

AGE FRIENDLY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Approved 04-13-2022

Members: Romaine Turyn (Chair), Marianne Perry, Ann Mitchell, Ed Dodge, Maggie Edmundson, Elaine Katz

Others Attending: Holly Rahmlow, Neighbors Driving Neighbors Co-Directors Misty Beck and Joe Austin, Treasurer Bill Rosenberg, Town Manager Eric Dyer

Romaine called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. at the Town Office.

She began the meeting by introducing new member Elaine Katz, and Holly Rahmlow, who will be helping the committee coordinate volunteers and other tasks. Everyone introduced themselves, and Romaine noted that she has moved out of Readfield and will be ending her participation after the June meeting.

Neighbors Driving Neighbors

At 9:30 three members of Neighbors Driving Neighbors joined the committee and made a presentation about the program. Currently serving residents in Belgrade, Fayette, Mount Vernon, Rome and Vienna, NDN is considering expanding and Readfield has been interested in joining for some time.

The committee learned how NDN works, how volunteers are scheduled and about changes that have been made due to Covid, such as limiting the number of riders and having them sit in the back seat. Finding people who needs rides can be challenging as many people don't want to ask for help. We brainstormed ways to reach them.

We also discussed coordinating our efforts with the Comprehensive Planning Committee, which is surveying residents for what they'd like to see happen in town, including housing needs and services for seniors.

Before NDN can consider adding Readfield to its roster, the committee needs to ascertain how many volunteer drivers we might have available and begin to look for potential users of the service. Holly will be calling a list of people who volunteered to help when the pandemic struck to see if they are still available and willing. She said she will pull together a script and a database this week for the committee to review.

The committee and NDN agreed to meet again. The NDN members will be discussing Readfield's potential addition with the NDN board.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.