



*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 Minutes  
January 16, 2019

Next meeting February 13, 2019 **8:30AM** – 10:00AM Hallowell Fire Station Coos Lane

Attending: John Basty, Mike Frett, Lyn Gray, Bob McIntire, Cindy Sullivan, Maggie Warren, Patrick Wynne, Mary Ann Zagaria.

Items – (Estimated Time)

1. Additions to the Agenda – John – Vision Hallowell
2. Notes to December 12, 2018 meeting approved by consensus
3. Early New Business – Welcome to Patrick, the new Councilor from Ward 5 and chair of the Council Wellness Committee!

#### Old Business/Recent Action

4. Maggie wondered if our work was valid and as she was told that we weren't really a recognized committee. Mike explained that the Age-Friendly Committee is a subcommittee of the Council's Wellness Committee. The only standing committees are those identified in the City Charter; Conservation and Recreation. The Mayor may create committees and subcommittees with the approval of council.
5. Highway Committee Second Street Cross Walk Discussion – Mike reported that the Maine Department of Transportation is being asked to prepare an estimate to upgrade the eastern cross walk on Winthrop Street at the intersection of Second Street. The work would include constructing an accessible sidewalk on the west side of City Hall as well.
6. Cotton Mill focus group – Maggie and Lyn briefly reviewed the focus group process and resulting comments. Maggie said there was some subsequent discussion about residents publishing a Cotton Mill Newsletter.
7. Partners Progress – Bob talked about the importance of formalizing relationships between the committee and our Partners. The Partnership form should be revised to allow for a signature. The idea is to identify how we can support the Partner's mission and how each organization will determine success.
8. Lifelong Communities Mini-Grant Program proposal – Bob reviewed the proposal submitted by Vision Hallowell on behalf of the Hallowell Age-Friendly

Committee. The proposal is for the design and publication of the first issue of a community newsletter. Awards will; be announced mid-March.

9. Fix-It Cafe – Fern Stearns 1<sup>st</sup> session today– 5:00 – The first session was canceled due to weather. The first session is scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup>.

10. Age-Friendly Plan – Requirements Review and Domain discussion  
Partner Agreements – The expectation is that the Committee will submit a plan by the end of the year.

Additions or revisions to each of the eight domains of livability action plan

- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings – Mike and Bob – Walkability Survey – The City Council has approved the surveying of The Res outdoor recreation area. Mike spoke with Rosemary Presnar, the Hallowell Conservation Commission chair, about how our committees can work together.

Mary Ann asked who takes care of the dog park. She said that was a real plus when they were looking at communities. The area recently has not been kept clean (dog waste left where the trash can formerly stood) and could pose a health hazard. Mike said that Public Works was picking up the trash cans there and at the waterfront, but they have been removed. Committee members felt this sent a less than welcoming message to visitors and citizens alike. Perhaps this should be taken up with Council.

- Transportation – Bob and MaryAnn – The Kennebec Explorer has canceled the run from the Cotton Mill to the Cohen Center as of the end of January citing low ridership. One Cotton Mill resident noted that if you took the bus to the Cohen Center you had to stay 5 hours. Mary Ann said that the last mile is the greatest challenge, one issue that surfaced at the DOT meeting. The group discussed holding a transportation roundtable.

John volunteered to contact Augusta and Gardiner to find out who the transportation directors are and invite them as well as contacts for the taxi companies.

Note – Cindy and Bob reserved the room downstairs at the Cohen Center for 10:15-12PM Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Bob spoke with Sara Grant who said Augusta Age-Friendly will be a forum co-sponsor. She will also attend in her new role as Spectrum Generations Aging and Disability Resource Program Manager.

Dawn Gordon, the Enrichment Director at Granite Hills, has agreed to join the Age-Friendly Committee and recruit a resident to join her at the March committee meeting and at the transportation forum. Dawn will be out of town for the February meeting, but will be added to the mailing list.

Bob has also contacted the Neighbors Driving Neighbors program based in Mt. Vernon and the Aging in Place Wayne folks.

- Housing - Maggie and Lyn - Cotton Mill Focus Group (See #4)
- Social Participation - Maggie and Lyn
- Respect and Social Inclusion - Maggie and Lyn
- Civic Participation and Employment – Committee
- Communication and Information – Maggie and Lyn
- Community Support and Services – Spectrum Generations – Cindy will work with staff and the Cohen center and others to gather and update information. Stephanie mentioned at an earlier meeting that the hope was there would be funds in a future Spectrum budget to develop a resource web site and update it.

11. John reported that Vision Hallowell has assumed the tasks formerly addressed by the Down with the Crown Committee. Jamie Houghton is the President of Vision Hallowell as well as the Hallowell Area Board of Trade. She is thinking of holding quarterly meetings and creating specific committees for identified projects.

12. Mary Ann said that an organizational chart of committees and their respective areas of interest/responsibility would be helpful, particularly for new residents.

**13. The next Age-Friendly Committee meeting is Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30AM.** Bob will be out of town. Mary Ann agreed to chair the meeting.