



**ASHLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
ASHLAND SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ASAC)
MEETING AGENDA
March 9, 2020 @ 3:30 – 5:00 pm
ASHLAND SENIOR CENTER, 1699 HOMES AVENUE**

- I. Opening (1 min)
- II. Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2019 (all, 2 min)
- III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (all, 2 min)
- IV. Public Input (10 min)
- V. City of Ashland Planning Department age-friendly housing initiatives (Maria Harris, Planning Manager, 25 min)
- VI. ASAC representation at community meetings (Glatt, 5 min)
- VII. Standing Reports (20 min)
 - a. APRC Update, if any pertaining to seniors (Gardiner)
 - b. City Council Update, if any pertaining to seniors (Seffinger)
 - c. Education Report (Mettler)
 - d. Senior Services Superintendent Report (Glatt)
- VIII. Items from ASAC Members or Work Groups (all, 20 min)
- IX. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. Monday, May 11, 3:30-5:00pm, at Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Ave
 - b. Monday, July 13, 3:30-5:00pm, at Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Ave
- X. Adjournment – 5:00pm

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator's office at (541) 488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

City of Ashland
ASHLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (APRC)
ASHLAND SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ASAC)
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2020

Committee Members Present:

- Rob Casserly
- Mike Hersh
- Mike Gardiner
- Mary Russell-Miller
- Stef Seffinger
- Sandy Theis, Chair

Staff Members Present:

- Isleen Glatt
- Natalie Mettler

Committee Members Absent:

- Anne Bellegia, Co-Chair

CALL TO ORDER

Thisis called the meeting to order at 3:31pm.

OPENING

Invited speakers and other guests gave short introductions: Scott Fleury (Deputy Director of Public Works), Jackie Bachman (Housing & Human Services Commissioner, OHRA board member), Judy Emanuel (Ashland physician and Senior Services patron), and Gina Duquette (Housing & Human Services Commissioner).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Gardiner/Russell-Miller m/s to approve the minutes from November 4, 2019. Voice vote – All AYES.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

None

PUBLIC INPUT

Following up on the November meeting’s discussion about how ASAC could better connect with other City boards and commissions, Bachman offered to facilitate communication between ASAC and the City and community groups of which she is part (Housing & Human Services Commission, OHRA Board, Emergency Management Advisory Council, Revitalize Downtown Ashland). This asked if there are any current issues from these groups of which ASAC should be aware. Bachman shared that the Revitalize Downtown Ashland project has heard from OSF patrons that there needs to be more disabled/special needs parking, although there must be a balance of parking spaces as loading zones for downtown businesses. She also wants the public to be more aware of the option of rounding up their utility bill to fund the City’s ALIEAP program, which benefits low-income residents, including seniors.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION UPDATE, NEW RVTD PROJECTS – Scott Fleury, Deputy Director of Public Works

Fleury reported on three main transportation and transportation planning projects that are relevant to seniors:

1) RVTD Ashland Connector

RVTD, with the support of the Ashland City Council and Transportation Commission, applied for and received a Special Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) grant from the state to run this demand-response microtransit system pilot, which had a soft start last month and is scheduled to run through June 2021. Two ADA-accessible vans are stored at the B St yard and use the City’s fueling station, allowing RVTD to save operating costs. They currently run from 11am-4pm with a \$2 fare (or \$1 reduced fare for qualified riders, including seniors 62+), but expanded service hours are planned. The goal is for clients to be picked up within

30 minutes of making their same-day reservation, using special customized software. This app will learn trip time and travel patterns, thus facilitating the improvement of service over time. These vans will be able to access the narrow streets and steep gradients above the Boulevard, which has long been a transportation challenge in Ashland. Continuation of this pilot depends on usage and cost recovery.

Hersh asked about accessibility of the Ashland Connector to low income riders, including seniors. Fleury replied that the Connector operates with the same reduced fare fees and 90-minute transfers as the regular route 10 and express 1x routes that serve Ashland. Glatt added that the Touchpass cards are available for free to eligible seniors at the Senior Services office. Fleury noted that the Senior Center is a preferred stop location for the Ashland Connector.

