

Hallowell Age-Friendly Committee

Notes to Meeting February 14, 2018 – Next meeting Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 9:00 AM in the City Council Chambers

Attending: Mike Frett, Lyn Gray, Stephanie Hanner, Bob McIntire, Diane Polky, Maggie Warren, Mary Ann Zagaria

The charge for this meeting was to review the results of the Hallowell Age-Friendly Community Survey. Determine needs are of greatest priority in your view? Think about the specific areas of need of greatest interest to you.

Gather information about services presently being provided that might address the needs identified in the survey. For example, 57 % of the survey respondents whether information about services and resources to support aging in place is easy to find. What information is presently available? In what format? What additional information might be helpful?

Mike noted that Sara had suggested that our planning process should begin with an Asset Inventory. The process is covered on pages 24-26 in the *Roadmap to Livability* publication.

We're beginning that process. Diane distributed a copy of Readfield's Handy Helper brochure as an example of how that town is promoting basic "help" services. The Masons have organized that program. Mike brought up the issue of liability when working as a volunteer in someone's home.

Maggie talked about the effort in her neighborhood to identify broken streetlights undertaken by Dr. Shigeru Yokoyama. He and others simply tied flagger's tape around the telephone pole with darkened lights, noted the pole numbers and reported the outages to CMP. Mike volunteered to visit CMP's headquarters and get information on how to report lights that are out. He will also take a look at a City map and maybe break it into sections that different volunteers could canvas.

Mary Ann drew attention to the Walkability Survey form that Sara Grant provided by email following the January meeting as being a good model for gathering information.

Since our meeting Sara also provided instructions for Community Asset Mapping and forms for Community Capacity Inventory of Groups, Organizations and Institutions as well as Infrastructure and Public Spaces. These also appear in Appendix 5 of *The Maine Guide Building Livable, Age-Friendly Communities*. (copy attached). Patricia Oh recommended our using *The Maine Guide* rather than the *Roadmap to Livability* as the Guide provides a strategies for addressing all eight domains of livability. She also provided some examples of Asset Inventories and web links to resources.

AARP Livable Communities website <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/>

Join the AARP Livable Communities newsletter [AARP.org/livable-subscribe](https://www.aarp.org/livable-subscribe)

Committee members discussed the importance of developing a comprehensive communications plan. Mike noted we have to determine “what we want to say and who do we want to say it to.”

The group started talking “messaging.”

Mary Ann mentioned Appendix 1 in *Roadmap to Livability* the Key Realities that drive our work.

- People want to stay in their homes.
- Well designed, livable communities promote health, sustain economic growth and make for happier, healthier residents of every age, in all life stages.
- Different generations seek similar features, supports and services in their communities.
- Since livability work happens locally, local leaders are best positioned to turn their communities into great places for people of all ages.

Lyn wondered if Age-friendly = old.

Maggie likes “livability.”

Lyn started listing Communication Assets. There are many opportunities like the Cohen Center.

Mary Ann drew attention to the survey findings that many people get their information from the newspaper and bulletin boards at super markets. Lyn will check on the bulletin board contacts at Shaws. Mike will check the Hannaford on Leighton Road. Bob will check the east side Hannaford location. Other locations mentioned for distributing information included the Cotton Mill, doctors’ offices, the library and the like.

Lyn reminded us that we need to update information regardless of where it is posted and keep it current.

Maggie thought it was important to consider various message delivery options.

The discussion then turned to other assets. Mary Ann wondered about housing and services for middle aged-middle income adults. There are some affordable housing options.

Mike addressed the need for recruiting volunteers regardless of the projects. His example was creating a lending tool box where people could donate tools for others to use. Someone would have to organize the project and develop policies and procedures.

Diane, Mary Ann and others talked about a logo for the work. Bob passed around examples of Augusta’s logo and how it was used in newspaper articles. Maggie

mentioned using the weather vane on the fire department. Bob put together a couple of examples



The committee discussed having a community listening session to introduce the community to our work to date and gathering information and observations from interested individuals. Diane and Bob looked at the City Hall calendar and suggest Saturday morning April 28th or May 5th for the community forum/listening session. Sara Grant, who was unable to attend the meeting, reported that Book 2 in the Roadmap to Livability collection will be published March 7th. We should be able to download the publication before our next meeting.

The Augusta Age-Friendly Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month, March 6th coming up, at 5:30PM in the Fort Western Room on the 1st floor of the August City Center. For information contact Duane Scott at 623-2092, Sara Grant at 441-4668 or Bob MacDougall at 877-1921

Here is an interesting idea! A town in Iceland uses 3-D paintings at cross walks to slow down drivers. <https://www.boredpanda.com/3d-pedestrian-crossing-island/>

The charge for the next meeting is for members to begin to identify Hallowell's Age-Friendly Assets and details if available.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 14 at 9:00AM.