

REDMOND SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 21, 2021

Members present at meeting: LouAnn Ballew, Sandy Marion, Eileen Englehart, Sadru Kachra, Jan Montgomery, Margie Meyer, Linda McCrystal, Patti Trepanier, Shirin Velji, Joan Schnebele and Pam Madison

Guest: Deanna Francis

Staff present: Marty Boggs, Senior Program Administrator and Karen Phillips, Senior Program Coordinator

Management present: Carrie Hite, Parks and Recreation Director; Loreen Hamilton, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director and Jeff Hagen, Recreation Manager

Welcome – Sandy welcomed new SAC members Joan Schnebele and Pam Madison

Marty introduced and welcomed Loreen Hamilton, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director.

Minutes - The December 17, 2020 SAC meeting minutes were approved as written.

Parks Director Update – Carrie Hite

- Senior Center Building Update: Carrie shared a Power Point presentation with the SAC about the new facility. She gave an overview of the project from March 2020 to January 2021. Carrie discussed the ongoing funding process with the City Council and the request for a \$5 million grant from the State or Washington.
- As directed by Mayor Birney, the City is moving forward with plans to build a 42,000 square foot two-story facility with dedicated senior space. City staff members and the Stakeholders are working with Opsis Architecture LLP on the design of the new facility. The Stakeholders meetings are being coordinated by Envirolssues. Envirolssues is a public involvement and community outreach consulting firm.
- Criteria is to create a facility that has senior dedicated space, with shared community and recreational programs that align with the City of Redmond goals and priorities.
- Deanna Francis, LouAnn Ballew and Margie Meyers are representing the seniors during the Stakeholder meetings. Carrie said, “all voices are being heard” and the seniors will continue to be involved in the project. Families, cultural groups, teens and seniors are part of the Stakeholders group.
- Open House online Zoom meetings will be held on Feb 24 to discuss the project. Seniors only meeting is scheduled from 1-3pm and a public meeting will be held from 6-8pm. Senior Program staff will e-mail an invitation to the Open House meetings to the senior participants and Zoom post cards invitations will be mailed.

- Information about the RSCC project is available on the City of Redmond website at <https://www.redmondcommunitycenter.org/>

Stakeholders Report - Margie Meyer

- Margie said the Stakeholders meetings with Opsis have been going very well. The staff for Opsis are listening to everyone and she has been very impressed with how thoughtful they are and attentive to the small details. Margie mentioned the beverage bar, coffee lounge area and a place to hang your coat. Margie said, “Opsis really wants the community and our input in the design of the new facility”. Margie, LouAnn and Deanna will continue to attend the Stakeholders meetings and they will provide ongoing reports to the SAC.
- Members of the Redmond Senior Community Center (RSCC) Stakeholders group will provide a monthly status report of the RSCC project in each upcoming issue of the Encore newsletter.
- Jan Montgomery asked if there will be a “stage” in the new facility. Carrie and Marty confirmed that a performance/community room with a large stage are included in the plans.

SAC Connections Report – Deanna Francis

- Deanna provided an update on the SAC Ombudsman proposal that was discussed last month. The name is changing to “SAC Connections”. The goal of the SAC Connections is help provide better communication with the seniors in our community. Deanna, LouAnn and Sandy have met with the Senior Program staff, Jeff and Bethany Kennedy, Engagement Managers. Deanna said, the City will be activating an online virtual “Suggestion Box” where seniors can ask questions, provide comments, or express concerns. The virtual suggestion box will be similar to the wooden suggestion box that we had in the Redmond Senior Center. Seniors will be able to send a message on the new City of Redmond SAC webpage. <https://www.redmond.gov/1523/Senior-Advisory-Committee-SAC>
- Additional Item: Pam Madison said she has been watching the City Council meetings and she was delighted that they had approved funding for the project.

Senior Programs Administrator Update – Marty Boggs:

- Marty talked about how much he misses the full-day SAC retreats that we held in the past. We usually met off site at the start of the new year. The retreat provided a great opportunity for the SAC members to get to know each other and to bond with the staff. We had some exceptional guest speakers and several wonderful presentations from community organizations and from City staff members. The retreat was very beneficial to the new SAC members. The new seniors and current members would often learn about City projects and they would gain a better understanding of the Parks and Recreation Department. The seniors made commitments to their sub-committees and the other SAC responsibilities during the retreat. Marty hopes we will be able to get together or hold a “mini-SAC retreat” in person something next year.
- Marty also talked about the annual SAC summer picnic/park tours. The SAC has visited numerous City Parks and facilities over the past 5 years. These picnic road trips were fun and educational. Hoping for a future when we can meet in a local park for lunch!
- Marty encouraged the SAC members to review the Senior Services and Resources site and the new SAC webpage. See lots of information about our online programs, activities, and services. Plus, great pictures and information on the SAC members.

<https://www.redmond.gov/206/Senior-Services-and-Resources>

Program Coordinator Report: Karen Phillips

- Reviewed the SAC notebook information briefly. Karen e-mailed some of the pages to Pam & Joan. She will complete their notebooks by next week.
- Karen gave an update on the Meals on Wheels (MOW) program. Two senior volunteers are now assisting with the MOW deliveries. The drivers deliver meals every other week. We delivered over 300 meals to 21 households on Wed, January 20.
- Senior Curbside Lunch Program report – providing lunch on Wednesdays only and still serving over 100 lunches each week. Working with the Village Square Café. We provided 4350 lunches in 2020!

Subcommittee Reports - On hiatus until in person meetings can resume

- Senior Garden – Linda Clark and Sue Smith will be working with volunteers on the community garden plot at Juel Park and the senior garden at the Old Fire House/Teen Center

Adjournment