

Northville Senior Advisory Commission

Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167

June 20, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**

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

2. **Roll Call:**

Commissioners:

Jan Purtell - Chairperson (Township)

Jan Valade - Vice Chairperson (City)

Dorothy J. Schmidt - Secretary (Township)

Kim Campbell-Voytal - Representative (School Board Liaison & City)

Cynthia Jankowski - Liaison (Township)

Laura Genitti - Liaison (City)

Robert Lipmyer - Representative (Township)

Joseph Corriveau - Representative (City) - excused

Staff:

Debbie Giulianelli-Smith - Senior Services Supervisor

Derek O. Smith - Director, Parks, and Recreation - excused

Greg Morris - Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation. - excused

Bridgette Renwick - Recreation Superintendent, Parks and Recreation

Julie Wheeler - Recreation Specialist, Senior Services

Guests:

None

3. **Adoption of the Agenda:**

a. Agenda for June 20, 2024, meeting was reviewed; **MOTION** was made to adopt the agenda by Jankowski: Motion supported by Valade. **MOTION** passed by voice vote approval.

4. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

a. Regular Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2024, were reviewed; **MOTION** by Campbell-Voytal to approve the minutes; Motion supported by Valade. **MOTION** was passed by voice vote approval.

5. **Announcements/Citizen Comments:** None

6. **Monthly Reports/Events:**

a. Supervisor's Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported

- i. July/August edition of *Inspire* will be going to print soon; anyone can sign up with their email address to receive *Inspire* online; July/August edition is being created with the assistance of Jamie, Communications Specialist, for consistent formatting and utilizing social media by posting interesting details of the programs on Facebook (FB) as a marketing tool; Jamie will be reporting back to the team in the future on FB views and comments; Debbie asks Commissioners to "like" and "follow" Northville Senior Services on FB and "comment" to increase the algorithm.

- ii. NCC 20th Anniversary Reception Community Center Remodel Celebration; A Small reception with refreshments will be held July 11, 2024, at 10:30–11:30 am. Jim Nield will present a model of renderings and old photos of the NCC for comparison.
 - iii. There has been greater effort on the part of Debbie and Julie to continue to increase programming for Senior Services; The DIA has a lot of free programming and Debbie and Julie are setting up another DIA visit soon paired with an accompanying lunch for added socialization
 - iv. *NCC Lunch Crew* participant numbers remain steady at 8-12 people. *Lunch Crew* pairs well with the *Kookies and Karaoke* event which could easily accommodate more participants
 - v. An announcement will be made at the Upcoming Luau regarding upcoming events including a reminder of the August *Lunch Crew/Kookies and Karaoke*.
 - vi. *Mahjong* is being added back to the scheduled events in September by resident request since it was dropped during COVID
 - vii. In response to resident requests, Debra Davidson has been adding daytime programs, such as *50 North Walker Program* at Maybury State Park, as well as *Line Dancing* and *Chair Volleyball* at the Northville Community Center; Chair Volleyball has been popular with Novi residents who play
 - viii. Positive feedback has been heard by Debbie and Julie from people attending programs with positive momentum going forward towards the success of the current programs
 - ix. Neighboring Novi is currently changing their resident requirements regarding who may attend their programs which may exclude Northville residents from being able to participate in their programs; local *Youth Basketball* may also change resident requirements. ("NO-VILLE" residents are counted as Northville residents); NCC may feel an influx of Northville residents into the Northville programs because of the Novi change in resident requirements
 - x. Debbie, Julie, and Bridgette visited Allen Terrace on May 28, 2024, and received good feedback after talking about the programs Northville Community Center offers; another visit has been scheduled with the NCC team to King's Mill on June 28, 2024; Plans are to visit all the different senior communities in the area and talk about the programs Northville Community Center with fifty-five senior living communities identified in the Northville area including the newest Willow Pines Senior Living that has expressed interest in our programs
- b. Transportation Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported
- i. Transportation Services Report for May was distributed, reviewed, and discussed. It was noted that there were no rides on Memorial Day May 27, 2024, as the NCC was closed
 - ii. Barbara Heemer left the Transportation Coordinator position on May 31, 2024, for another job opportunity so interviews have resulted in a possible replacement; Julie Wheeler and the front desk staff have been pitching in and doing an amazing job communicating the scheduling issues of the riders with the drivers

