

**Northville Community Center**  
**Northville Senior Advisory Council Regular Meeting**  
**Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167**  
**February 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.**

**1. Call Meeting to Order:**

Chair Jan Purtell called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

**2. Roll Call:**

Present:

Jan Purtell - Chairperson (Township)  
Jan Valade - Vice Chairperson (City)  
Dorothy J. Schmidt - Secretary (Township)  
Kim Campbell-Voytal Representative (School Board and Liaison & City);  
excused  
Cynthia Jankowski - Liaison (Township); excused  
Laura Genitti - Liaison (City)  
Robert Lipmyer - Representative (Township)  
Joseph Corriveau - Representative (City)

Staff:

Debbie Giulianelli-Smith- Senior Services Supervisor  
Derek O. Smith - Director Parks and Recreation; excused  
Greg Morris - Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation  
Bridgette C. Renwick - Recreation Superintendent  
Julie Wheeler - Recreation Specialist

Citizens:

None

**3. Adoption of the Agenda:**

- a. Agenda Adoption for February 15, 2024 meeting was reviewed as amended per notation of Kim Campbell-Voytal's new dual role representing both the City of Northville and Northville Public Schools liaison
  - i. **MOTION** by Jan Valade to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion supported by Laura Genitti. No discussion. **MOTION** passed by voice vote approval.

**4. Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2023 were reviewed.
  - i. **MOTION** made by Jan Valade to approve the meeting minutes of January 25, 2024 as submitted; supported by Robert Lipmyer. **MOTION** was passed by voice vote approval.

**5. Announcements/Citizen Comments:**

- a. Northville Senior Advisory Commission Directory 2023-24 with updated contact information was distributed and reviewed; Directory will be forwarded to the City and the Township
- b. City, Township and School Board Liaisons are appointed for one-year terms; City and Township representatives are appointed to rotating three-year terms as appointed by the respective City or Township Councils

## 6. Monthly Reports/ Events:

- a. Supervisor's Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported on program updates:
- i. Friday Flicks January 26, 2024 and February 9, 2024 are drawing a consistent crowd of 9-10 people
  - ii. First NCC Lunch Crew had its first event on January 29, 2024 with 15 people; 21 attendees are planned for next week
  - iii. First Travel Show on January 31, 2024 had 19 in attendance; another Travel Show is planned for the fall.
  - iv. AARP tax appointments started last week; Service will continue every Thursday through April 11, 2024.
  - v. Tech Talk: AI and Cybersecurity February 12, 2024 will be rescheduled
  - vi. "Downsizing" seminar with Tidy Smart was February 5, 2024, 18 in attendance
  - vii. Bingo with Oakmont had 25 in attendance and is always successful
  - viii. "Blood Pressure Clinic with a Nurse" had low attendance In April; moving to the third Tuesday slot to bump up to NCC Lunch Crew/Karaoke
  - ix. "Valentines Lunch" on February 14, 2024 had a Trivia event; 26 attendees
  - x. "Luck of the Irish" Party is scheduled for March 6, 2023 at 11:30 am. 26 seniors are registered; lunch will include meat and vegetarian options; entertainment will feature "Tap Dance Detroit" performing
  - xi. March/April *Inspire* will be available in one week
  - xii. June-December major event programs/luncheon parties are currently being planned by Julie Wheeler and Debra Giulianelli-Smith; Senior services information will now be included in the Park and Recreation brochure
  - xiii. All the local senior citizen living facilities will be invited to participate in all planned events at the NCC
  - xiv. Northville Library is renting space in NCC while they are doing renovations; NCC is working together with Northville Library on new programs which will be offered as shared classes in the NCC
  - xv. "*How to Prepare Your Home for Sale*" seminar is planned for March 4, 2024 at 11:00 am
  - xvi. *50 North Travel Club* Travel Show on March 7, 2024 at 11:00 am; Club will provide the first chance on new destinations available; Timeless Memories will provide trips
  - xvii. "New to Medicare" seminar March 11, 2024 at 1:30 pm
  - xviii. "Financial Planning for Seniors" March 12, 2024; Andrew Nemis will have lunch added to the program
  - xix. "Preserving Your Most Important Asset As You Age" seminar will include Michigan Attorney General, Dana Nestle; March 12, 2024
  - xx. Monthly "*Bingo with Oakmont*"; March 13
  - xxi. Northville's Woman's Club is renting the NCC for the first time for a meeting with catered lunch; Debbie Giulianelli-Smith will present on "*The Importance of Northville Senior Services*"

- b. Transportation Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported
  - i. Mike Nolta has resigned as of the end of March and Tim Granzotto is a new transportation driver; there is still a need for more drivers; information to become a driver is on the Township website under Human Resources
  - ii. Transportation Services Report for January was distributed, reviewed and discussed; Transportation numbers for January were consistent despite weather conditions and three snow days.
- c. Ridership Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported
  - i. The Interpretation key has been added
  - ii. Ridership Report through January, 2024 was distributed, reviewed and discussed; Snow days are listed as 0 on the three snow days. An asterisk will be added to report for 0 tallies to highlight snow days
  - iii. Numbers are consistent with last month at normal numbers
- d. Participation Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported
  - i. Participation Report of Senior Services through 2023 was distributed, reviewed and discussed
  - ii. "Telecare" calls will be renamed; participants can sign up for daily calls Monday through Friday, or as often as the recipient would like on specific weekdays; midmorning calls target those who are homebound and if no one answers a follow up call goes out informing a delegated emergency contact. Genitti suggested a name change from "Telecare" to something more positive; "Check-in Chat" was suggested as the new name; volunteers may be requested to make calls each day and report their findings
  - iii. "Chair Volleyball" is a new program starting under Fitness and Sports that will start in June, 2024; a large soft beach ball is used as participants stay in their chair as they volley; Chair Volleyball is designed for seniors that provides a good upper body workout
  - iv. Northville Garden Club will be involved in leading a new program in late May or early June involving planting flower and herb boxes

