

Minutes
Age Friendly Community Committee
Committee Room
December 17th, 2019
4:45pm

Attendance:

Committee

Cody McEwen (Chair), Gilda Stratton, Louis Pelletier, Jane Danforth (Thrive Penobscot/MRH), Tom Malcolm (Fire Chief), Robin Stevens (Thrive Penobscot/MRH), Samantha Cote (Designlab)

Meeting called to order by Chair McEwen at 4:45pm.

I. Review of previous meetings minutes.

No changes.

II. Call with American Red Cross Representative, Paula Coyle.

Paula called in on Cody's phone and thanked the committee for her opportunity to speak. A majority of the call was limited to a few notes due to interference during the call.

- The American Red Cross is always looking for volunteers for its various programs.
- Paula noted there are currently no blood drives scheduled for Millinocket.
- Tom said he can check in to see if the town would be able to host a drive and would get back to the committee. He will also check in to the school as they usually hosted regular blood drives.
- Tom let the committee know that the town currently provides fire and fall prevention to the community as well as the annual smoke detector program in the Fall.
- Reference attach service list from Paula.

III. Update on Transportation Program grant.

Jane informed that the invitation to apply was due and submitted today. She also noted the following points:

- Marsha Larken is the Director of Mobility services at Penquis for the Lynx transportation service and has offered to be on the advisory board that will cover the Katahdin region.
- This will be a great contact for Penquis and further committee support.
- The Town of Newport has subsidized rides for general transportation. How could we do a pilot test for Millinocket? Currently the lynx service needs to make a quota and cannot run routes on an empty bus. We would need to strategize a route that could meet the service needs. Education would need to be a huge component.

Tom suggested that the bank and credit union, health appointments, and the grocery store are hotspots. The Bangor shuttle is a good example. (BAT Bus) Also stops in neighboring

communities in their region such as Orono.

The committee discussed searching for a local shuttle to be on the advisory board as well.

IV. Review proposed "Age-Friendly Millinocket: A community for all ages" logos.

Sam provided the group with the designs and recapped her email explaining the various design components that captured the committees initial request. See attached logos and email.

The committee discussed what components were liked and what could be changed. Sam said she would resign the logo capturing the house component and using the text present from the top left design. She would incorporate two colors the yellow behind the mountain and a blue mountain.

Sam will provide an updated logo for final review at the next meeting.

V. Review network of volunteers.

The committee reviewed and added to confirmed and pending contacts.

Eastern Agency Area on Aging - Nancy Grant - confirmed
Stearns Jr/Sr High School - Main Office/Guidance - confirmed
Nazarene Church Volunteer Group - Marie Dunstan/Sherry Kowalski - confirmed
Local AARP - pending
Red Knights - Wayne Archie - pending
Masons - Jim Lundstrum - pending
Sons of the American Legion Riders - Rick Cyr Jr. - pending
KFI - Gail Fanjoy - confirmed
Living Innovations - pending
Creative Options - Betty Goody - pending

Cody will create a spreadsheet to track pending and confirmed moving forward. This can be used on service mailings as contacts for those seeking assistance, and could be future contacts as we build other age friendly programs.

VI. Lifelong Communities Mini-Grant Program

Jane introduced the Lifelong Communities Mini-Grant Program and how well the opportunity matches with what the committee is trying to accomplish.

"The Lifelong Communities Mini-Grant Program supports efforts to make communities more supportive of older people's health, well-being, and ability to age in the community. This includes community planning, and the development and implementation of programs that will increase opportunities for people over 60 to stay in their communities as they age.

Any community that considers themselves focused on aging in community may apply, as well as those that are part of: "AARP's Network of Age Friendly Communities," the national

Village to Village Network, "Communities for All Ages," and "Livable Communities." Dementia Friendly Community initiatives may also apply (see www.dfamerica.org for information and resources)."

https://www.maineef.org/apply-for-a-grant/available-grants-deadlines/lifelong-communities/?fbclid=IwAR0ZIIkYuVDEtAYoA-z4J05vYHEvk3wATqpoqRVifBd3_pro8-MV3eWwXY

The application is due January 15th and has a maximum grant size of \$2,500. This grant could be used as a start for the transportation program. If we could subsidize rides for a minimal amount to aid the pilot program, that would be a huge first step.

Cody will research any requirements for the municipality to host the grant and will share with the committee language we can use to apply. Jane will assist in reviewing and adding language.

The next Age Friendly Committee meeting is set for Tuesday, January 14th at 4:45pm at the Millinocket Memorial Library.

Meeting adjourned at 5:57pm.