

**Northville Senior Advisory Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Northville Community Center**  
**303 W. Main St., Northville, MI 49167**  
**November 16, 2023 at 1:00pm**

**1. Call Meeting to Order:**

Chair Jan Purtell called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**2. Roll Call:**

Present: Jan Purtell - Chairperson (Township)  
Jan Valade - Vice Chairperson (City)  
Dorothy Schmidt - Secretary (Township)  
Kim Campbell- Voytal (School Board Representative)  
Cynthia Jankowski - Board of Trustees Liaison (Township)  
Marilyn Price - Council Liaison (City)  
Bob Lipmyer - Representative (Township)  
Joe Corriveau - Representative (City)

Staff: Derek Smith - Director Parks and Recreation  
Debbie Giulianelli-Smith - Senior Services Supervisor  
Bridgette Renwick - Recreation Superintendent

Excused: Greg Morris - Assistant Director Parks and Recreation  
Melissa Stuart - Northville Public School Board Liaison Backup

Citizens: None present

**3. Adoption of the Agenda:**

- a. Agenda Adoption for November 16, 2023 meeting was reviewed.
  - i. **MOTION:** Motion by Jan Valade to adopt the agenda as provided. Motion supported by Cynthia Jankowsk; No discussion. **MOTION** passed by voice vote approval.

**4. Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes for October 19, 2023 were reviewed.
  - i. **MOTION** by Robert Lipmyer to approve the October minutes as submitted; supported by Cynthia Jankowski. Discussion of the minutes:

**5. Amendments:**

- a. Northville Public Schools Report:
  - i. **CORRECTION: Sponsor change and renaming of Holzer field is ongoing.**
  - ii. **CORRECTION:** The SRO title will be amended to read as: **School Resource Officers.** Three SRO's were not yet in place at the time of the October Report **CORRECTION: Three School Resource Officers will be in place soon; 1 currently in place, 2 are in process.**
  - iii. **CORRECTION:** The current enrollment report shall be amended to read as: **Current student enrollment tally is projected as 114 students, but this is not considered a final count until certified.**
- b. Township Liaison Report:
  - i. **CORRECTION:** Spelling of the dedication name of Unity Skatepark is **Duhn's**

- c. **MOTION** by Bob Lipmyer to accept the minutes as amended; supported by Valade. **MOTION** passed as amended by voice vote approval.

**6. Announcements/ Citizens Comments:**

- a. Derek Smith introduced Debbie Giulianelli-Smith as the new Senior Services Supervisor and gave a brief job description of her duties and career background information; Smith and Renwick stated that they are in the process of orientation with her and Debbie is getting acclimated to her roles and responsibilities; NSAC members welcomed her and introduced themselves
- b. Purtell announced Marilyn Price is here today for her last meeting after 16 years as an NPS School Board or City Council Representative to the NSAC; a representative from City Council will be appointed before at the next City Council meeting; Price was thanked for her service, expertise and talents with 16 years of service
- c. Condolences to Kim Campbell-Voytal on the recent loss of her husband, Tom Voytal; Kim thanked the Committee and the community for their condolences
- d. Purtell requested a photo be taken of the Northville Senior Advisory Council at the conclusion of today's meeting; a copy will be added to the decorations on the NSAC holiday tree at the Northville Community Center.

**7. Monthly Report:**

- a. Supervisor's Report:
  - i. Giulianelli-Smith introduced herself as a local resident who is familiar with the community; she has participated in many activities in the area, especially with her children in the youth activities through Parks and Recreation; her previous experience was in the Senior Division of Farmington Hills; Debbie states she is currently getting things in place for next year, already planning for January and February 2024; Debbie asks for any suggestions on programs and events.
  - ii. Holiday trees have been decorated for the Northville Community Center by various non-profit community organizations which are currently on display in the lobby; NSAC members decorated one of the trees with the theme of "Senior Services Activities" and staff decorated another tree to honor the service of many Northville community veterans and their families
  - iii. Debbie reported there were 44 participants at the Veteran's Day event which included a traditional Thanksgiving dinner; Valade reported Allen Terrace residents were disappointed there was nothing more specific for Thanksgiving.
  - iv. Renwick commented that the Veteran's Tribute and the Thanksgiving luncheon were combined this year secondary to the imminent building closure for renovations; Giulianelli-Smith was hopeful that next year there will be room for two events in the month of November; a Veteran's Tribute and a separate Thanksgiving celebration;
  - v. Smith gave thanks to City Mayor, Brian Turnbull; City Manager, Greg Lahanas and Township Trustee, Cynthia Jankowski, and NSAC members for their representations and supportive attendance at the Veteran's /Thanksgiving Celebration.
  - vi. Smith informed the Commission that he is in the process of adding a full-time Senior Services Program position in order to grow the programming from within and to assist Giulianelli-Smith in the Senior Services Supervisor's position;

previously the Senior Services Supervisor position has had overwhelming responsibilities and frequent turnover