Casserly shared that OLLI participants have given feedback on how well the Ashland Connector is working, and they would like to know the policy on tips for the Connector drivers. Fleury stated that, unlike Uber, there is no obligation for tips as this is a route service, but will check with RVTD about any formal policy. He has also heard positive feedback and urges ASAC to help get the word out about this service so that people use it and support it; future service past the pilot depends on ridership and the continuation of the state STIF levy used for funding.

2) Updating the Transportation System Plan

Updates to Ashland's Transportation System Plan, which covers roads, sidewalks and bike lanes, will take 12-18 months. The proposed update plan will be presented to the Transportation Commission on Thursday, Jan 16. To gather community feedback, there will be three open houses and three small group community workshops, to which advocacy groups will be invited. Fleury requested that ASAC recommend a representative for the Citizen Advisory Committee; Glatt and Theis noted that Katharine Danner is already an advocate for seniors on the Transportation Commission.

Fleury stated that this system update plan embodies a "complete street philosophy," meaning that it accommodates all transportation modes in evaluating the level of traffic stress for all users, including bicyclists and pedestrians, and accounts for all ages and abilities. It also considers features such as landscaping, lighting and storm water management to build a complete street view. Seffinger asked if this complete street philosophy had ever been applied to Glenview Drive, as had previously been discussed. Fleury confirmed that Glenview Drive, as well as Grandview Drive and Ashland Loop Road, are all defined in the current transportation system plan as "shared roads," meaning they are 15-20ft wide, posted at 15mph and have pedestrian refuges. Their primary function is not for cars, although cars are permitted, thereby creating an environment for other users such as bicyclists and pedestrians. He added that more such roads and especially alleys are planned for the future.

Theis asked where these alleys are and how they are being prioritized. She also asked about surfacing alleys, for congestion mitigation and dust suppression. Fleury responded that priority is given to areas based on the number of adjacent residents who make requests and participate of their own financial accord, showing resident support; all this is kept in public input files. A priority list is being compiled, per ODOT request, to determine how funding will be allocated.

Seffinger asked about whether installing sidewalks on the streets adjacent to Lithia Park would be part of the transportation system plan. Fleury clarified that above Nutley Street, these areas become roads with easements that are APRC property and so not considered part of the public right of way transportation network. The APRC Trail Master Plan and other documents will be among important documents to be considered for the Transportation Master Plan, so they can be referenced where there is overlap.

3) RVTD Ashland Express bus (Route 1X)

SUGGESTION TO ASK ASAC MEMBERS TO ATTEND OTHER COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND REPORT BACK

Hersh stated it would be good to add one or two more members to ASAC to extend the Committee's reach to attend community meetings. In addition to the Citizen Advisory Committee to the Transportation Commission, other valuable groups to attend might include: Chamber Greeters, Ashland Police Department, Jackson Public Library Services, Asante Ashland Community Hospital, Ashland Emergency Food Bank. This responded that ASAC members could make a point of sharing from organizations of which they are already part in the "Items from ASAC Members or Work Groups" part of the agenda. She noted that ASAC and SSD have already made significant progress in communicating and collaborating with other community groups. This asked that ASAC members send Glatt a list of the community groups they are involved with so this information can be shared at the next meeting. ASAC could then think what other groups would be beneficial to attend, if they have members available to attend.

Seffinger requested that ASAC review major documents such as the Trail Master Plan, which she feels doesn't account well for senior needs. Gardiner responded that there are opportunities for ASAC or their allies to be on citizen advisory committees to advocate for senior needs, as well to be tuned in to planned changes, but he cautioned against overloading the finite capacity of ASAC members. Glatt agreed with Gardiner that it is daunting to add more groups to attend; this is an ongoing struggle.

Gardiner noted that it would be interesting to associate with the Chamber Greeters, as connecting with the business community is often overlooked. Casserly asked about hosting the Greeters at the Senior Center. Glatt said this had been considered in the past, but it is problematic given the early morning timing conflicting with regularly scheduled classes at the Senior Center, but she would look at options. Gardiner suggested hosting Greeters on the deck or at the pool property.

