

## Age Friendly Committee Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2022

### Members Present:

Ed Dodge, Maggie Edmondson, Elaine Katz, Ann Mitchell, Marianne Perry, Romaine Turyn

Town Manager – Eric Dyer      Ralph Eno, Select Board Representative

Meeting Called to order by Romaine at 9 am.

### Old Business:

- 1) May minutes were approved with no corrections
- 2) Elaine presented a summary of topics presented at the Orono Statewide AF meeting on June 3. Of special note was the recognition of Romaine's continued work as one of eight Fellows in the state and her role in mentoring the AFC. Additionally, Romaine recognized the accomplishments of Readfield's AFC and presented a Certificate of Recognition. Members of Readfield AFC expressed their great appreciation for the many years of commitment by Ann Mitchell.
- 3) Announcements: Marianne reported that the AF tree planted at the Fairgrounds is growing well.
- 4) Romaine raised the question regarding the Floating Dock part of the grant that was received for the Kayak rack project at the Readfield beach. Eric responded that this was not realized due to additional costs but he will look into it.
- 5) The red deck chairs will be brought out of storage for beach users' enjoyment.
- 6) Elaine requested a space on the bookcase in the Conference Room be designated for AFC materials. Eric indicated that can be done.
- 7) Ralph reported that in recent months the Select Board developed an extensive document that defines all committee responsibilities and protocols. The question was raised as to where this document could be found. It can be found in the Feb/March 2022 Select Board minutes. Eric was asked to circulate the link to this document to all committee chairs.
- 8) A discussion ensued about how the AFC can connect to other town committees by asking them to designate liaisons to the AFC. Marianne volunteered to bring this request to Melissa,
- 9) Readfield librarian.
- 10) NDN update – no news other than Elaine and Bruce will attend their Orientation meeting Next week on June 15.
- 11) AFC presence at June 14 election at Kents Hill. The AFC will have a table set up to provide information and answer questions in the hopes of soliciting interest. Marianne will attend the table from 8 am – 10 and Elaine will cover from 6 – 8 pm.

- 12) Committee Structure – a lengthy discussion ensued and although no one was willing to take up the mantle of being the Chairperson, everyone agreed that responsibilities will be shared. EK – will do minutes; Marianne will do phone calls; Ed will reach out to his contacts when necessary; Maggie will put together the agenda and hopefully work on future Readfield U. and Romaine will continue to be ‘on call’ and be available to consult and assist the Committee as needed.
- The one task still to be designated is who will be the author of the AFC contribution to the Monthly Readfield Messenger.

## New Business

1. Creating questions for the Comprehensive Planning Comm. Survey.  
The CPC will be meeting next week, Wed June 15 with the intent to finalize their survey.

These are the questions/themes that the AFC is putting forth to be included in the final Comprehensive Plan document recognizing that most of the topics in the Comprehensive Plan will overlap with Age Friendly concerns.

### Transportation:

Is it a priority to provide improved access to transportation through creation of, or by joining, a regional program which we support through volunteers and/or financial commitment?

### Housing:

Is it a priority to pursue development of Housing for the Elderly?

### Safety:

Is it a priority for the Town of Readfield to have an EMS presence that would provide emergency response times consistent with national professional recommendations?

Please refer to the Addendum on the next page that inspired this discussion

### Social Engagement:

Is it a priority to create a community center space for ALL residents of all ages to come for educational programs, indoor social activities, health screenings, once a month meals, Coffee club, music, exercise etc.?

Is it a priority to establish a paid position as Director of Quality of Life activities who would oversee the use of town outdoor and indoor recreational facilities, create programming, and oversee the activities of the community center?

## Local Economy:

These are suggestions for local businesses that would specifically support and enhance the lives of older segments of Readfield's population. These suggestions were derived from the comments Readfield residents made on the survey that was conducted by the AFC in 2016.

Maintain access to a food store  
Breakfast café  
24/7 access to ATM machine  
Medical office

Meeting adjourned 11:30

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine Katz

## Addendum

According to an article published in the JAMA Mell HK, Mumma SN, Hiestand B, Carr BG, Holland T, Stopyra J. Emergency Medical Services Response Times in Rural, Suburban, and Urban Areas. *JAMA Surg.* 2017;152(10):983-984. doi:10.1001/jamasurg.2017.2230

"The average ambulance response time – for an EMS unit to arrive on the scene from the time of a 911 call – was seven minutes. This emergency response time increased to more than 14 minutes in rural settings. Nearly one in ten encounters wait up to a half-hour for EMS personnel to arrive.

Longer EMS response times are associated with worse outcomes in trauma patients."