- vii. Smith also reported a new Fitness Coordinator has been added to the team; Deborah Davison. Smith asked the Commission to welcome Davison at their first opportunity. Davison has an extensive background in Therapeutic Recreations and in helping people with disabilities.

b. **Transportation Report** - Bridgette Renwick reported:

Transportation Services Report for October 2023 was distributed and discussed:

- i. The program is back up and running and doing well; this year numbers from Jan - July average 236 rides a month; October average is 266, the program is on track to be over average for November. Buses are all on the road (6 total buses); \$21,000 has been invested in the buses since August; two large buses may be traded for smaller buses; One bus runs 5 days a week; Two buses run three days a week from 8:00 am- 4:30 pm; More bus drivers could help the buses be better utilized; goal is to have two buses running five days a week in January.
- ii. Valade inquired whether the date 10/23/2023 had 32 total dialysis trips reported, which seemed high, was possibly an error; As discussed at the last meeting, regarding the possibility of SMRT buses being utilized at election time, Jankowski reported she has researched relevant legislative bills regarding transportation services used to transport individuals to polling places and reported that previously providing transportation was not allowed for use on election day, but recently House Bill 4568 has been repealed so that transportation is allowed for transporting citizens to voting sites; To date no citizens have asked for transportation for voting; Feb 27 (and nine days prior) is the next election date for the National Presidential Primary;
- iii. Renwick recommended adding this transportation information to the Parks and Recreation Calendar.
- iv. Purtell encouraged senior programming to include connecting school music and drama performances of interest to seniors with transportation via the Social Bus, possibly in conjunction with a pre-party hosted by the NSAC with information communicated in the *Inspire*.

c. **Ridership Report**:

October Ridership Report through October 2023 was distributed and discussed:

Bridget Renwick reported:

d. **Destination Report**:

Day Trips Destinations and Events: October count was noted to have a high number of 52 as the Mackinac trip was represented in this number; dates for the Mackinac trip next year are requested by next week so that planning may begin.

e. **Participation Report**:

Participation Report through October, 2023 was distributed and discussed:

- i. During the renovation of the NCC in December most classes including Pickleball will be temporarily held at Hillside in the three gyms; Pickleball is currently scheduled from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm; Parking signs are recommended for Hillside to direct the participants and players; Pickleball will return to the NCC following the completion of the renovations in January.

- ii. Smith thanked the NPS district for providing temporary office space and program space while the NCC is being renovated with no drops in service; Northville Community Center and offices will be closed Dec 15 - January 2 for renovations with Township offices also closed on January 2, 2024 because of the New Year holiday.
- iii. By January 8, 2023 both centers NCC and Hillside will be open for a full eight-hour business day from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm on a consistent basis; Staffing will be adjusted to accommodate the new schedule
- iv. The gymnasium floor will also be resurfaced during the renovation and pickle ball will be returned to the Community Center after the renovation is completed.
- v. Campbell-Voytal opened a discussion regarding the possibility of adding to the *Inspire* a link for accessing information regarding middle and high school performances which would be of interest to seniors including dates and times, cost of tickets and where to go to purchase tickets; Information regarding availability of the *Inspire* was discussed with a plan to increase distribution without mailing.

8. **Recent/ Upcoming Events and Programs:** Schedule covered by Giulianelli-Smith

- 11/20 Coffee With a Cop 10:00 am-11:00 am; Officer Andy and Max the dog; No charge
- 11/28 Holiday Tree Lighting; 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. Preschoolers from Old Village School will light the tree and perform a program; No charge
- 12/06 Cranbrook Home Holiday Tour; Tickets \$20 and an additional \$10 charge for the Social Bus transportation (2 current registrants)
- 12/07 Winter Celebration Luncheon; 11:30 am- 1:00 pm; Tickets \$15 (30 current registrants)
- 12/11 Glass Fusion: Snowmen ornaments will be crafted; 6:00 pm-7:00 pm.; Tickets \$29
- 12/12 MI Seniors Move: Simplify Life with Technology; 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm; in collaboration with the Northville Library by Tina Doyle
- 12/12 Investing in a High Yield World; 11:00 am-12:00 pm; Andrew Nemos, CPA, is helping residents with navigating their retirement investments; No charge
- 12/12 Bingo 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm;

9. **Old Business:**

No additional old business was discussed.