STANDING REPORTS

a. APRC Update

Gardiner reported that ongoing discussions about repairs to the Community Center and Pioneer Hall may affect some seniors who used those facilities. He responded to Seffinger's comment about the need for sidewalks in Lithia Park, stating that he better understood, following Fleury's presentation, what the difficulties are for installation, and that easements might be the best solution.

b. City Council Update

Seffinger reported on the Trail Master Plan presented to the City Council, which includes a major path on the TID that potentially impacts seniors negatively, as it is one of the few relatively flat areas that seniors on that side of the TID can access for exercise and recreation. She noted that, in general, seniors and those with disabilities should be able to access more of the Ashland Creek Watershed but currently there are very few trails with steps or handrails that would make them more usable for these groups.

c. Education Report

Mettler provided [flyers](#) for upcoming events so that ASAC could share with their networks: Ashland Connector Workshop (February 5); Life History Story Time (February 26); Avoiding Frauds, Scams and Cons (March 11); Sue DeMarinis author talk (April 8). Mettler featured the March 11 presentation by retired detective and Crime Prevention Specialist Ron Kohl, encouraging ASAC to attend to learn about this important senior issue. She also reported that the Education Programming Work Group met on January 3 to discuss developing a better evaluation process for events and programs, and staff is working on developing new forms and mechanisms.

d. Senior Services Superintendent Report

See Senior Services Superintendent Report in meeting packet. Glatt highlighted the new RVTD Ashland Connector service and associated workshop on February 5 and shared a [handout package](#) on the new service. She shared the feeling of having turned a corner in serving the community by reaching new audiences, offering more and bigger events, and improving the facility (e.g. painting, acoustic paneling). She thanked ASAC and staff for helping develop and support a new culture of partnerships, enabling the Senior Services Division to do more with a small budget.

ITEMS FROM ASAC MEMBERS AND WORK GROUPS

a. Advocacy/Age-Friendly Communities

Bellegia, Glatt and Theis will attend the February 4 City Council Meeting to present the application for Ashland to join AARP’s Network of Age-Friendly Communities, which has already been approved by the APRC. Administrator Madding also requested an update on ASAC and SSD progress addressing community senior needs, which will be given at this or a future meeting.

b. Public Awareness

Russell-Miller provided a [written update](#), “ASAC Public Awareness Work Group Meeting Notes 12/19/19 Updates 1/13/20.”

c. Mayor Stromberg’s offer to take ASAC members to see local universal housing development

Mayor Stromberg has secured an open invitation from Laz Alaya, the developer of new universal design housing in Ashland (The Garden Cottages at 476 N. Laurel St.), for a tour of this age-friendly development. Glatt will work on scheduling for a non-quorum group to attend.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a. Monday, March 9, 3:30-5:00pm, at Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Ave
- b. Monday, May 11, 3:30-5:00pm, at Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Ave

Adjournment – 4:59 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Natalie Mettler, Senior & Adult Services Coordinator, Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Mike Gardiner
Joel Heller
Rick Landt
Jim Lewis
Julian Bell



Michael A. Black, AICP
Director

541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

TO: Ashland Senior Advisory Committee (ASAC)
FROM: Isleen Glatt, Senior Services Superintendent
DATE: March 3, 2020
SUBJECT: Other Meetings Attended by ASAC Members

At the January 13, 2020, ASAC meeting, Chair Theis requested that we collect a list of all other meetings that ASAC members attend, to further the discussion about members reporting back during ASAC meetings. The following data was collected from members:

