RESOLUTION 899

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES: BEST PRACTICES

WHEREAS, the Village of Grayslake, in Lake County, Illinois, is a beautiful, family-oriented community with a great spirit of service and pride; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Grayslake, in Lake County, Illinois, is a friendly community with a rich heritage and strong desire to help others; and

WHEREAS, the Village is desirous of welcoming and supporting its aging population, their families, caregivers, friends with understanding and awareness of the aging process and inclusion within the community; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of Grayslake’s population is aging and aging population affects all as individuals and as a civil society; and

WHEREAS, as Grayslake residents stay healthier and active longer, Grayslake is committed to adapting to the needs of changing demographics to serve the interests of the Grayslake community and sustain economic and social vitality; and

WHEREAS, an age-friendly Grayslake commitment encourages active aging by optimizing opportunities for health and wellbeing for residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, where we choose to live, our physical, social and cultural environment, greatly impact how we live, and all Grayslake community play a critical role in helping residents live longer and better; and

WHEREAS, Grayslake is taking a lead on addressing the question for all Avon Township communities on how businesses, governments, nonprofits, and individuals will respond to changing needs for health care, housing, transportation, food and other essentials; and

WHEREAS, Grayslake would like to be known as the first age-friendly community in Lake County, Illinois, and

WHEREAS, the people of Illinois and surrounding states are encouraged to visit Grayslake to experience a model community of welcoming and embracing age-friendly community; and
WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a global network of age-friendly cities and communities to encourage and promote public policies to increase the number of cities and communities that support healthy aging and thereby improve the health, wellbeing, satisfaction and quality of life for older Americans; and

WHEREAS, active aging is a life-long process, whereby an age-friendly community is not just “elder-friendly” but also intended to be friendly for all ages; and

WHEREAS, The WHO has developed eight domains of community life that influence the health and quality of life of older people:

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings – accessibility to and availability of clean, safe community centers, parks, and other recreational facilities;
2. Transportation – safe and affordable modes of private and public transportation, “Complete Streets” types of initiatives, hospitable built environments;
3. Housing – wide range of housing options for older residents, ageing in place and other home modification programs, housing that is accessible to transportation and community and health services;
4. Social participation – access to leisure and cultural activities; opportunities for older residents to participate in social and civic engagement with their peers and younger people;
5. Respect and social inclusion – programs to support and promote ethnic and cultural diversity, programs to encourage multigenerational interaction and dialogue, programs to combat loneliness and isolation among older residents;
6. Civic participation and employment – promotion of paid work and volunteer opportunities for older residents; opportunities for older residents to engage in formulation of policies relevant to their lives;
7. Communication and information – promotion of and access to the use of technology to keep older residents connected to their community and friends and family, both near and far; and
8. Community support and health services – access to homecare services, clinics, programs to promote active ageing (physical exercise and healthy habits); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village of Grayslake be declared as the first age-friendly community of Lake County, Illinois, and be it further resolved, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be maintained as a permanent record of the Village of Grayslake to commemorate this momentous occasion.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 18 day of February, 2020.

Mayor

Attest:

Deputy Village Clerk