



**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
SPECIAL AGE-FRIENDLY ADVISORY AD-HOC COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 – 7:00 PM  
Village Hall – 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL 60305  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Community Room

## **AGENDA**

Public comments will be shared with the Committee. You may submit your public comments via email in advance of the meeting to: Sara Phyfer at [sphyfer@vrf.us](mailto:sphyfer@vrf.us). You may listen to the meeting by participating in a Zoom conference call as follows, dial-in number: 312-626-6799 with meeting ID: 856 4413 9120 or by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85644139120>. If you would like to speak during public comment, please email [sphyfer@vrf.us](mailto:sphyfer@vrf.us) by 5:00 PM on June 23, 2021.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. Old Business
  - a. Continued Discussion and Consideration for Approval of Committee Survey Questions
5. New Business
  - a. Discussion Regarding Survey Distribution
6. Next Meeting: July 14
7. Adjournment

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
AGE-FRIENDLY AD HOC COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Age Friendly Ad Hoc Committee was held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:03p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chairperson Respicio Vazquez, Daniel Lauber, Deborah Frederick, Lydia Manning, Ron Sherman, James Flanagan, Barbara Mirel  
Absent: Helen Kwan  
Also Present: Management Analyst Sara Phyfer

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Sherman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Flanagan to approve the May 12, 2021 meeting minutes.

Mr. Sherman noted there were a few places in the minutes that showed him as present and absent.

Roll call:

Ayes: Chairperson Vazquez, Ron Sherman, Daniel Lauber, Deborah Frederick, Lydia Manning, James Flanagan, Barbara Mirel  
Absent: Helen Kwan  
Nays: None  
Motion Passes.

**4. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES: DEMENTIA FRIENDLY RIVER FOREST AND AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES COLLABORATIVE**

Chairperson Vazquez stated he had nothing to report for AFCC.

Ms. Manning stated DFRF is still in a holding pattern but that they would begin collaborating with Dementia Friendly Oak Park.

Mr. Lauber stated the Zoning Board of Appeals met last month regarding Accessory Dwelling Units and would have another meeting on June 10. He stated further study and more

research is necessary and the Village should slow down. He expressed frustration about the deliberations and stated it was not an appropriate topic for the ZBA and that the Plan Commission should discuss this.

Chairperson Vazquez stated the Village Board would take up ADUs once it receives the ZBA's recommendation. He stated he is passionate about this and hopeful.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

### **a. Continued Discussion and Consideration for Approval of Committee Survey Questions**

The Committee continued their discussion regarding the questions and updated the questions based on the feedback received. There was a continued discussion about the relevance of certain housing questions, and it was determined that a separate housing survey would be more appropriate for them. The Committee also reached a consensus to simplify the questions related to housing expenses.

Mr. Lauber suggested one outcome of the Committee's recommendations could be to have a printed package of information to give to seniors.

Roll call:

Ayes: Chairperson Vazquez, Ron Sherman, Daniel Lauber, Deborah Frederick, Lydia Manning, James Flanagan, Barbara Mirel

Absent: Helen Kwan

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Discussion Regarding Survey Distribution**

The Committee reached a consensus to discuss this at their next meeting.

## **7. NEXT MEETING: JULY 14**

The Committee reached a consensus to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, June 23 at 7PM to finalize the survey questions prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 14.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Sherman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Flanagan to adjourn the meeting at 9:18pm.

Roll call:

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

Age-Friendly Ad Hoc Committee Meeting June 9, 2021

Absent: Helen Kwan, Barbara Mirel  
Nays: None  
Motion Passes.

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Sara Phyfer, Secretary

**ROBERT ARMALAS**

1501 BONNIE BRAE  
RIVER FOREST, IL. 60305



Members of the Age Friendly Committee

June 9 th, 2021

Please submit this comment to the record of tonight's meeting.

As a senior citizen of River Forest with arthritic orthopedic issues in addition to my years, I do not find the streets of the northeast quadrant of our village safe to any pedestrians. This is due to high-speed cut through vehicular traffic, commercial truck traffic, lack of safety signage, impossible enforcement expectations and lack of village resources and will to stop it.

Cut through traffic being not originating or ending in river forest. The northeast quadrant being east of Lathrop, south of north ave, north of division and west of harlem.

For me this is the number one safety issue in our neighborhood and one that is convincing me my current residence might not be a good place to spend my future years. Please be sure to include this in the survey since our area is not the only area affected by this.

Sincerely

Robert Armalas

## Housing

1. My home is accessible to me.
2. My home is accessible to people who come to visit me or help me.

I can easily meet my monthly housing costs.

I want to stay in my current residence as I age

My current home will allow me to have another person live with me.

I feel safe in my home.

My home is in a safe neighborhood.

It is important for me to age in River Forest

Property taxes are a significant factor in my/our ability to remain in River Forest

**Given your druthers, how much longer would you like to live in your current River Forest home?**

- Less than a year
- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- 11 or more years

**Given your druthers, how much longer do you wish to continue to live in River Forest?**

- Less than a year
- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- 11 or more years

**What type of home would you like to move to next in River Forest?**

- Apartment or condominium in a multifamily building
- Townhouse
- Single family house
- "Granny flat" also known as an accessory dwelling unit
- Retirement home or assisted living for senior citizens
- Group home or small assisted living home for seniors (6-10 residents)
- Nursing home
- Other: Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

I would consider modifying my property to create a separate living space for a caregiver or boarder...

