

City of Ashland
ASHLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION (APRC)
ASHLAND SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ASAC)
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2022

Committee Members Present:

- Anne Bellegia
- Cori Frank
- Debra Johnson, Vice Chair
- Jim Bachman
- Kathy McNeal
- Mike Gardiner, Chair
- Sandy Theis
- Noriko Toyokawa

Staff Present:

- Isleen Glatt
- Natalie Mettler

Committee Members Absent:

- Stef Seffinger

CALL TO ORDER

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

OPENING

Citizen guests: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Bachman/McNeal m/s to approve the minutes from September 12, 2022, with correction of noting Sandy Theis as present. Voice vote – all AYES. Minutes approved.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

LIVABLE ASHLAND ALLIANCE PROGRESS REPORT (AARP ALL-AGE FRIENDLY INITIATIVE)

Theis and Bellegia, Co-Chairs of the Livable Ashland Alliance Steering Committee, presented on the group's history, goals, process and progress made in the City of Ashland joining the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities (NAFSC). See [presentation slides](#). They noted that progress was slowed by the pandemic but is back on track.

Theis and Bellegia added the following information during a question-and-answer period:

- *Does the City need to initiate the process to acquire an updated National Community Survey (NCS)?*
The City would need to buy into the next NCS for our area. The Livable Ashland Alliance Steering Committee has presented their goals and progress to the City Council but needs to follow up to get their commitment to purchase the survey. Such follow-up will be aimed at the new incoming City Council. Fiscal sponsorship for the Alliance would also help by hiring staffing to drive this process, in addition to other administrative work. Previously purchased NCS are can be viewed [online](#).
- *What does “underrepresented” groups mean [in the NCS] and what role does the Livable Ashland Alliance play in addressing a deficit in representation of such groups?*
Race and ethnicity are included in the NCS report, but due to very small numbers of participants in

some categories, the results are weighted proportionally. No persons identifying as African American answered the most recent survey the City purchased. Focus groups would be a better way to capture more nuanced demographic data from smaller subgroups, such as some ages, races, and other identities.

- *How do Livable Ashland Alliance Steering Committee members add value and their input to work towards the Domains of Livability? Would Ashland Newcomers be a relevant addition to the Committee at this time?*

The group is intentionally small at this time to remain nimble and focused on organizations with an intergenerational focus and ability to implement initiatives. When work has progressed to the point where larger Livable Ashland Alliance meetings are appropriate, other organizations and individuals will be welcome to participate.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SENIOR SERVICES DIVISION GOALS

Glatt referred to the *Senior Services Division Progress Report on Goals* included in meeting packet and the [slideshow](#). This appreciated the large view of progress made possible by this review of the last two years. Bellegia praised how much progress has been made on the original proposals of the 2017-18 Ad Hoc Senior Program Advisory Committee.

STANDING REPORTS

a. APRC Liaison

Commissioner Bachman gave the following updates:

- Ballot measure 15-210 (Amend City Charter) and 15-211 (Amend Food & Beverage Tax) were both defeated.
- APRC is resuming in-person business meetings in December at Council Chambers.
- New budget discussions with the City are beginning; he will update at a later meeting.
- Commission position 4 will be determined after votes are tabulated. There were only write-in candidates for this position. Bachman, Eldridge, Landt and Lewis will continue to serve in their current positions.

b. City Council Liaison

Councilor Seffinger was absent.

c. Education Report

Mettler announced that SSD has compiled a full roster of activities and monthly events for the Winter/Spring 2023 season (January-April 2023). She will be at the JCLS Community Table on 1/7/23 to represent SSD to the public.

ITEMS FROM ASAC MEMBERS OR WORK GROUPS

Glatt and Gardiner acknowledged Seffinger's tremendous contributions to ASAC and City as a whole. Seffinger served 3 years as APRC Commissioner and 8 as Ashland City Councilor and was a founding member of ASAC. Members suggested sending a letter from all ASAC members to thank Seffinger for her service. Her current Council term ends at the end of 2022, and she will be replaced on ASAC by a new liaison appointee from the City Council. Glatt will draft the letter.

Next meeting – Monday, January 9, 2023, 3:30-5:00pm (Zoom)

Adjournment – 4:54pm

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