

Minutes
Age Friendly Millinocket
Millinocket Memorial Library
February 18th, 2020
4:45pm

Attendance:

Cody McEwen (Chair), Gilda Stratton, Louis Pelletier, Jane Danforth (Thrive Penobscot/MRH), Tom Malcolm (Fire Chief), Robin Stevens (Thrive Penobscot/MRH), Randy Jackson, Steve Golieb, Matt DeLaney (Millinocket Memorial Library)

Meeting called to order by Chair McEwen at 5:00pm.

I. Review of previous meetings minutes.

No changes.

II. Zoom conference call with Patricia Oh.

- Patricia would like to know how she can support Age Friendly Millinocket this year. She offered to make 100 'Age-Friendly Millinocket' stickers free of charge. Cody will send Patricia the official logo that Sam created for the committee.
- Patricia informed us that a fellow, Mary Beth Pauquette sponsored by the Maine Charity fund will be providing support to Age Friendly Millinocket. She will be able to work alongside the committee to provide networking and implementation assistance with the program. She is covered by a \$3000 stipend through the fellows program at no cost to the committee.
- This support will integrate well with the transportation program, networking with Thrive Penobscot, Penquis, and other programs. The start date is set for September.
- Jane asked if we could have a start date earlier given our current program and grant timelines. Patricia mentioned she would be on a call and would try to get us assistance by June if possible.
- Check with Penquis to aid housing assessment. We can use that data to round out that area of our action plan.

III. Review AARP Community Challenge Grant 2020 opportunity.

- Jane introduced the AARP Community Challenge grant opportunity. The grant program application is due April 1st. The program timeline is from July 15 to Nov 9.
- Traffic calming measures have been discussed as a need from the committee.
- Patricia added that this is not a complex application, but suggests we keep the grant at a \$5,000 maximum. Preference is given to communities that are designated Age-Friendly. Also that traffic calming measures is an acceptable grant project which AARP likes and has funded for other communities in the past.
- Patricia mentioned that sometimes if a project is good enough, the main office may do a 50/50 split and partial fund a project.

- Jane suggested we connect Mike Smith and Josh Firmin to highlight the Bike Maine event this fall with this grant opportunity. They are having a April 10th walkability event that we should get involved with.
- Randy suggests we contact the Maine DOT and get a planner here to assist with the project.
- Tom and Jane plan to be on the next Age Friendly call which involves the DOT.
- Randy suggests we also focus on the snowmobile trail running up Central St. although beneficial is a present hazard.
- The committee discusses safety concerns regarding the speed of sleds traveling up Central St. There is no barrier that separates the sleds from automobile traffic. A multi-use lane for Central St. was discussed that could incorporate a walking path in the summer and snowmobile trail in the winter.
- The committee discusses working with the DOT to gather a broad scope of plans to improve safety conditions for Maine St. and Central St. including pedestrian crossings along the upper portion of Central St such as at the bottom of the hill, removable DOT road speed bumps for festivals and schools, and improved signage. We can have a broad scope of plans and allocate grant funding to smaller projects within our plans as acquired.
- Tom mentions being able to supply high visibility bicycle helmets that may be in storage leftover from the helmet program.

IV. Update on Transportation program and Lifelong Communities Mini-Grant program.

- A transportation navigator is pending. Interviews are underway and Matt will have an official update for the next meeting.
- The navigator will be essential in identifying gaps in current programs. There is no collective data to track need.
- Fire/EMS assists when possible. Lost pickups for appointments are still a concern. When a patient has to get a ride, who is responsible for reimbursement when they can not pay for a ride. Program needs work to be effective. We need to implement getting the 'lost pickup call number' out to providers.
- Lifelong Communities Mini-Grant grant award notification pending.

V. Review network of volunteers.

The committee reviewed and updated the volunteer list.

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 - Carl Akeley - 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

The next Age Friendly Millinocket meeting is set for March 17th at 4:45pm at the Millinocket Memorial Library.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.