- *I would consider modifying my property to create a designated space for another adult (for example, an "in-law suite" or a freestanding small dwelling unit)*
- *I would consider living in an "in-law suite" or a freestanding small dwelling unit*

### **Social Participation**

3. There are enough opportunities for me to meet people in River Forest.
4. Activities and events in River Forest are organized in places that are accessible to me.
5. It is easy for me to learn about social events in River Forest.
6. I find the range of events and activities offered throughout River Forest are sufficiently varied.

### **Technology**

I have adequate internet access for my needs and wants.

I am comfortable using a smartphone.

I am comfortable using my electronic devices (e.g. computer, smartphone, tablet) to access information about things happening in River Forest.

### **Respect and Social Inclusion**

7. I sometimes get annoying or negative remarks because of my perceived age.
8. I sometimes feel discriminated against because of my age.

### **Civic/Social Involvement and Volunteer Opportunities**

9. I have enough opportunities to interact with younger generations within River Forest.
- I am satisfied with the opportunities for social involvement in River Forest.
- I am satisfied with the opportunities for civic involvement in River Forest.
- I am satisfied with the volunteer opportunities available to me in River Forest.
10. I feel like a valued member of the River Forest community.

### **Communication and Information**

It is difficult for me to read signage in buildings (businesses, libraries, Village Hall etc.) in River Forest.

11. Printed and digital information from the Village of River Forest is easy for me to read in terms of type face and size

12. Printed and digital information from the Village of River Forest is written in understandable language to me.

I prefer to get information from the Village of River Forest via electronic means (email, text message, social media)

I prefer to get printed information from the Village of River Forest via US Mail

### **Community Support and Services for Older Adults**

- 13. Social services in River Forest meet my needs.
- 16. I know what services for older adults are available in River Forest.
- I know how to access services for older adults in River Forest.
- I use services for older adults in River Forest.

**Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**

- 19. The businesses in River Forest are accessible with a wheeled walker or wheelchair
- 18. The sidewalks in my neighborhood are safe for me to use.
- I usually have enough time to cross streets safely in River Forest.
- There are enough places for me to sit and rest throughout River Forest.
- Street lights in River Forest are bright enough for me to safely walk at night.
- Street lights in River Forest are bright enough for me to safely drive at night.

**Access to Transportation**

- 20. I have easy access to public transportation (the El, Metra, bus)
- I usually take public transportation (the El, Metra, bus) to get where I need to go
- I usually drive myself to where I need to go
- I usually take a taxi or rideshare to where I need to go
- I usually depend on others to get me where I need to go
- I need assistance to get from my home to my ride
- I am aware of the transportation services that River Forest Township provides.

**Financial Situation**

- 22. My income is adequate to cover my basic needs

Add:

**Demographics**

*What is your age (circle one)?*      50-60      61-70      71-80      80+

*Do you own or rent (circle one)?*      Own      Rent

*With whom do you live (circle one)?*      Live alone      Live with spouse



*Live with child*      *Live with friend/roommate*  
*Live with relative (other than spouse or child)*

*Do you use a caregiver (circle one)?*    Yes    No

*How long have you lived in River Forest (circle one)?*

*Less than 5 years*      *5-10 years*  
*10-15 years*      *20+ years*

*How long do you plan on staying in River Forest (circle one)?*

*Less than 5 years*      *5-10 years*  
*10-15 years*      *20+ years*

*Do you or your spouse receive income from a pension (circle one)?*    Yes    No

*Do you know approximately how much it costs per month to live in your current home (circle one)?*

*Yes*    *No*

### **Demographics**

**Which type of home do you currently live in?**

- Single family house
- Townhouse
- Apartment or condominium in a multifamily building
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you rent or own your current home? (QUESTION #Y)**

- Own — Skip to Question #X
- Rent

Add: inclusive gender question/race/ethnicity



**Village of River Forest**  
**Village Administrator's Office**

400 Park Avenue  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Tel: 708-366-8500

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: June 4, 2021

To: Age-Friendly Committee

From: Sara Phyfer, Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk

Subj: Distribution Options for Committee Survey

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As the Committee works to finalize its survey, the Committee may also wish to begin considering distribution methods. These are the readily available methods and ones the Village has used previously for surveys/questionnaires:

- Load the survey into SurveyMonkey, which offers various export options for analysis and charts responses. The survey can also be printed and keyed in later for those who prefer paper copies.
- Targeted post card mailing to older adults in the Village using existing Village records (senior property tax exemption list, vehicle sticker senior discount list, and send to all multi-family residences to capture renters)
- Include a note on water bills
- Advertise in the Village's E-Newsletters and on social media
- Request that the Library and Township utilize their records of older adults to communicate the survey's availability and/or to accept paper copies on the Committee's behalf
- Request that the Sheridan communicate it with their residents and/or to accept paper copies

This item is for discussion and no formal action is required from the Committee.