<u>ASAC Member</u>	<u>Meetings Attended</u>
Anne Bellegia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active in OLLI (not currently attending meetings)
Rob Casserly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• OLLI Assistant Director
Mike Gardiner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission• Ashland Parks Foundation Board• Bear Creek Greenway Foundation Board• Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioner• APRC Long-Range Planning Subcommittee (<i>eg: Lithia Park Master Plan and other APRC planning opportunities</i>)• Ashland Downtown Revitalization Ad-Hoc Committee• Lithia Park Nature Walks Volunteer
Mike Hersh	<p>Volunteers for the following organizations. Does not attend meetings unless specified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Police Volunteer: attend monthly Volunteer Meetings• Food & Friends• Ashland Emergency Food Bank• Science Works Museum• Tudor Guild: attend the monthly Finance Committee meetings & Annual Membership Meeting• Oregon Shakespeare Festival• Siskiyou Singers• Jefferson Public Radio

Mary Russell-Miller • Southern Oregon University, internal meetings only

Stef Seffinger • Ashland City Council
• Liaison to Chamber of Commerce
• Conservation Commission
• Forest Lands Commission
• Ashland Art Center Board (prospective member)
• Ashland Emergency Food Bank Board
• Ashland Elks
• American Association of University Women (AAUW)

Sandy Theis • OLLI Leadership Development and Recruitment Committee
• American Association of University Women (AAUW)
• First Congregational United Church of Christ Congregational Care Committee
• Asante Ashland Community Hospital Quality Care Committee
• Ashland Community Hospital Foundation Scholarship Committee

Staff also attend a number of community meetings, and they would be happy to report to ASAC if desired:

Isleen Glatt • Ashland Emergency Management Advisory Committee
• RVCOG Senior Advisory Council
• RVTD State Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee (STIFAC)

Natalie Mettler • Rogue Valley Community Organizations Active in Disaster
• Ashland CERT

Senior Services Superintendent Report to Ashland Senior Advisory Committee For March 9, 2020, Meeting

- Superintendent Glatt is working with Jackson County Health Department and Ashland’s Emergency Management Advisory Committee to plan for potential Coronavirus outbreak in Ashland. It may involve closing Ashland Senior Center to avoid contagion among vulnerable seniors.
- Sandy Theis, our esteemed ASAC Chair, received this year’s Ragland Volunteer Spirit Award from the City Council on Tuesday, January 21. It was wonderful to see Sandy honored, and the award raised City Council and public awareness of the many ways that seniors contribute to our community.



Service Statistics

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	YTD 19-20 Ave. Visits/mo	2018-19 Ave. Visits/mo
Fitness visits	611	659	568	682	593	513	571	576	597	551
Recreation visits	214	268	201	241	190	172	241	229	220	207
Education visits	0	47	35	54	26	0	37	70	34	16
Special Events visits	134	0	125	0	85	125	153	0	78	24
All Fitness, Recreation & Educ.	959	974	929	977	894	810	1002	875	928	803
Partner/Vol Services	44	55	49	64	55	56	54	63	55	57
Bus/Valley Lift (excludes tokens)	24	22	25	27	22	24	27	52	28	20
Staff I&R contacts	237	235	223	287	220	242	396	343	273	252
Staff Resource Consultations	11	2	6	4	4	1	9	8	6	3
All Services	316	314	303	382	301	323	486	466	361	336
TOTAL PER MONTH	1275	1288	1232	1359	1195	1133	1488	1341	1289	1196

The chart above compares months in this fiscal year with the average monthly statistics from FY 18-19. In December 2019, regular activities were somewhat quieter than usual, while office services remained high. January 2020 was an active month, with both an increase in demand after the holidays and our biggest event ever, the Senior Volunteer Fair (see details under

Programming). February activities were slightly lower due to the short month, but service contacts remained high.

Programming

- Sadly, Gentle Yoga instructor Marion Moore has resigned from teaching for medical reasons; staff have been coordinating with several other yoga instructors to take over her classes. All classes are continuing as scheduled.
- Seniors Celebrating Creativity featured Kate Geary, photographer, for January-February at Ashland Senior Center. A new exhibit to be hung March 4 will feature paintings from both Charlie Noble and Mark Meissner. The artists will host an art opening on Friday, March 13, 3:30-5:00pm at Ashland Senior Center activity room; all are welcome to attend.
- On February 5, RVTD presented a workshop on the new Ashland Connector on-demand van service. Over 60 seniors attended to learn how to use this important new resource. Many present had never attended an event at the Senior Center before; ten new people signed up to receive our newsletter, and nine visited the office afterward to get a free RVTD TouchPass.



