

Minutes
Age Friendly Community Committee
Town Manager's Office
May 30, 2019
3:00pm

Attendance:

Committee

Cody McEwen (Chair), Louis Pelletier, John Davis (Town Manager), Tom Malcolm (Fire Chief), Jane Danforth (Thrive Penobscot/MRH).

Meeting called to order by Chair McEwen at 3:05pm.

I. Review introductory information provided by the Age Friendly Communities organization.

The committee reviewed the documents and certificate that were sent to us from completing the Age Friendly application process.

II. Determine initial action goals of the committee based on the completed application/work materials and identify organizations or individuals that can compliment specific committee goals.

Jane let the committee know that she has made contact with Patricia Oh. She is our Age-Friendly Consultant with AARP Maine. She is going to assist us in guiding through our Action Plan process. We have two years to complete an action plan for how we are going to achieve Age-Friendly goals and projects in our community. We are currently waiting on an email from Patricia with the action plan template. She then stated that we have to at least submit a yearly 'Bragging Point' each year that they can share with other age-friendly communities. They also would like a picture that capture something we've done in the community to make us more "age-friendly".

The committee prioritized a list based on the 'Domains of Livability' based on the work materials. Our priority list with action goals are as follows:

1. Transportation

-There is an overall lack of transportation options in the area. The committee plans to couple efforts with Thrive Penobscot's transportation study and see where we fit in that process. It is a major focus area for the committee.

2. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

-Need to improve walkability and access.
-More benches along the downtown and public areas.
-Need Code Enforcement Involvement to determine what is out of code or what codes need to be implemented to improve conditions. Additional focus on ADA monitoring and compliance.

3. Housing

- Assessment of overall housing (single family homes, rentals, apartments and complexes.)

- Code Enforcement involvement to identify and track sub standard housing. Additional focus on the elderly and their current options as well as rental units.

- Provide education sheets that let new owners know what is required to keep housing maintained. 'Snapshot of Standards'.

4. Community Support and Health Services

- Design and implement disaster preparedness/community emergency action plan.

5. Communication/Information

- Research and implement mailing notices for new community programs, general information, big wins and small wins, municipal and committee updates. We have a good portion of our community that does not have access to the internet or chooses not to buy the paper.

- Potential grant funding through the AARP to help offset costs?

6. Social Participation/Respect and Social Inclusion/Civic Participation and Employment

- Identify youth opportunities/needs. What do kids want to do?

- Assess current opportunities for community inclusion.

- Can we provide seating or shading at outdoor community events?

Jane addressed the committee that she will be attending the AARP Rural Livability Workshop that will be held in Portland, Maine later this June. This is a great opportunity as the National Conference does not usually get this far North.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.