crawford, Kim Nice, Debbie Wrobel  
**ABSENT:** Jay Dooley (Excused)

**ALSO PRESENT:**       Jeff Muck, PRCS Director

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**OAN 24-04-16       Moved by Thomas, seconded by Crawford; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
To approve the Agenda.**

**Voice vote on OAN 24-04-16                       Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford, Nice, Wrobel  
Nays: None**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**OAN 24-04-17       Moved by Thomas, seconded by Smith; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
To approve the April 15, 2024, meeting minutes.**

**Voice vote on OAN 24-04-17                       Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford, Nice, Wrobel  
Nays: None**

**REMARKS FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON: NONE**

**MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:**

**1. Final Committee Report Preparation**

The committee was given copies of drafts of two portions of the final report that will be presented to City Council. These portions included "Senior Center" and "Older Adult Housing". A few minutes were given for the members to read through them before opening discussion. The committee went through both documents section by section and made suggestions on additions and changes. The second draft will be reviewed during the next meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:**

Member Crawford wanted to review the outcome of the committee's recommendation from the last OAN meeting that had been presented to City Council at their recent meeting. She felt that now that she knew more about the costs and budgeted amounts for Senior Transportation, she would recommend the committee ask to subsidize all rides for Seniors and all rides for residents with limiting disabilities. Member Casey asked Director Muck the

status of the contract negotiation with PEX and Oakland County and if it was too late to make changes. He said that it was not too late. Member Crawford asked to make a new motion to present to City Council.

**OAN 24-04-18            Moved by Crawford, seconded by Wrobel; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To recommend that City Council support funding for free transportation within the PEX service area for all riders 55+ and all residents experiencing a limiting disability who are unable to drive.**

**Voice vote on OAN 24-04-18**

**Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford, Nice,  
Wrobel  
Nays: None**

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Farah Baig made the following comments:

- She offered several suggestions regarding the final report including the continuation of using age-friendly language. She asked with the discussion about Senior housing, if the goal was to attract more seniors to Novi? Would bringing more ranch style or communities similar to Meadowbrook Commons cause the older adult population to grow faster than it already was?
- She recommended adding demographic information to the report.
- Adding staff to the OAS team would help accommodate the population. According to the data, roughly 10,000 (15%) Novi residents are 55+. The current OAS staff is 3 employees, which means that there is one employee per 3,300 senior residents. Adding more staff would allow them to apply for grants and offer more services.

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

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Transcribed by Melissa Morris, Deputy City Clerk

Date approved: May 20, 2024