

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OLDER ADULT NEEDS COMMITTEE  
CITY OF NOVI  
MONDAY, February 12, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M.**

**Member Casey called the meeting to order at 5:33 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL:**           **PRESENT:** Council Member Casey, Council Member Smith, Council Member Thomas, Kathy Crawford, Kim Nice, Debbie Wrobel  
**ABSENT:** Member Dooley

**ALSO PRESENT:**       Jeff Muck, PRCS Director, Kit Kieser, OAS Manager

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**OAN 24-02-05       Moved by Crawford, seconded by Smith; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
To approve the Agenda.**

**Voice vote on OAN 24-02-05                   Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford, Nice,  
Wrobel  
Nays: None  
Absent: Dooley**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**OAN 24-02-06       Moved by Nice, seconded by Thomas; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
To approve the January 29, 2024, meeting minutes.**

**Voice vote on OAN 24-02-06                   Yeas: Casey, Smith, Thomas, Crawford, Nice,  
Wrobel  
Nays: None  
Absent: Dooley**

**REMARKS FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON:**

Councilmember Casey began by welcoming Director Muck back from his vacation. She also congratulated Councilmember Smith on the birth of his grandson.

Member Casey then gave an update on the status of the survey the committee had been working toward. The survey should be live beginning February 20<sup>th</sup>, and the committee could see results at the next meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Gurumurthy offered her assistance in facilitating discussions to gain insight into Novi's Asian population and learn about their vision of a senior/community center, housing, and transportation issues. The committee will work with her to arrange these conversations.

**MATTERS FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:**

- 1. Housing & Aging in Place**

Member Casey opened discussion to ask what the committee members took from the presentation from City Planner McBeth during the meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Some of the main items discussed were:

- The need for first floor living
- Finding how to address housing for the population in "transition", who are ready to move out of large family homes, but not ready for senior housing.
- Discuss options for subsidized housing.
- Suggest moving away from townhouse style homes to multi-story buildings that contain single story dwellings, elevators, and covered parking.
- Work with Community Development to change the ordinances or planning guidelines to allow for "granny flats", accessory dwelling units, or converting garages into living spaces.
- Incentivize developers to dedicate a portion of new projects to 55+ living spaces.

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:** None

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Dorothy and Michel Duchesneau voiced their support in favor of moving away from 3-story townhouse homes to ranch style units. Mrs. Duchesneau urged caution when proposing ADU's or granny units to avoid these dwellings becoming rental spaces. Mr. Duchesneau said that he believes that the committee is on the right track, and if City Council and the Planning team remain consistent with their desires, that developers will get on board for more senior friendly housing options in the future.

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 P.M.

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Transcribed by Melissa Morris, Deputy City Clerk

Date approved: February 26, 2024