**7. Old Business:**

- a. 2024 NASC Goals and Objectives had been tabled at the October 2023 meeting because of strategic planning and personnel changes; a draft was distributed at the last meeting for Commission members to review; Strategic planning will be continued for the NSAC, as well as for the City and the Township including growing Senior Services programs at the following levels:
  - i. Increased partnerships with foundations
  - ii. Senior Caregiving and Grief support groups will be added
  - iii. The Alzheimer's Association will be involved in support groups
  - iv. New Senior Interest projects i.e. AARP Safety Driver Classes
  - v. Presentations from Ascension/Providence and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital services will be restarted
  - vi. Senior Service Special Events will continue with a luncheon every month
  - vii. Annual Senior Fest will be changed to a *Health and Wellness Expo* in October which will incorporate vendors, fitness demos, flu shots

- viii. "Lunch and Learn" will continue as a planned monthly educational series
  - ix. Trip Programs and Travel Club membership will be reestablished
  - x. Transportation Program will continue with a plan to increase the number of social buses running per day; Social buses are currently running to shopping areas within the 10 mile radius
  - xi. Expansion of Senior Services as an *Information and Referral Center*. The service will include resuming the "Wellness Calls"
  - xii. Reorganization of posted literature on the walls of the NCC.
  - xiii. Healthy Living Tips will be included in each *Inspire*
  - xiv. Establish more Sponsorship Opportunities Parks and Recreation
  - xv. Establish a Marketing Plan that will include increase distribution of the *Inspire* newsletter
  - xvi. Continue to hire transportation staff and recruit as many drivers and substitutes as possible
  - xvii. Encourage increased staff attendance at all senior events
- a. Lipmyer commented that a possible reason for poor attendance at the parties/events is an economic problem and presented local demographics that the population in the City of Northville is approximately 6,100 with 1,000 considered seniors and 30% with a yearly income of less than \$10,000 and as many as 21% on food stamps and cannot afford the fees to attend events. Lipmyer suggested getting information to the HOA newsletter writers to go out routinely for specific events that are free of charge or low cost to qualifying residents. Robert stressed the importance of getting this information out to the seniors who are alone and need to get out to social functions, especially those that are not reached by conventional methods; City Manager has a contact list for the HOA's that can easily be obtained Renwick noted that the Parks and Recreation Department programs are relatively low cost and senior programs are currently subsidized with a goal to find more funding resources.
  - b. Corriveau added from a legal standpoint an affidavit i.e. "Means Income Form" can establish criteria for those who qualify to attend programs through waived costs.
  - c. Giulianelli-Smith plans to speak to a representative at Senior Alliance to see if any programs are available that would grant nutritional service for lunches. Parks and Recreation surveys have been returned and are being reviewed to facilitate further event program development.
  - d. *Calendar of Events* will be going out to every home in the Township in an attempt to increase participation
    - i. **MOTION** was made by Robert Lipmyer to accept the suggested 2024 Goal and Objectives. **MOTION** was seconded by Jan Valade. **MOTION** passed by voice vote approval

## 8. New Business:

- a. Review of Budget - Greg Morris reported
- b. Expenses and Revenues Budget Report was distributed; an overview of the budget was presented which reflected the entire department budget with senior services and transportation; adjustment of revenue in personnel services reflects new full-time staff

- c. 2024 Budget was approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission at the January meeting; Senior Services budget remained the same; funding for improvements to the Community Center were not taken out of the Senior Services budget; new furniture in the NCC is arriving soon
- d. Debbie Giulianelli-Smith is currently working on an AARP technology grant to include an ADA compliant motorized door for the front entrance as well as a tech hub with two computer stations

**9. Reports:**

- a. City Liaison Report - No report.
- b. Township Liaison Report - No report
- c. School Board Report - No report
- d. Chairperson and Commissioner Comments:
  - i. Closing of *Northville Downs* was completed February 3, 2024 and was well attended; deconstruction will begin in March
  - ii. Greg Morris reported on Parks and Recreation: The Legacy Park Advisory Committee has resumed as a Committee of Citizens who will discuss the future of Legacy Park; Legacy Park is 350 acres and is meant to be Passive Recreation; Trails in Phase I are currently being constructed; Phase II and Phase III Trails are planned for the future
  - iii. Essential Services Building will be located in Legacy Park to house the new Police and Fire stations, public bathrooms and a small pavilion
  - iv. Trees that were removed from Legacy Park along Seven Mile were invasive species (Buckthorn)
  - v. Proposed changes to Resident/ non-resident fee policy for programs starting June, 2024 is a 20% fee added onto non-residents of \$174 or less, \$175 - \$299 a 15% fee added and \$300 and up a 10% fee charged; benefits are intended to reward Northville City and Township residents and also includes residents within the school boundary lines
  - vi. Businesses in Northville will be used for catering events as much as possible although low cost is also a consideration.

**10. Adjournment:**

- a. **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting was made by Valade, supported by Corriveau. **MOTION** carried by voice vote approval.
- b. Meeting was adjourned at 2:19 pm.

**Next regular NSAC Meeting is March 21, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Northville Community Center.**

Submitted by:  
Dory Schmidt, Secretary