



# Age Friendly Millinocket

Meeting Minutes  
December 20, 2022

3:00pm/ Millinocket Memorial Library

Recording available on Town of Millinocket YouTube channel

*Purpose Statement: The Millinocket Age-Friendly Committee advocates for services, supports and infrastructure that meets the needs of our residents in all stages of life. (Adopted 3.16.22)*

**Meeting Attendees:** Jane Danforth, Age-Friendly Committee Chair; Louis Pelletier, Town Councilor; Tom Malcolm, Millinocket Fire Chief; Jon Cote, Millinocket Assistant Fire Chief; Sarah Jandreau, Age-Friendly AmeriCorps member; Robin Stevens, Age-Friendly Committee; Michelle McInnis, Our Katahdin Community Coordinator; Nicole Brennan, Partnerships & Programs Coordinator; Amber Wheaton, Community Initiatives Director for Town of Millinocket; Brittany Grutter, Grants Coordinator, Thrive Penobscot; Diana Furukawa, Director of Millinocket Memorial Library; Andrew Caruso, Meals on Wheels Supervisor for Penobscot County; Bob Higgins, Millinocket Town Councilor

Approval of meeting minutes from 11/15- *APPROVED NO ADJUSTMENTS*

## Resource Magnet

- Looking for final input on resource magnet phone numbers.
  - Update police non-emergency number by confirming with EMPD Police Chief.
    - Jane will reach out to Chief McDunnah
- 100 magnets will be printed by AARP free of charge for the community to disperse.
- Millinocket resources but can be shared region wide.

## Michaud Trail Signage

- AARP grant of \$550 awarded to use in updating signage along Michaud Trail as a result of the walking audit completed by Barbara Riddle- Dvorak, Lifelong Maine AmeriCorps Program (LMAP) Project Organizer.
- Shared mockup of updated signage which will include additional icons that will showcase the accessibility of the trail ( wheelchair and baby stroller)
- Next step is to share mockup of new signs to the Council for their final approval

## Katahdin Snowdown Feb 19

- Snowdown was established through the AF Committee during COVID and is now a yearly event to showcase recreation for all ages at the start of Winterfest. During Winterfest the warming hut will be staffed thanks to approval of funding from the Millinocket Town Council.
- Robin Stevens to lead this effort as part of Winterfest during Feb vacation. The date will be set for February 19<sup>th</sup>, with no rain/snow date.

- Workgroup meeting set for Thursday, December 29 via zoom for those who are interested in joining to dive further into planning and share ideas.
- AmeriCorps members are invited to host an activity.

### **Sand bucket Program**

- Chief Malcolm shared status of program—32 new buckets for community members in addition to those returned from last season. Buckets donated by Tractor Supply again this year.
- Looking to try new labeling on buckets so that buckets are returned at the end of the season and not thrown away/kept and can be reused next season.
- Flyer will be shared via the Millinocket newsletter through the town email list.

### **Collaboration with Penquis transportation- info and data sharing**

- *Goal:* Increase access & availability of local transportation services.
- Maine Community Foundation grant has been spent down (\$2500), Thrive Penobscot sent additional funding (\$3000) to Penquis to continue the pilot program.
- Riders can call Penquis M-F 8am-5pm to schedule a ride through this program at no cost with a self-declared disability.
- 713 one-way trips completed so far, 290 of these trips were for riders 65+ and the majority of the riders have been women.
- The highest number of trips are for medical reasons and shopping (grocery, etc).
- Benefitting riders of all ages throughout the community.
- 57 different clients from May-September, highest number of riders are from Millinocket.
- High amount of usage considering the low amount of marketing for the program.
- Additional funding will need to be secured if service is to continue at no cost to the rider. The committee felt it was an ongoing need and would be good to
- Drivers are needed for Penquis to continue service and to bring greater flexibility to the program.

### **M-DASH**

- M-DASH presentation was made to the Town Council on December 8
- Will share next M-DASH meeting once the date is decided
- Next steps will be to create action plan based on our agreement with the Maine Council on Aging.
- M-DASH Action plan will be different from the AF Action plan in that it will be focused on resource navigation for community members and helped identify those in our community who need this assistance the most. (ex. Low income older women living alone in aging housing stock) We have always known that our community needs assistance in these ways—we did not know exactly where to start. The M-DASH dashboard gives us that answer to inform primary next steps and the type of marketing that needs to happen.

Next meeting date- January 17, 2023, at 3pm @ MML and via zoom. Adjourn