10. **New Business:**

- a. Parks and Recreation: Derek Smith presented upcoming policy changes will be printed in *The Ville* magazine; Parks and Recreation policy changes that will be implemented are:
  - 1. Refunds on credit card payments to cover transaction fees will be changed implementing a deadline for cancellations (with a few exceptions) to avoid credit card cancellation fees.
  - 2. Changes in Resident/Nonresident rates will be announced after the next magazine comes out with a 10% (under \$100) - 15% (over \$100) additional charge to nonresidents; Residents are already subsidizing the department with their tax dollars.

## 11. Reports:

- a. City Liaison Report - Marilyn Price reported.
  - i. City Hall lower level is being renovated; the structure is being adjusted to make room for more office space for the Council and the Mayor
  - ii. Warning signs for street closures are still out as previously suggested by Joe Corriveau although the streets are open with street lights; Warning signs are out notifying folks that the intersection has been changed; Warning signs are still up at Center and Dunlop, Center and Main, Hutton and Main, Wing and Center are different with warnings to pay attention to the stop lights; Pedestrians are no longer allowed to walk in the street; May 1 is the scheduled date for the streets to be closed again.
  - iii. The Holiday Parade is scheduled for tomorrow with an estimated 40,000 attendees.
  - iv. Transition date for City Council representatives to Commissions will take place at the next City Council Meeting; Marilyn Price bid a fond farewell from the Commission.
  
- b. Township Liaison Report - Cynthia Jankowski reported.
  - i. Jankowski had the privilege and honor to give the oath of office to five new firefighters and Northville Township made history as two of the new officers were the first female officers
  - ii. Pathways are finishing and will be completed by the end of this year; two connector pathways on Bradner to be finished before the snow arrives
  - iii. Tonight the Board will award the Earthworks and Utilities Contract to be able to start digging for the Essential Services Building by Legacy Park, near the Cooper Standard office building
  - iv. A representative from DTE will report tonight at the Council meeting (7:15) to help explain to residents how they have provided upgrades based on the power outages last summer around the 6 Mile residences; Major connection issues were identified in the vaults with repairs planned
  - v. Township residents should look on the Township website and fill out an application if they are interested in becoming a Township Election Inspector as staffing positions are unsure at this time
  - vi. Unity Skate Park is nearly completely and will open in the spring with a Grand Opening scheduled for May; Skate park will be fenced and gated off during the winter months; driving by is recommended; a handcrafted ironwork sign in memory of Dominic Duhn is located at the entrance; Unity Skate Park is located in Millenium Park across from Northville High School behind the Fire Station on 6 Mile Rd; No current plan for lighting is in place; a festival may take place as a future fundraiser
  
- c. School Board Report - Kim Campbell-Voytal reported for Melissa Stewart
  - i. The Northville High School Drama Club production of "Clue" takes place Nov. 16, Nov 17, and November 18, 7:00pm with a Saturday November 18, Matinee at 2 pm which is perfect for seniors. Tickets for adults \$12.00. Tickets for school age children with ID is \$10.00. Communication to be spread verbally via networks at this point.

- ii. Northville High School Choir "Holiday Harmonies" performances are Tuesday, Dec. 19 and Wednesday, Dec. 20, both days at 7:00 pm; Tickets will be \$10; Link is available on the NPS website; High School Orchestra and Band accompany the choirs at the Holiday Concerts with no standalone performances for instrumental music; Northville High School Orchestra is in its first year and is currently on the road in competitions.
- iii. Middle School Instrumental Music has had its birth and continues with orchestras at both Meads Mill and Hillside performed in November; Mead's Mill Winter Concert is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13, 7:00 pm and Hillside Winter Concert is Thursday, December 14, at 7:00 pm
- iv. Work is being done on the bond with funds currently being spent on curriculum, math, language arts, reading, and literacy in the elementary school, social studies curriculum to continue the success of learning of the students

d. Chairperson and Commissioner Comments:

- i. There will be no NSAC meeting in December; Commissioners are encouraged to attend the holiday activities to interact with participants; the next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 1:00 pm in the newly renovated Community Center (rescheduled from January 18, 2024 to January 25, 2024 due to a previously scheduled training meeting on January 18, 2024).
- ii. A list of meetings is required to be posted. According to the standard bylaws all meetings must be proactively scheduled according to the assigned third Thursday of the month; any meeting may be canceled at a later date if necessary.
- iii. Goals and Objectives will be discussed in the Regular January 25, 2024 meeting
- iv. Commission and Officers contact and term list is scheduled to be updated in the January meeting packet

12. **Adjournment:**

- a. **MOTION:** Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Lipmyer; supported by Jankowski; **MOTION** carried by voice vote approval; Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Next regular **NSAC Meeting is Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Northville Community Ceter**

Submitted by:  
Dory Schmidt  
Secretary