- The Ashland Senior Volunteer Fair on January 22 was tremendous success. Over 150 seniors attended the event, and there were over 40 staff representing 24 organizations. Feedback indicated that the event achieved all of the attended goals:
 - Connected seniors to volunteer opportunities which promote successful aging with social connection and sense of purpose.
 - Brought many new seniors to Ashland Senior Center for the first time, helping them realize the wealth of resources available to them.
 - Strengthened organizations which serve our community, including 8 organizations dedicated to serving seniors. Provided a forum for organizations to connect with each other for future collaboration.
 - Raised community awareness of the Senior Services Division through extended publicity and event attendance, and enhanced reputation among the organizations who tabled.



Photo by Tim Muser



Photo by Graham Lewis

- Lloyd Canty, who has taught archery at the Grove for years, worked with Senior Services staff to create a special class for seniors. Many seniors are enjoying this new fitness opportunity. The six-week pilot class was well received and is now shifting to an ongoing offering.



Photos by Natalie Mettler

Vulnerable Seniors

- In the aftermath of the Ashland Connector Workshop on February 5, we have seen a surge in requests for RVTD Touchpasses. We have heard from numerous older adults that the Ashland Connector service along with the free passes we provide is allowing them to give up driving. In addition, a number of residents from Mountain Meadows have begun to engage with the Senior Services Division for the first time.
- (See note under Staff Training re: low income housing for seniors.)

Partnerships

- Glatt attended RVTD's State Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee (STIFAC) meeting on 2/18/20. STIFAC supported staff's recommendation to lower the priority of the proposed Ashland Circulator bus route, due to resource constraints; this will delay the new route to a later stage of funding, or perhaps it will be replaced by continuation of the Ashland Connector service if the pilot is successful.
- Senior Services Division has completed an agreement with OHSU to host two nursing students this spring for a practicum based on an "Aging Well" campaign from National Council on Aging.
- Staff worked with Ashland Lions to pilot a home repair program for low-income seniors (below 80% of median income) to fill an important gap in our community. Initially, they planned to only accept referrals from the Senior Services Division, but if the pilot was successful, to expand to referrals from other agencies. However, the Lions have now decided to put this project on hold until they have more volunteer capacity.
- Glatt attended the Ashland Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) on 1/13/20 to participate in city-wide emergency planning. EMAC learned about the Camp Fire in Paradise from two survivors now living in Medford, heard the City's extreme weather shelter planning, and shared emergency preparedness resources.

Public Awareness

- Public awareness: Senior Volunteer Fair was reported in *Ashland Tidings* and *Mail Tribune* on January 15 with the wrong date. Both papers printed a correction on January 16. (no web link available)

Advocacy

- On February 4, Theis, Bellegia, and Glatt made a presentation on Age-Friendly Communities to the City Council. The Council voted to approve the joint application with APRC. The signed application was submitted to AARP on February 5.
- On February 6, Glatt, Theis and Bellegia participated in an advisory meeting at SOU to give input for a proposed B.A. concentration and a micro-credential in aging services, designed to meet current workforce deficits.

Budget/Facilities

- Health Net, who sponsored both Young at Art and the Low-Income Foot Care Clinic during July-Dec 2019, decided against renewing in 2020 as they had intended. Until other funding is found, we have had to reduce the Foot Care Clinic back to its former capacity of the 50 visits/year funded by Soroptimists.

Staff Training

- On 1/17/20, staff met with Katie Merola of RVCOG ADRC to review housing options for low-income or vulnerable seniors.
- On 2/28/20, staff met with Tina Stevens of OHRA Community Resource Center (OCRC) to review their services; we learned that OCRC is now a good local resource to help low-income seniors apply for subsidized housing and HUD vouchers.

Respectfully submitted by Isleen Glatt, Senior Services Superintendent, 3/3/20