

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE AGING IN PLACE COMMISSION
Oak Park Village Hall
September 12, 2023
6:00 pm

PRESENT: Chair Marc Blesoff and Commissioners Robinson, Cimaglio, Clay, Spight, Bailey, Stall

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Walker, Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

Roll Call: Chair Blesoff called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Marc Blesoff	Present
Barbara Cimaglio	Present
Monika Robinson	Present
George Bailey	Present
Evelyn Clay	Present
Carl Spight	Present
Susan Stall	Present

Agenda Approval – A motion was made by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Clay to approve the agenda, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Non-Agenda Public Comment – None.

Approval of Minutes – Will be approved a next meeting

New Business

Becca Levy Project (2024 work plan)

Pamela Mann, Director of Senior Services was unable to be at the meeting. Chair Blesoff proceeded with discussion regarding the project. Both Chair Blesoff and Commissioner Robinson have attended meetings with Pamela Mann and Becca Levy. Commissioner Robinson shared an assessment of the conversations that were had at meetings. There were two main considerations for the research project discussed which were; Concerns about ethics of this controlled trial and if it allows participants to benefit from this study. Also, as a commission there was concerns about the social action that could be taken as a result. What will be the benefit for the community? The commission also is seeking to better define the outcomes of this project such as, what will anti ageism look like and other operations definitions to go through. Commissioner Robinson proposed to Becca Levy the idea of a community based participatory research project. Dr. Levy seemed opened to this however, based on previous research she's done, this may be a new design model in comparison to her typical quasi experimental design method. She seemed to open to this idea and wanting to move fairly soon on the project. Next meeting Commissioner Robinson and Chair Blesoff will have with Becca Levy would be Thursday September 21st. So far, no determination has been set. Becca's idea of a controlled intervention group is still a possibility. Pamela

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Mann will join at the next commission meeting in October and Becca will join virtually at the following commission meeting in November

Updates on Enabling Language

Chair Blesoff shared updates about the enabling language. The commission suggested to the Village board to change the name of the commission and it was voted on and approved at the board meeting. The votes were unanimous and the commission is now Aging in Communities.

Discuss the Proposed Resolution – Ageism Awareness Day

Chair Blesoff suggested presenting the Village Board with a resolution in hopes that the Village Board can pass and publicize to the town on what ageism awareness day is and that the Board think it's important. Ageism awareness day is October 7th. The goal would be to present it to the board before that date. Commissioner Robinson volunteered to come up with a draft of a proclamation to present to the Board about Ageism Awareness Day. Commissioner Robinson will also draft a statement for the commission and put in the Wednesday journal regarding Anti-Aging.

DEI Updates - Racial Equity Assessment & Hispanic Heritage Month

Dr. Walker discussed the Racial Equity Assessment being conducted which is a comprehensive community assessment. The areas of engagement that will come from the commissions will begin within the next few weeks. An email will go out to commissioners from Dr. Walker and the UIC research team where they would like to hear from commissioners around their thoughts on equity in Oak Park.

Dr. walker shared with the commission about the series of events for Hispanic Heritage Month. There is opportunity for the commission to engage or volunteer at the events. The idea of having the commission have a table at the Viva! Festival on October 7th was mentioned as that is also Ageism Awareness Day and would be a great opportunity for the commission to share information and collect feedback.

Old Business:

1.) **Art Council Project** – Would like to invite Camille to a next meeting to discuss the art project with the commission. Would like to know her thoughts and how to make the art project happen.

2.) **Dementia Discussion** – Conversation regarding dementia is going to be tabled for now.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn to was made by Commissioner Cimaglio and seconded by Commissioner Spight. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.