- iii. Participation numbers increased for “curb to curb” per the recent Participation Report; Debbie will check those numbers for accuracy and the number of day trip participants
 - iv. Bus #172 was engaged in a minor traffic incident last month and was deemed a total loss by the insurance company; awaiting a response from SMART regarding the next step for it to be replaced and NP&R is also waiting for the payment check from the insurance company before any further steps can be taken.
 - v. Bus #122 is currently at SMART for Maintenance this week
 - vi. Rides are not being significantly impacted with one rider on the social bus schedule cancelled due to buses being out of commission; no medical requests have been affected; Social Bus was cancelled this week and next week cannot since no driver is available and/or a bus with a lift is not available; One social bus a day is still running and is usually full; sometimes medical trips are added onto the social bus trips
 - vii. Purtell inquired about the progress on recording the number of medical trips that could not be provided by Transportation Services and the reason that each medical trip could not be provided; Julie explained that currently any potential scheduling scenarios that cannot be filled usually are handled by having the patient check first with NCC for transportation availability before setting up the initial scheduling with their provider; Bridgette explained that the tracking of denied medical ride requests and subsequent ride referrals will most likely not be formally reported until the new software is available next year; Purtell noted that to be considered for future grants a full recording of medical trip accommodations and proof of need is usually required and tracking should begin as soon as possible, even if it can't be worked into the monthly template report at this time
 - viii. The DIA day bus trip is still planned as the DIA has their own bus.
- c. Ridership Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported
- i. The Ridership Report through May 2024 was distributed, reviewed, and discussed; two days in August and one day in September are planned that will take riders to the Northville Farmer's Market
- d. Participation Report: Debbie Giulianelli-Smith reported
- i. Participation Report of Senior Services through May, 2024 was distributed, reviewed and discussed;
 - ii. Elder Law program had 6 participants
 - iii. There are currently 66 registered participants for the upcoming “Luau” luncheon and program; two sponsors are Brookdale of Novi and Generation Funeral Services; complete count for the Luau is 75 with dignitaries included
 - iv. Blood Pressure screening had 8 participants and is pairing well on the third Tuesdays before *Lunch Crew*.
 - v. 50 North Travel went well with 5 participants
 - vi. Coffee with a cop and support dog had 1 person
 - vii. Book Club with the library had 14 participants

- viii. Spring Bloom workshop with Northville Garden Club event took place in front of the Community Center with canopies and tables for making planters received a lot of attention; Parks staff really helped with the set up
- ix. Glass Fusion had 19 participants
- x. Lunch Crew had 8 participants; more Lunch Crew events are planned; next Lunch Crew is July 16
- xi. More DIA "Behind the Scenes" programs are planned and will be paired with Lunch Crew and a movie.
- xii. Kentucky Derby Party went well
- xiii. The Mackinac Trip had 24 participants and had room for 20 more; this is the first spring trip for Giulianelli-Smith to accompany seniors and she reported that all went well with the weather, flowers were in bloom and guests enjoyed their stay at the Grand Hotel; next Mackinac Trip is planned for fall.
- xiv. Summer Barbeque is scheduled for July 25, 11:30-1:30; commissioners will be contacted if needed to volunteer to serve
- xv. Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) bus trip is planned for Tuesday, July 23, 2024, from 12:00-2:00 pm which includes a light snack; no charge to participants; thanks to Brookdale of Novi, Generations Funeral Services and the DIA for sponsoring

Upcoming Events and Programs:

