

## **Beaverton Senior Citizens Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 2:30 p.m.

Beaverton City Hall

First Floor Conference Room

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Cathy Leong, Vice Chair

### **Roll Call**

Members Present: Judith Auslander, Cathy Leong, Helen Robinson, Gail Miller, Laura Isaacson, Liz Fischer, Aaron Poarch, Gloria Nussbaum

Alternate: Dan Owens

Staff Liaison: Jim Brooks

Elsie Stuhr Representative: Laurel Reilly

Visitor: Robin Kadz, Cheri Henry, Gloria Faust

Members absent: Minnie Stoumbaugh, William (Bill) Johnson, Council Liaison: Cathy Stanton

**Approval of January 2011 Minutes:** Minutes were approved as written.

**Financial Wellness Forum Recap:** The Financial Wellness Forum was held Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, at Beaverton Library, 10:00 – noon.

Committee members noted the following positive items regarding the Forum:

- Speaker Alan Edwards was well received and did an excellent job presenting his information.
- The event was more broadly advertised than in the past.
- The brain exercises were a good energizer.
- Cathy Stanton did a great job as emcee.
- Food was healthy and tasty.

Committee members noted the following challenges regarding the Forum:

- We should schedule a reception time before the Forum.
- Speaker took questions from the audience and got off schedule.
- Only schedule one warm up person then the main speaker.

**Guidelines for Communication:** Jim led the committee in an exercise to identify guidelines we feel important for our committee meetings. The following items were identified by the group and organized by Liz Fischer into two distinct sections: Components of a Good Meeting and Guidelines of Conduct. The committee agreed to adopt these guidelines and review in three months to see if they need to be altered.

### **Components of a Good Meeting:**

- Everyone prepares for meetings in advance
- Personal electronics are used only during emergencies unless for note taking or special situations.
- Start and end on time.
- Meeting outcomes are explained in advance.
- Comments/questions are indicated by raising hands.
- Everyone knows who is doing what, and by when, before meeting adjournment.

### **Guidelines for Conduct:**

- Assume good intentions.
- Respectful verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Stay on topic – no personal side conversations.
- Check assumptions, ask questions.
- Encourage involvement of everyone.
- Diverse communication styles are incorporated.
- Keep atmosphere positive and affirming.

### **Beaverton Community Vision Opportunities:**

The committee reviewed the list of possible partnering projects presented by the the City of Beaverton Community Vision Committee. The BSCAC committee voted on each project. The following four received the most votes and the committee will act as a support partner for the following projects:

- **Support Partner (#79) – Affordable Senior Housing:** Explore alternatives for creating affordable senior housing, including the potential of converting vacant homes or buildings into temporary, subsidized residential units.
- **Support Partner (#80) – Senior Activity Centers:** Expand, promote and facilitate access to “life enrichment centers” where seniors can build friendships and participate in a range of activities.
- **Support Partner (#81) – Senior Health and Wellness Center:** Create a Community Health and Wellness Center where seniors can have their blood pressure checked and discuss non-emergency health concerns with a qualified health professional, at zero or low cost.
- **Support Partner (#82) – Senior Volunteer Opportunities:** Create and market volunteer opportunities tailored for senior citizen participation.

There was general discussion and agreement that the committee is already supporting these efforts, specifically the Elsie Stuhr Center. Jim stated that the list was created by the people of Beaverton and part of the project will be to educate people on what resources are already available.

**Leadership of Committee:** Four committee members asked to be considered for the vacant Chairman position. Laura will be officially appointed to the committee at the next City Council meeting on April 19. Jim will send an e-mail to our committee on April 20 and ask each member to vote for one person for the vacant seat. The votes will be tallied by Jim and Cathy Stanton. As a public organization we must follow voting procedures and may have to disclose the records and the outcome of the voting.

Each candidate had two minutes to speak to the committee:

**Gail Miller:** Gail has lived in Beaverton all her life. She has been Chairperson of the Department of Aging & Veterans Services, Washington County and is a senior herself. She has heart and passion and wants to see the committee get passionate and be hands-on. Gail wants the committee to be a resource to/for the resources in Beaverton.

**Laura Isaacson:** Laura has lots of passion for seniors. She sees services that are available and has experience with boards and commissions. She Founded Serenity Helping Hands and would like the committee to become the experts and be a resource to the city and community. She is well connected with service providers.

**Judith Auslander:** Judith works with seniors and, through her work with Hunger Free Oregon, has many connections and resources. She has lots of ideas for Forums and thinks this is a wonderful committee that does a lot. The committee has been through some difficult times and stayed together. Judith is also attending college to get a second masters and certification in gerontology.

**Gloria Nussbaum:** Gloria is excited to be on the committee and would like to see the committee make a difference for seniors. She feels the committee needs good leadership and feels that leading groups is one of her gifts. She runs her own business and is co-chair of the Association of Personal Historians, Portland Chapter. Gloria is used to running meetings and if elected will humbly serve.

#### **Future Forum Ideas:**

Throughout the meeting there was discussion about future Forum topics. A suggestion was made to hold our meetings in the evenings and/or at a senior care facility so that seniors may attend and participate.

Judith passed around a flyer from Diane Childs, Investor Information Program with Oregon Division of Finance and Corporate Securities. She is willing to talk about investment fraud, schemes and scams and identity theft and prevention. Judith also suggested a job fare or a resource fare. Lauren suggested forums on Veterans benefits, Medicaid, senior housing options.

Liz suggested that the committee get a table at the Beaverton Farmers Market when they have their senior day. Liz also suggested that the committee attend Concerts in the Park and Picnics in the Park to raise awareness and talk with seniors in Beaverton.

ACTION ITEMS:

Jim will prepare a poster and post the Guidelines of Conduct for our meetings.

Jim will report to the Vision Committee on which projects the committee has chosen to support.

Jim will send an e-mail on 4/20 to vote on a chairman for committee.

Judith will send an e-mail to find out the specifics of getting a table at the Farmers Market.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.