



The Hallowell Age-Friendly Committee is working to make our city inviting, exciting, and accessible for people of all ages and abilities. All are welcome here.

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Hallowell Age-Friendly Committee
Notes to Meeting November 1, 2018
9:10AM – 10:40AM Hallowell Fire Department Training Room

Next Meeting November 21, 2018 9:00-10:00AM – Tentatively in the new fire station training room. Diane will check for availability. This meeting will continue to focus on our action plan.

Attending: John Basty, Mike Frett, Lyn Gray, Stephanie Hanner, Bob McIntire, Jackee Marten, Diane Polky, Maggie Warren, MaryAnn Zagaria.

1. Notes to October 10, 2018 meeting were approved by consensus.
2. Review each of the eight domains of livability action plan

A. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Mike and Bob reviewed work to date. Ask what the goal for the Domain was. The reply, “Accessibility for city parks and facilities. The identified action step was to conduct walk audits. Diane suggested prioritizing the location to be visited. She has data regarding usage. She keeps all requests for use. She identified important partners: Friends of Vaughan Field, Conservation Committee
Maggie Warren, as Cross Guard Fairy, met a group of Kent’s Hill students and their teacher doing a walking tour and assessment of Hallowell. Maggie gave the teacher a card and hopes to be in touch with her to find out the results of the students’ work.

- Action steps

1. Walk Audit

Who will be responsible for completing this action step? Various individuals and groups
i.e. Cotton Mill residents for Rail Trail Need to conduct Walk Audit Training

B. Transportation

MaryAnn reviewed data from survey and focus groups. Transportation to many residents miss medical appointments due to transportation issues. She described some of the models and programs from other communities, prescheduled monthly and weekly trips and neighbor-driving-neighbors. She noted one community found enthusiasm from volunteer drivers at the initiation of the program, while requests for transportation took time to build.

Jackie says that KVCAP drives often show up late or don’t show up.

We need to identify all the providers. Note - Augusta Resource directory has partial, outdated listing.

Mike suggested the name “Getting There Together” for our possible program.

John said that Andrea LaPointe is an Uber driver.

MaryAnn said that transportation should also be used for increased socialization among older adults, which is a plus in developing a volunteer driving program. She also noted that listening session participants suggested a central bus stop in addition to the Cotton Mill.

Action Step – Identify other providers.

C. Housing – Mike and Bob – Just received AARP Livability Housing Workbook.

D. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Communication and Information – Maggie and Lyn.

Communication and Information

We have begun our research on how other low-income housing for seniors/disabled handle this domain. Lyn and I visited Arch Beta Apartments to talk to Liz Harper, Resident Services Coordinator. She told us about their monthly newsletter and the One-Call telephone system that calls many people with the same message. They have a bulletin board controlled by management and another for residents to use.

Social Participation

We have communicated with Laurie and Lee at Cotton Mill Apartments to arrange for an informal Focus Group/Chat in November about aging in Hallowell. Our questions will be based on the AARP Focus Group questions. We suggest a Flipchart approach to questions and answers to keep it light and friendly.

Respect and Social Inclusion

A group from the Cotton Mill met with a professional hardscape business owner (brick expert), and we “toured” the sidewalk outside Cotton Mill because residents do not like the new sidewalk, especially those with canes, walkers, and wheelchairs. The report is available. Our efforts were not rewarded with any changes, BUT the six residents now realize that complaining amongst themselves is not going to change anything. They must get out, attend City Council meetings, call City Hall (Nate referred them to Maggie), and generally become a force to be reckoned with. Nate Rudy is a great advocate.

Lyn Gray

Maggie Warren

Jackie Martin (Consultant)

Mike noted that the Highway Committee has received a report has been received from DOT regarding the sidewalks. It hasn't been reviewed by the Committee.

E. Civic Participation and Employment – No team – Diane ask if the Age-Friendly Committee would champion the sand bucket program. She said there is a donor that offered more buckets. She will contact the Fire Department to coordinate.

F. Community Support and Services - No team

3. AFC table at Hall-Dale Elementary on Nov. 6 at the Polls. Lyn has as card table. Bob will bring a chair. Maggie is on from 8-10AM. Mike from 10-11. Lyn from 11AM-1PM. MaryAnn 2-3PM. Bob will pick up. Maggie is coordinating. 441-8658 talk/text.

4. Lifelong Communities Mini-Grant Program - Ask Age-Friendly Call for Thursday, November 08 from 11AM-12PM. Laura Lee will talk about a new grant opportunity offered by the Maine Community Foundation. The mini-grants (up to \$2500) can be used for Age-Friendly planning or implementation. Bob will forward Patricia Oh's email with description and call-in information.