- 6/21 Luau Lunch at 11:30 am -1:00 pm
- 6/28 Friday Flicks, 1:00 pm, Love Again, PG-13 Emotional (2023); \$1 charge
- 7/9 Investor Emotions: How Biases Hurt Your Portfolio with lunch, 11:00 am-12:00 pm; no cost
- 7/9 Reverse Mortgages – Separating Myth from Reality, 12:00 pm; no cost
- 7/10 Bingo with Oakmont, 1:00-2:00 pm, no cost
- 7/11 NCC 20th Anniversary Celebration Reception, 10:30 am, no cost
- 7/12 Internet Basics, 10:00 am, no cost
- 7/12 Friday Flicks, 1:00 pm, The Miracle Club, PG-13, Comedy, Drama (2023), \$1 charge
- 7/15 Coffee with a Cop, 10:00-11:00 am; no cost
- 7/16 Blood Pressure, 10:00-11:00 am; no cost
- 7/16 Lunch Crew, Chicken Salad on croissant; 12:00-1:00 pm, \$6 res/\$7 non-resident
- 7/16 Kookies and Karaoke, 1:00-2:00 pm; no cost
- 7/17 Book Club with NDL, 11:00 am-12:00 pm; no cost
- 7/23 Senior Day at the DIA, 12:00 pm, no cost
- 7/23 - 9/10 Tai Chi Classes will be conducted for "Balance and Fall Protection". \$45
- 7/25 Summer Barbeque Luncheon, 11:30 am, \$15 resident/\$18 nonresident.
- 7/26 Friday Flicks, 1:00 pm, Bank of Dave. PG-13, Biography, Comedy (2023)
- 7/26 Liquid Nutrition Pick up, no cost
- 8/9 Friday Flicks, 1:00 pm- Mother of the Bride, TV-PG-13, Biography, Comedy (2023); \$1
- 8/9 DIA – "Behind the Scenes", 11:00 am-12:00 pm, no cost
- 8/9 Lunch Crew - Lee's Chicken, 12:00-1:00 pm, \$7 res/\$8 non-resident; Register by 8/2.
- 8/12 Ice Cream Social, 1:00-2:30 pm, \$3 resident/\$4 non-resident
- 8/13 Tax Credit and Deduction for Seniors by Andrew Nemes, 1:00-12:00 pm, no cost.
- 8/13 MI Senior Moves- Home Safe Home-Avoiding Household Hazards; 1:00-2:30 pm by Tina Doyle, no cost

8/14 Bingo with Oakmont, 1:00-2:00 pm, no cost
8/19 Coffee with a Cop, 10:00-11:00 am, no cost

7. **Old Business: None**

8. **New Business:**

July Meeting Date: Purtell asked if the July meeting could be cancelled due to vacations; **MOTION** was made by Valade to cancel the July 2024 meeting date; Motion was supported by Campbell-Voytal. **MOTION** was passed by voice vote approval. Giulianelli-Smith will post the information on the appropriate websites regarding canceling the July meeting.

a. City Liaison Report – Laura Genitti reported.

- i. 4th of July parade will be here soon. 10:00 a.m. on July 4th
- ii. The Victorian Festival will be held Friday, September 20-Sunday, September 22, 2024; Third grade student activities are scheduled for Friday morning 9:00-12:00 in downtown Northville;
- iii. Northville Downs is progressing with a new Building Inspector hired dedicated full-time to Northville; dust mitigation at the Downs site and Street closures are an ongoing issue; some streets are open right now as they are putting a new sewer on Cady Street and streets will close again when the sewer is completed
- iv. Garden Party at Mill Race Village fundraiser for the Historical Society on Saturday June 22, 2024, 4:00- 7:00 that will include beer, wine, appetizers, and silent auction; Tickets are \$100
- v. Mill Race will be closed temporarily while installing a brick walkway; City is responsible for MRV grounds maintenance

b. Township Report – Cynthia Jankowski reported.

- i. Township approved the purchase of two more new fire trucks;
- ii. Ward Church is building indoor Pickleball Courts
- iii. Event Honoring Parks and Recreation and Senior Services 20 Year anniversary
- iv. Next HOA Presidents' meeting will be held on August 28, 2024; NSAC members are encouraged to work with HOA presidents at this meeting to update what information the HOA's need; this meeting may be a great opportunity for the NSAC to improve communication with HOA's; Renwick will investigate if a list is already populated.

c. City/ School Board Report – Kim Campbell-Voytal reported

- i. Funded Public Transportation "point to point" transportation services will be expanded in Oakland County per the Oakland County voters; Only Novi people are affected as "Enterprise" does not go beyond Oakland County, south of 8 Mile Road; fare of \$4 to the public with a discounted fare of \$2 for Seniors, Veterans, persons with disabilities and low income; Wayne County does not provide public transportation in Northville. However, "No-ville" residents that live in Oakland County may fall under the Novi service umbrella area with this new addition of public transportation; it may take some of the burden off of Northville's transportation needs
- ii. For the first time in the history of the Northville School District, Northville earned First Place in Baseball;

