

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
AGE-FRIENDLY AD HOC COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Age Friendly Ad Hoc Committee was held on Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chairperson Respicio Vazquez, Chris Hauri, Ron Sherman, Daniel Lauber, Deborah Frederick, James Flanagan, Lydia Manning  
Absent: Angie Seder  
Also Present: Management Analyst Sara Phyfer

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. MEMBER WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairperson Vazquez reviewed Committee protocols and explained the rules for electronic participation.

The members briefly introduced themselves and shared their backgrounds.

a. Open Meetings Act/Statement of Economic Interests Filing

Chairperson Vazquez reviewed the Open Meetings Act requirements, as well as noting that the Committee can continue meeting virtually so long as the Governor's disaster proclamation is in place. He also briefly reviewed the Statement of Economic Interests filing requirement.

Mr. Lauber suggested giving the Zoom link to the public to increase participation and asked that the Village get more clarification from the Village Attorney regarding OMA requirements and electronic participation. He stated attending meetings in person is not safe.

b. Committee Purpose (Resolution)

Chairperson Vazquez reviewed the Committee's charges as outlined in the Resolution, noting they are to evaluate results of the age-friendliness assessment and create an action plan. He reviewed the AARP's 8 domains of livability and stated the Committee can tailor their survey and action plan to River Forest.

c. Expectations and Next Steps

The Committee discussed the AARP's eight domains of livability and agreed to not limiting themselves to just those and to consider subdomains. It was noted that age-friendly means all ages and all abilities.

Chairperson Vazquez asked that Ms. Manning provide occasional updates to the Committee with regard to the Dementia Friendly River Forest group to make sure the two are coordinated in their efforts without competing or being inconsistent with one another.

The group discussed research ideas and surveys, agreeing that any survey assessing age-friendliness would have to be specific to River forest. It was noted that the Township has shared with Staff several completed surveys regarding similar topics and that the Committee could use these to inform their actions, depending on the methodology employed. The Committee discussed needing to determine their objectives first and consider what they want to learn prior to looking at surveys.

Ms. Manning noted that she has some access to doing age-friendly work through Concordia's Center for Gerontology, including students who would be looking to complete research projects.

Chairperson Vazquez stated the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Age-Friendly Communities Collaborative is putting together a resource database of what other villages are doing. He stated he would like to see who the seniors are and determine their needs, then coming up with a plan to help them, which could include resources or assistance. He emphasized the Committee would not be restricted in what it does based on other villages or the AARP's guidelines and 8 domains.

The Committee discussed various documents for members to review and consider, and Management Analyst Phyfer suggested sending materials to her for distribution to the group in order to comply with the OMA. Chairperson Vazquez asked that when suggesting reading materials, the members highlight the important and relevant pieces within the documents or provide a quick blurb explaining why it would be helpful.

The Committee agreed it would be helpful to have Township Supervisor Carla Sloan at the next meeting. Chairperson Vazquez stated they can invite anyone who they think would be useful to provide consultation or advice to the Committee.

Mr. Flanagan suggested looking at the World Health Organization as well and discussed the shortcomings of the designation. He noted that the process should involve changes to infrastructure and becoming a community for all ages and all abilities.

**4. NEXT MEETING**

The Committee reached a consensus to continue holding monthly meetings on the second Wednesdays at 7:00pm.

After some discussion about subcommittees, it was determined that groups of two could work together without violating the OMA.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sherman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.

Roll call:

Ayes: Chairperson Respicio Vazquez, Chris Hauri, Ron Sherman, Daniel Lauber,  
Deborah Frederick, James Flanagan, Lydia Manning

Absent: Angie Seder

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

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Sara Phyfer, Secretary