



## **Village Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, June 26, 2024**

**Attendees:** Anita Light (Chair), Lesley Abashian, Martha Armstrong, Anne Chase, Manisha Maskay, Janice Miller, Jennifer Rose, Tom Ross, Jason Scadron, Carolyn Sutterfield.

**Absent:** Michelle Coon, Jennifer Denk, David Gundry, Taylor Geaghan, Sigrid Schipper.

Anita confirmed quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Anita asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2024 Advisory Board meeting. Jennifer motioned to approve, Carolyn seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Evaluation Survey Update:** Manisha reviewed the overall evaluation process of the Fairfax Village in the City and provided a summary of the member evaluation survey results. Advisory board members discussed results related to respondent demographics, satisfaction with Village services, Expo attendance and other key elements.

**National Virtual Summit Presentation:** Anita shared that the Fairfax Village in the City submission, entitled 'Know What you Need to do Well to Make an Impact' was accepted for the National Virtual Village Gathering. It is evident that our Village is unique because there are very few parent-supported villages, although it seems that other groups are trying to get similar support and funding.

**Wave Plus Virtual Summit:** Anita will present at this summit as the Ambassador from Fairfax Village in the City. The summit for the 5-State area of Maryland, Virginia, DC, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and West Virginia will be held on Tuesday, July 9. 10 am to 11:30 am. It would be great if advisory board members would attend. If not summits with the same content will be available throughout this year.

**Fairfax Human Services Social Connections Committee:** Anita stated that as a Fairfax City Human Services Committee member, she also serves on the Coordinating Council for Aging and Adults with Disabilities (CCAAD). CCAAD has a Social Connections Committee (SCC) responsible for developing a Pilot program to focus on how it should promote social connections for constituents. This committee is developing a pilot program focusing on the personal well-being component and is using guidance from the Surgeon General's report on the Epidemic of

Loneliness and Isolation published last year (available for review by Advisory Board members). The SCC has developed 'Key Messages' to address social isolation and will also conduct surveys as part of the pilot. Results will be shared with relevant stakeholders. The work of Fairfax Village in the City has the potential to positively impact the loneliness and isolation epidemic.

**Village Update:** Jason shared the following -

- There are now 96 and 46 volunteers.
- Village Member, Agnes Rassam asked to meet with the person who started the Village. In response, Carolyn and Jason met with her.
- The Annual Report, shared with the Advisory Board is almost complete. The goal is for Anita to present the report to City Council on July 9, 2024. It would be great if advisory board members would attend.
- The Sherwood Center is not available on Saturday, October 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the Fall Board Retreat.
- The Village booth at the Fall Festival will be held at a different location. The booth will be located on Sager Avenue and we will be sharing an oversized tent with other Fairfax City departments.
- The Volunteer Appreciation Event is scheduled for October 9 from 4:30 to 6 pm at Historic Blenheim. Jason has arranged for the same ice-cream truck company to be present.
- Human Services departmental staff met with the new City Manager; Leslie provided him with an excellent briefing.
- The Village to Village Network email forum has started a request to share villages newsletters. Perhaps we could participate and share our newsletter?
- The Friday Morning Speaker Series has two upcoming sessions –
  - 'Spotting Scams and Staying Safe Workshop' presented and hosted by AARP on Friday, June 28 for which 60 people have signed up.
  - VICAP Medicare 101 Workshop on November 1.
- The Parks and Recreation magazine – has information about the Village, including upcoming events.
- NV Rides completed its survey report and sent it to Village members making it appear as if it was sent by the City. Jason will discuss having a cover letter added in the future.
- The Fairfax Rotary Club invited the Village to make a presentation.

**Miscellaneous:**

- The Speaker Series Committee needs help. Carolyn would appreciate getting a brief description of the upcoming session for the newsletter. Anita suggested that the Friday Morning series could be quarterly. Carolyn stated that we should not be competing with Senior Center presentations and that it would be better to provide sessions on Saturdays for those people who are not yet retired. Members shared that Saturdays have pros and cons and recommended that presentation videos be made available on the Village website. Anne stated that she would be happy to leave one Friday per quarter open for the Village Friday Morning series.

- Based on the recent experience of meeting with a Village member, Carolyn suggested that we should visit and onboard new members regularly. Advisory board members agreed that this is a good idea, and that volunteers could help with the process. Anne stated that the Senior Center holds welcome sessions for new members.

**Senior Center Update:** Anne shared the following -

- Senior center members will march in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.
- Registration for the Senior Olympics starts on July 1, 2024.
- The Senior Center picnic is on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Steps and Adjourn:**

Anita thanked members for their contributions and adjourned the meeting at 7:48 pm.

Minutes submitted by Manisha Maskay.