- iii. Northville High School Band will be participating in the Memorial Day Parade and the 4th of July Parade
 - iv. Northville High School will be graduating 644 seniors this year; Northville has the fourth largest graduating class in Michigan and are rated academically as having the highest SAT scores in the state
 - v. Northville School District just celebrated the retirement of twenty-three staff members; also honored were those with a total of 50 and 25 years of service in the district; Mike Rombell , NHS Band Director, was honored for 50 years of service and 16 staff members with 25 years of service
 - vi. Local staff and students are testing and piloting of new Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs with software that is being allowed in the school district to assure that AI is educationally appropriate and curated for school districts to integrate AI in a safe manner with reliable information that can be safely utilized and integrated by the teachers for use by the students
 - vii. Bond update: The 8 Mile Stadium bleachers, handrails and ADA compliance improvements have been made; ADA capacity has been increased; There are now 26 wheelchair spaces on the home side and another 8 on the visitor side with 4 ADA ramps, 2 on each side with handrails for walkers making it a much safer environment for all the community members who attend the games
 - viii. Preschoolers "Crafting with a Cop" is a new intergenerational interaction.
- d. Chairperson and Commissioner Comments:
- i. Robert (Bob) Lipmyer recalled that he has been with the Northville Senior Advisory Commission for 15 years since December 19, 2009; Bob complimented the NSAC on how far it has come since he joined the Commission and talked about the Northville Senior Commission's early beginnings 20 years ago when it was housed in a cramped space in the Scout Building/Art Center; before joining NSAC as a volunteer, Bob was the President of the Plymouth Community Council on Aging; Robert stated the management team is remarkably improved now in the way it serves Northville seniors and he has noted improved support given by the City Council, School Board and Northville Township; Bob remarked that each new Board Member has been better than the preceding person and each member takes their job very seriously in supporting the seniors and congratulated the current Parks and Recreation and Senior Services management team for their excellence; Robert then proceeded to give notice that he wished to decline another term serving on the NSAC Commission due to his age of 90 years. The Commission extended its reluctance for Lipmyer leave the Commission until his term is completed in September, 2024; Giulianelli-Smith and Purtell along with the rest of the Commission present thanked him for his long years of loyal and dedicated service; Robert was commended for how much his active participation has benefitted the seniors in the Northville community and what a wonderful legacy he leaves. Since Northville has no newspaper, Robert recommended the initiation and maintenance of regular contact with Northville Homeowners Associations to further publicize events and services that are available to the Northville seniors; Bob recommended contacting the presidents of the Homeowners Associations to inquire as to which person actually authors the monthly newsletters in each Homeowners Association in order to convey that

information in their publications; Commissioners encouraged Bob at continue to attend NSAC event as often as possible.

- ii. Valade advised the NSAC that her term as Commissioner and Vice-Chairperson is up in September, 2024 and advised that she has served a total of six years on the Northville Senior Advisory Commission and will not seek another term; Valade stated she will still stay involved in the Commission's activities and continue to serve on the Northville Housing Commission; Giulianelli-Smith and Purtell thanked her for her 6 years of loyal dedication and service to Northville Seniors
- iii. The Township and the City representatives will begin their processes for filling the NSAC representative positions (one for each municipality) that will begin in October, 2024.
- iv. Reminder no meeting of the NSC this coming July 2024. It was agreed the next NCC meeting will be held August 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Northville Community Center.
- v. Purtell suggested that senior citizen involvement be incorporated into the Victorian Parade with seniors either participating as walkers in the parade or simply observing the Victorian Festival Parade with chairs provided for them in front of the Community Center. Purtell suggested that a Victorian hat making workshop might be considered for seniors who walk in the parade or observe the parade.

9. **Adjournment:**

- a. **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting was made by Campbell-Voytal. **MOTION** supported by Valade. **MOTION** carried by voice vote approval. Meeting was adjourned at 2:29 pm

The next regular NSAC Meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the Northville Community Center, July 2024 meeting is canceled.

Respectfully submitted by: Dory Schmidt, Secretary NSAC, July 24, 2024