



*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 Meeting Minutes - DRAFT  
April 13, 2019 11:00AM – 12:30PM Zoom Conference

Attending: John Bastey, Michael Frett, Lyn Gray, Bree LaCasse, Stephanie Hanner, Kim Kenniston, Bob McIntire, Cindy Sullivan, Maggie Warren, and Patrick Wynne.

A recording of the Zoom meeting can be viewed clicking on this link  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w8nrNy5V\\_gZ5osid2hzq949WpNTWhNWC/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w8nrNy5V_gZ5osid2hzq949WpNTWhNWC/view)

1. Minutes to March 11, 2020 meeting approved by consensus
2. Reports on recent events. See Comprehensive Plan and Heart and Soul.
3. Reports on upcoming events. Activities for the immediate future have been canceled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. Newsletter – A COVID-19 Special edition was published and distributed on April 10, 2019. A note will go out in the next couple of days to the Publishing Partners to gauge interest in and timeliness of the Summer Issue. The deadline was Wednesday.
5. City Comprehensive Plan Update – John reported that the next meeting is April 16th at 6PM via Zoom. John will forward information from the consultant to be sent to committee members. Note: Jeff Levine provided the link from the City Website [https://hallowell.govoffice.com/index.asp?SEC=89888285-E49B-49D4-B5D0-BE17E49DE1D8&DE=027F127C-3EAB-4173-9FEC-E77BA8A80532&Type=B\\_EV](https://hallowell.govoffice.com/index.asp?SEC=89888285-E49B-49D4-B5D0-BE17E49DE1D8&DE=027F127C-3EAB-4173-9FEC-E77BA8A80532&Type=B_EV) where a link to the Zoom conference can be found along with the meeting agenda and supporting documents.
6. Heart and Soul Hallowell (H&SH) – Karen brought the committee up to date on activities. This evening H&SH will ask the City Council to endorse the efforts so far and pass a resolution of support. This will enable the H&SH committee to include proof of the City's cooperation in any grant applications. The next step is for training sessions which can be done online. When asked about coordination with the comprehensive planning process Karen said the hope is to work with the Comprehensive Planning Committee especially around promoting public hearings.
7. AARP Challenge Grant – Bob reported that the deadline for the challenge grant has been rescheduled until May 15<sup>th</sup>. He met with Chris Buck, the Public Works Director, and a representative from Hammond Lumber to get a

quote purchasing a 24-foot aluminum ramp that will make access to the bulkhead/board walk easier for people with mobility issues. John noted that before his recent knee operation he found it very difficult to make his way down the small hill to the short wooden ramp now in use. Bob will check with Vision Hallowell to see if it would be beneficial to apply through that entity.

8. Age-Friendly Plan –Review – Two parts of the plan were presented to City Council at Monday evening’s meeting; Transportation and Open Spaces and Buildings.

Remaining Plans – Housing, Communication and Information, Community Support and Health Services, and the combined Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion and Civic Participation and Employment.

As we began the discussion of Housing, Bree LaCasse joined the Zoom conference to provide a virtual tour of the renovations of the Central Building into the Central Commons Apartments. She said that in response to the Coronavirus pandemic the crews have installed temporary sinks to facilitate regular hand washing. The workers are maintaining appropriate distance from each other. Painters are working from 5PM until 1AM to stay apart from other workers. The recording of the virtual tour begins at 31:25 of the meeting recording. Click the link [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w8nrNy5V\\_gZ5osid2hzc949WpNTWhNWC/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w8nrNy5V_gZ5osid2hzc949WpNTWhNWC/view) and scroll forward. She said renovations are on schedule to be completed by the end of May. The redevelopment of Central Commons marks the first construction of affordable housing in Hallowell since the opening of the Cotton Mill in 1980.

The committee then discussed issues with housing in the community. The Committee wondered how accessory dwelling units are addressed in the City Code. Mike noted that the city codes and ordinances would likely be reviewed in detail once the comprehensive plan is revised. Our role might be to note the importance of updating the code. He also said that the topic of Air B&B type temporary rentals is also a topic of concern.

John said that he is the owner of a house constructed in 1881. He often need to have work done and wondered if there was a need for a vetted vendor list. Stephanie described the challenges of creating and maintaining that kind of resource. She said that Spectrum Generations has a PDF document of vendors of all ilk. There was discussion about updating the list. When vendors were contacted many wanted to know how they got on the list to begin with. Many listed vendors were no longer in business. The agency has put that project on the back burner until issues of updating can be addressed.

9. Communications – The committee turned to the next planning topic - Communications. We reviewed the survey and focus group findings.

the people in town regardless of their technological acumen. Many people get information through social media. Some who have access to technology choose to not to use social media. There are those who don't have access to technology for whatever reason. *The Champion* was developed to address the need of getting information to all household that receive mail.

Bob will update the Housing and Communications plans to include information discussed today.

No dates were set for meetings other than our next regularly schedule one May 13<sup>th</sup> which may again be done with a Zoom conference.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 12:30.