

Agenda
Age Friendly Community Committee
Town Manager's Office
September 6th, 2019
3:00pm

Attendance:

Committee

Cody McEwen (Chair), Gilda Stratton, John Davis (Town Manager), Tom Malcolm (Fire Chief), Jane Danforth (Thrive Penobscot/MRH), Matt DeLaney (Millinocket Memorial Library), Keri York.

Meeting called to order by Chair McEwen at 3:00pm.

I. Review of previous meetings minutes.

No changes.

II. Introduce new committee members and discussion of starting a volunteer assistance program.

Keri York and Matt DeLaney have joined the committee in the interest of supporting volunteer programs in the community.

Keri contacted Chair McEwen in July concerned of the lack of assistance for the elderly or in need that could not keep up with the lawn maintenance ordinances. She feels that we should organize a volunteer team to be able to assist those who are unable to not only keep up with their lawn but with other household/yard tasks.

It was suggested that those in need may not be seeking help in fear that it will be at a cost.

Matt DeLaney introduced the library's partnership with Thrive Penobscot. The Millinocket Memorial Library and Thrive Penobscot are working together to apply for grant funding to help launch a volunteer transportation program.

The library and Thrive Penobscot have already conducted a Transportation study and have data to move the process along. The request is contingent on being able to use the committee as a platform to conduct the transportation program.

The committee unanimously decided that both of these requests fall under the committee's Age Friendly goals.

Discussion continued on searching for volunteer resources.

Keri informed the committee that she would get in touch with Nancy at Stearns Assisted Living and Marie Dunstan with her church group of volunteers to see about interest in being

added to a database of volunteers. They currently have around 20 participants who have done several different maintenance projects throughout the community. Cody agreed to check with administration at the school system to see how the committee could track available student volunteer hours and what process would need to be formed to request student volunteers. Students have to have at least 30 hours of volunteer hours in the community as a graduation requirement. Cody asked the committee to check with any other networks that committee members may have to start tracking an available volunteer pool.

The committee will have to develop a way to monitor volunteers such as background checks to make the process legal.

III. Continue discussion of Action Goals and determine next steps.

The committee determined that both a Volunteer Assistance Program and a Volunteer Transportation Program are two main goals the committee can focus on. These pair well with the committee's domains of livability present in our Age Friendly Community application and our action goals.

Jane reminded of an opportunity to have Patricia Oh, our AARP Age Friendly Consultant come and meet with the committee. She presented potential dates that Patricia was available. Due to committee time constraints Cody agreed to consult with Jane out of session to try and schedule a date for the committee.

Cody requested a committee time and date change going forward.

The next Age Friendly Committee meeting is set for Friday, September 20th at 4:00pm in the Manager's office.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.