

**Minutes**  
**Senior Services | Aging in Place Task Force**  
**Community Engagement and Inclusion Working Group**  
**March 16, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Members Present: Sarah Kindinger, Chair; Ellen Kehoe;Carolynn Moore; Christina Clarke; Sandy Irwin; Deb Soverinsky; Kim Johnson; Tom Allen

Absent: Howard Collens; Kim Johnson

Others Present: Peter Young, City Manager Fellow

**3. Approve minutes from the February 2, 2022 and February meetings**

Motion to approve February 2, 2022 meeting minutes.

Motion by Sandy Irwin

Second by Deb Soverinsky

Aye: All

Nay: None

Motion to approve minutes from the February 24, 2022 meeting.

Edit: Change Janice Wagmen's spelling.

Motion to approve February with changes

Motion by Christina Clarke

Second by Ellen Kehoe

Aye: All

Nay: None

**4. Finalize 'We Envision' statements**

Group reviews the 'We Envision' statements. Found on a separate document.

*WE ENVISION*

*A Royal Oak:*

*Changes:*

*add "city leaders and elected officials" instead of just "elected officials".*

*That has an infrastructure which offers activities, civic engagement, and volunteer opportunities that will be*

*accessible, inclusive, intergenerational and affordable;*

*Which honors the contributions of all ages;*

*That is designed to gather everyone in community and neighborhood spaces.*

*Where older residents are involved with making decisions in both public and private sectors, and are regularly consulted by city leaders and elected officials.*

Motion to approve the 'We Envision' statement with changes.

Motion by Caroline Moore

Second by Ellen Kehoe

Aye: All

Nay: None

## **5. Review 'We heard' statements**

The working group reviews their 'we are' statements and discusses what changes could be made.

- Add in the numerical data.
- Add in the top three biggest concerns of survey respondents.

## **6. Work on 'We Are' statements**

The workgroup has an open discussion on how

Add barriers like

- transportation,
- Communication
  - Limited communication of events- can use social media;
  - Phone calls aren't responded to
    - Ex insights is limited by print. People will get information, but can forget it
  - City's website is not robust
  - If event information is limited to social media ect. then people cannot access it
  - People's technology limits them as well- phones may not access the internet, which s their preference
  - Many older adults are not using social media
  - People's technology limits them as well- phones may not access the internet, which is their preference
  - Multiple methods to reach people need to be available. Communicate with people's where they are
- Parking-Free or discounted parking for seniors with plate registration
- Fees and then paying the fee (how do they accept payment?)
- Scholarships or grants for people who cannot afford a program or a club (inter-club Council members)
- Variety of activities-lack of a variety of programs that meet lifelong learning needs
- Improve communication of volunteer opportunities
- Locations- the location of programs are limited. More events at local parks
  - Food truck in neighborhoods (someone is doing it)
- Improve Nextdoor neighborhood app usage
  - The Nextdoor app is used by some frequently

Royal Oak has 23 neighborhood associations and HOAs; Ellen has a map of them.

Local organizations and HOA's could be used to share information.

## **7. Develop goals for action items**

The group works on 'We Will' statements.

The group discusses using SMART (Smart, Measurable Actionable, Relevant and Timely) to help develop goals.

- Call it guiding principles instead of SMART goals?

Is affordability and issue?

- Not everything in the community is free, free is important for the library, affordable is a piece
- Add the word assessable instead of affordable

We should get an update from the communication group because it doesn't make sense to duplicate or contradicting communication efforts. Work in partnership with the communication group.

- Maybe a group meeting.
- We should tell them what our requirements for communication are. I'm afraid that we'll just hand it off to the communication group and it won't be what we need.

Change value their contributions to life experiences, knowledge, and ideas. It seems vague.

Sarah will build some SMART goals around these.

What are some of the actions that make intentional and impactful improvements over where we are today?

- Ensure that we identify the other groups involved. Create a SMART template.
- What you envision? key players; who's involved; community partners; target audience; must consider measurements
- Short-, medium-, or long-term goals
- Costs and funding
- Review the Oakland County blueprint for ideas.
- Brainstorm ideas. Create an idea bank. Put all ideas into the idea bank. All ideas welcome.

We could decide what we need for Royal Oak and compare what Oakland County is already doing. We could invite Oakland County representatives to speak to the workgroup.

Invite the new Senior Center director to a group meeting. We should invite her if we have something specific to ask her. We should give her more time to get used to the new position.

## **8. Public comment**

None.

## **9. Adjournment**

Motion is made to adjourn the March 16, 2022 Community Engagement and Inclusion Working Group meeting.

Motion: Sandy Irwin

Second: Ellen Kehoe

Aye: All.

Nay: None.