

RESOLUTION 8-23

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP IN THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, the health and safety of residents of all ages is of highest concern to the citizens of Bird Island; and

WHEREAS, as the U.S. population ages and people stay healthy and active longer, communities must adapt; and

WHEREAS, planning processes including community revitalization and economic development plans should include the needs of all people regardless of age, income, physical ability, race, and other factors of older adults; and

WHEREAS, community decisions on land-use, housing, and transportation should be consistent with comprehensive plans that have been developed with public input; and

WHEREAS, members of the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities become part of a global network of communities that are committed to giving their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and safe lives; and

WHEREAS, membership in the Network of Age-Friendly Communities includes access to financial assistance and technical expertise; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in order to ensure Bird Island is a well-designed, livable community that promotes health and sustained economic growth for residents of all age, the City of Bird Island supports the planning process and requests participation in the Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

Adopted this 13th day of November, 2023.



Mayor

Attest: 

City Administrator

City of Bird Island
660 Birch Avenue, PO Box 130
Bird Island, MN 55310
Phone (320) 365-3371 Fax (320) 365-4611
birdislandcity@mchsi.com

November 13, 2023

Cathy McLeer, State Director
AARP Minnesota State Office
1919 University Avenue, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55104

Dear Ms. McLeer:

On behalf of the City of Bird Island, I am pleased to offer this letter of our ongoing commitment to creating an age-friendly environment. We are excited to join AARP's Age Friendly Communities network. Bird Island is committed to becoming a livable community to promote health and to contribute to the well-being of citizens in all stages of life.

We have worked with the Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging to develop a Community Leadership Team and to complete a community survey using the AARP's Eight Domains of Livability to assist Bird Island in becoming a more age-friendly community. We have and will utilize the Leadership Team and the survey results to promote information on local resources, increase opportunities for social participation and inclusion, and to support the ability of older people to age in place through community support and services.

As a participant in the AARP Age Friendly Community process, it is the intent of the City of Bird Island to:

- Pursue the active engagement of older adults in the planning process through outreach and inclusion by bringing events to where older people live and play,
- Pursue outreach through churches, civic organizations and providers of services,
- Establish a plan of action that responds to need identified by our community,
- Measure our activities to determine whether we are meeting our goals, and
- Keep the public, especially older adults in our area, informed.

We look forward to working with AARP Minnesota staff and volunteers to make our city a place where we can all age with dignity.

Sincerely,



Mayor Julie Sander

C: Jay Haapala, AARP Minnesota
Associate State Director – Community Engagement