

Age Friendly Committee Meeting Minutes - April 13, 2023 Minutes

Present: Maggie E., Eric J. Deb C. Marge L. Marianne P. Eric D. Elaine K.

Regrets: Ed Dodge and Steve DeAngelis

Approval of March minutes

Welcome and Introduction:

‘Once again, we are delighted to welcome a new member of the AFC, Marge Livingston. Marge has been a long time summer resident in Readfield and about 10 years ago moved here year round with her husband. She has been an active member of the Blizzard Busters and looks forward to working with the AFC for outreach and winterizing programs.

Deb C. also expressed her interest in expanding outreach to housebound residents and perhaps developing a weekly call-in list.

Old Business:

Readfield U:

Maggie presented a summary of the Readfield U activities and participation.

16 classes.

63 people registered for classes – many for multiple classes.

An additional 8-10 simply showed up at the time.

Numbers for each class were:

“Escape from Bunker Hill” with Dale Potter-Clark, 20

“Written in Stone” with Bob Marvinney, 27

“Author Event with Claire Ackroyd”, 15

“Neighbors Driving Neighbors”, Joe Austin 7 – 10

“Encaustic Painting”, Camille Davidson 8

“My Ancestor is Who?”, Amy Gove, 10

“Maine Wildflowers”, Marianne and John Perry, 32

“On a Healing Note” Ellen Bowman, (5 registered, 3 came)

“Climate-Resilient Farming Practices” cancelled because of snow (9 registered)

“A Story to Tell”, Donna McGibney, 5

“Let’s Play Canasta”, Elaine Katz and Marty Hanish, 4

“Iris Paper Folding” Holly Maffei, 13 (many more interested)

“Readfield Union Meeting House and Vestry”, John Perry, 8

“Cathy’s Talk-Song” Ellen Bowman, 2?

“Overview and History of Readfield’s Comprehensive Plan, Eric Dyer, 12

“Kennebec Land Trust, Baldwin Hill cemetery”, KLT, 8

Everyone agreed that this was successful beyond our expectations and hopefully will become an annual March event.

The suggestion was made to solicit feedback from presenters and participants. Maggie will create a 5 question survey to email out to participants.

Finally, the suggestion was made to create a short presentation of the Readfield U activities to the SB sometime in May. Maggie will be working on that as well.

Inspired by the success of this program, Eric J. suggested that AFC attempt a program of activities in the summer/fall as well.

Much of the ensuing discussion centered around surveying all the other town committees to see if there is interest in putting together a calendar of summertime events.

Marianne offered to undertake this outreach, Eric D. suggested that we host an AF activity during Heritage Days.

Kennebec County Regional A-F Meeting:

This will be held on May 4 from 1 -3 at the Chelsea Town Office. Elaine and Deb are planning to attend.

Handy Helper brochure:

Kristin provided the committee with the re-worked document along with the magnetic resource list. All agreed it looks great. The only correction needed was to remove “Do not call” number and add the Kennebec County Sheriff number. Kristin will get approval to print off 200 of each since color copies can be costly.

Senior Café:

Marianne reported that it has been taking place every Tuesday from 9-11. Attendance has been in the range of 8 – 10. Marge has been going and reported on the many presentations thus far – students presenting science projects, Melissa from the library

sharing the opportunities available by signing up to Bangor Library access.. We hope to keep it going in some form, perhaps at the library on Thursday mornings once school is over.

Neighbors Driving Neighbors update:

Deb reported that she was hoping to attend orientation so she can start driving. Elaine reported that NDN is encouraging Readfield to set plans for a Kick Off Event. It will take place at the end of June. Stay tuned for specifics. AFC members may be asked to help with this event.

Comprehensive Plan Update:

Elaine reported that the document is completed and is accessible on the town website. People are encouraged to read the section that describes goals and implementation.

There are still opportunities for feedback before this document is voted on in June.

Fairgrounds Working Group Update:

Elaine reported that this working group has now been elevated to the status of an Ad Hoc Committee that will be more structured. Elaine asked if the AFC would like her to continue representing Age Friendly interests. Elaine has been appointed to continue in this role.

New Business

AFC will be present at the June 13 Election at Kents Hill. The table coverage will be as follows:

8 – 1 Eric J.

1 – 3 Deb and Marianne

3 – 6 Marge

6-8 Elaine

This is a great opportunity to highlight what we do, distribute Handy Helper brochures and resource lists, and publicize the NDN Kick Off Event.

Reminder: We will be meeting with Romaine Wednesday 4/19 at 9 am in the town office to work on the AARP 5 year update.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine

Next meeting May 10, 2023