

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OLDER ADULT NEEDS COMMITTEE  
CITY OF NOVI  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023, AT 5:30 P.M.**

**Member Casey called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.**

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

\*Member Wrobel arrived after roll call was taken

**ALSO PRESENT:**       Jeff Muck, PRCS Director; Kit Kieser, OAS Manager

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**OAN 23-09-31       Moved by Smith, seconded by Nice; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To approve the Agenda.**

**Voice vote on OAN 23-09-31                       Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford, Dooley,  
Nice  
Nays: None**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**OAN 23-09-32       Moved by Nice, seconded by Smith; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To approve the September 11, 2023, meeting minutes.**

**Voice vote on OAN 23-09-32                       Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford, Dooley,  
Nice  
Nays: None**

**REMARKS FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON:**

Member Casey opened the meeting by reminding the committee that the September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting had been cancelled. The next meeting will occur on October 2 when a presentation will be given by the Focus Group facilitator. She also gave a brief outline of ideas for the format of the presentation the Committee will present to City Council on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Member Casey and Member Dooley shared an "Ah-ha" moment they encountered during a conversation with new residents at Rose Senior Living. Many residents are new to the Novi area and have trouble finding local doctors and specialists. They wondered if the Committee might offer suggestions to offer a welcome packet to new senior facility residents with information that would help them acclimate to Novi and have resources at their fingertips.

Member Smith brought information regarding a recent tour he took of Sterling Heights and their new community facilities. They have space dedicated specifically to Seniors, including a Senior Center and a 50+ outdoor fitness area, and other spaces that cater to the whole

community. This complex has become a hub of activity for all ages. He encouraged the committee to visit the area and see it for themselves.

Lastly, Member Crawford provided handouts giving information about Senior population numbers, a list of program ideas, and a page taken from her Senior Center programming files from 1993.

**MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:**

**1. Programs**

Member Casey then opened discussion to Senior Programs. Some of the main points were:

- As discussed previously, it would be helpful to list all Senior Programs together in Engage instead of separating them into specific categories. It would make finding these programs easier if there was a dedicated Senior Programming section of the magazine.
- Change the colors and font for Senior Programming in Engage.
- In 2022, Older Adult Services provided programs to almost 72,000 participants. This does not include participants of programs offered by the Parks department including adult softball, pickleball, tennis, or golf leagues.
- Parks and OAS run lean on staff but bring in more revenue compared to similar communities.
- Most of the OAS programs are free.
- An increase in staff would allow for more programming.
- The Civic Center space is maxed out between current programming, rentals, and City uses.
- Seniors do not like to use Lakeshore Park.
- Transit could bring new participants who are unable to drive, don't want to drive in traffic, or won't drive after dark. By participating with other transportation opportunities to offer medical rides, City vans could be repurposed for day trips or evening programs.

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:**

The committee was encouraged to watch "Live to 100" which discusses Blue Zones that have been talked about during various OAN meetings.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 P.M.

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Transcribed by Melissa Morris, Deputy City Clerk

Date approved: October \_\_\_\_, 2023