Age Friendly
Millinocket
A COMMUNITY FOR ALL AGES

Meeting Minutes
Sept 15, 2026
2:00pm
Millinocket Memorial Library/ Zoom

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)*

Attendance: **Louie Pelletier**, AF Co-chair & Town Councilor; **John Marden**, Help Desk, Millinocket Memorial Library; **Anna Jensen,** Director MML; **Tracey Perry**, Katahdin Collaborative, Initiatives Director and **Grace Brown**, Community Initiatives Director, Town of Millinocket(Zoom) and **Tom Malcolm**, Code Enforcement Officer and Health and Life Safety Officer, Town of Millinocket(Zoom).

1) July 14 meeting minutes approved by those present

2) Handy Helper Volunteer Recruitment update- John shared that he, Grace and Jane have been meeting.
    - There is a place on the town website where people can get information and sign up.

      https://millinocket.org/help/

    - Currently have 7 volunteers in various stage of acceptance.
        - Grace reported that both online applications and paper applications have been submitted
    - Looking at training materials from other Handy Helper Programs in the State to see what we want to use for our program.
    - Announcements regarding volunteer recruitment have been made through the town newsletter, in an article in the Lincoln News, and on the radio.

3) Member Updates
   Katahdin Collaborative
    - Tracey mentioned the recent Sip (Coffee) and Sweep, held before Trails End Festival to spruce up the lower end of Penobscot Ave had a nice turnout of volunteers. Representation from the Town including Public Works, folks from the Northern Forest Center, and others participated.
    - Going to try to do another one downtown soon with Coco… to keep the momentum going.
    - Tracey shared that she was retiring- so will be leaving the position. She will be missed!

Millinocket Memorial Library

- John shared that the library along with other organizations are working on the 3rd Annual Emergency Fuel Campaign called Katahdin Strong (Keeping our Families Warm).
    - Last year 183 households were served in the tri-town area. Looking to expand up to Patten and Sherman. So, looking to raise more money for that. Have had considerable donations already this year. Have more than $16K now.
- Coffee and Chat is on-going as well as Chair Yoga. More than 3000 people came into the library in August. Had 27 Children's programs in August.
- The Helpdesk continues to operate. Doing a lot of tech help with people of all ages.
- The library is getting an AED- working with the American Heart Association as they are paying for it. Tom suggested they get one like the Town has so when parts need to be ordered, they could do it together at a cost savings.

4) AARP Annual Meeting in Bath is being held on October 6th from 10am-1:30pm
    - To date Jane, Louis (and his wife Lynn) and Tom have plans to attend to receive the 2026 Beacon Community Award on behalf of the AF Committee.
        - We can take a group (up to 6 of us) – so please speak up (tell Jane) if you'd like to attend!
5) Other:
    - Tracey-The Collaborative is trying to get the Food Council off the ground. Working closely with the library for regional collaboration around addressing food insecurity by bringing together all involved in community gardens and food shelves, etc.
    - Grace – The Community Garden is looking good! Anna told people to help themselves to lettuce. It is growing tall! And Grace offered some beans from her box that were doing well. Grace reported that some maintenance needs to be done with one or more of the beds. Some boxes are collapsing and will need work done before next season. Overall, the garden flourished this year!
    - Tom mentioned that he spoke with the new fire chief and he doesn't do any of the fire prevention programs- so Tom offered to get the smoke detectors and grab bars for use with the Handy Helper program. He would put them in when requested.
    - Tom also mentioned he talked with Jane about starting a Knox Box loaner program (a box that goes on the door and has a master key) for use with elderly that have a hard time to get around – to put on their house/ apartment – for the fire department to use if they needed to gain entry, if something happened. He'd like 4 or 5 of them- they cost around $250 a piece. Tom has looked at other communities that have this program. Will contact Patricia Oh to see if any funds are available through AARP programs.

6) Next meeting date(s)
    - October 13th was chosen (but later changed to the 20th to fit Jane's schedule)
    - November 10th was deemed a good date!