

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 (“ADMINISTRATION”), ARTICLE 36 (“AGING IN PLACE”), SECTION 2-36-1 (“ESTABLISHMENT; COMPOSITION; DEFINITION”) AND SECTION 2-36-2 (“DUTIES”) OF THE OAK PARK VILLAGE CODE

WHEREAS, since 1900, we have added more longevity to our species than all of previous civilization; and

WHEREAS, this demographic shift is bringing about significant challenges for all aspects of life, for the workplace, for our healthcare system, and for the Village of Oak Park (the “Village”) as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the term ‘aging in communities’ refers, in part, to a conscious, coordinated, community-wide effort to respectfully address the evolving needs and interests of all of us; and

WHEREAS, aging in communities are a key component of efforts to address the needs and interests of residents of all ages throughout our lifespans and health spans; and

WHEREAS, an aging in communities approach involves older people as key actors in equitably addressing the unfolding realities of our changing population; and

WHEREAS, an aging in communities’ approach can help all Village residents to be heard, which is an important element for older people and younger people to feel valued and included in the life of our Village; and

WHEREAS, aging in communities’ planning is woven into the social fabric of our Village as well as the physical design; and

WHEREAS, people of all ages desire to participate in social life, to actively contribute to society, and to continue learning throughout life; and

WHEREAS, an essential aspect to aging well in communities is to highlight, explain, and work to diminish the unconscious bias of ageism, both systemic and internalized; and

WHEREAS, aging in communities use a broad, community-wide lens to identify not just a set of plans, programs, procedures, and services but also an inclusive awareness and approach that facilitates livability for everyone; and

WHEREAS, an aging in communities’ approach can assist our continuing efforts to foster a convivial community for everyone; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above, the Village Board has determined to amend Chapter 2 (“Administration”), Article 36 (“Aging in Place Commission”), Section 2-36-1 (“Establishment;”

Composition; Definition”) and Section 2-36-2 (“Duties”) of the Oak Park Village Code as set forth herein based upon the recommendation of the Aging in Place Commission.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois, in the exercise of their home rule powers, as follows:

Section 1. Recitals Incorporated. The above recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth.

Section 2. Village Code Amended. Chapter 2 (“Administration”), Article 36 (“Aging in Place Commission”), Section 2-36-1 (“Establishment; Composition; Definition”), Section 2-36-2 (“Duties”) of the Oak Park Village Code are amended by deleting the overstricken language and adding the underlined language as follows:

2-36-1: ESTABLISHMENT; COMPOSITION; DEFINITION:

A. Establishment: There is hereby established an Aging in ~~Place~~ Communities Commission to consist of a Chairperson and six (6) members.

B. Composition: The members and Chairperson shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the Village Board. Members shall initially be appointed as follows: two (2) members for one year, two (2) members for two (2) years, and a Chairperson and two (2) members for three (3) years. Thereafter, the Chairperson and all members shall be appointed for three (3) year terms. Commission members shall be residents of the Village ~~who are fifty five (55) years of age or older or who represent organizations which provide services to seniors in the Village. Such organization representatives may be non-residents of the Village, a majority of which shall be fifty-five (55) years of age or older.~~

C. Definition: For purposes of this article, a ~~“senior”~~ “older person” shall be defined as any person who is fifty-five (55) years of age or over.

2-36-2: DUTIES:

A. The commission shall have the following duties:

1. Advise the Village Board in its efforts to ~~facilitate full participation in community activities by its senior residents and to bring persons over the age of fifty five (55) into the mainstream of Oak Park life by recognizing policies which support aging in place as highly desirable~~ foster a respectful, supportive, and livable community for all Village residents.

2. Recommend to the Village Board policies, ~~to promote aging in place~~ programs, and activities that promote positive age beliefs and raise awareness of ageism.

3. Cooperate with and provide support to other Village commissions, committees, task forces, and departments in their efforts to facilitate and promote aging in ~~place~~ communities.

4. Provide advice to any resident or entity within the Village which or who seeks assistance from the commission on how to ~~better serve the needs of seniors~~ promote aging in communities.

5. Work with the Village Manager or the Manager's designee to establish seminars and workshops that promote public awareness of aging in ~~place~~ communities, raise awareness of ageism, and promote positive age beliefs.

6. Establish and carry out a program to recognize excellence in promoting aging in communities and performing advocacy for older persons within the Village.

B. The Village Manager or the Manager's designee shall provide for such staff assistance as the commission may need to carry out its duties.

Section 2. Severability and Repeal of Inconsistent Ordinances. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance. All ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its approval, passage and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 5th day of September, 2023, pursuant to a roll call vote at follows:

| Voting | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| President Scaman | | | | |
| Trustee Buchanan | | | | |
| Trustee Enyia | | | | |
| Trustee Parakkat | | | | |
| Trustee Robinson | | | | |
| Trustee Straw | | | | |
| Trustee Wesley | | | | |

APPROVED this 5th day of September, 2023.

Vicki Scaman, Village President

ATTEST

Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk

Published in pamphlet form this 5th day of September, 2023.

Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk