

Minutes

Age Friendly Meeting

February 14,, 2018

Members Present: Marianne Perry, Ann Mitchell, Maggie Edmonson, Romaine Turyn

Others Present: Ed Dodge, Lori Parham, State Director of AARP, Robin Lint, Eric Dyer, Donna McGibney

Excused: Marjorie Ellis

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Romaine Turyn at 9:00.

Valentine goodies were circulated!

Introductions were made. Lori Parham, State Director of AARP in Maine requested to attend the meeting because she traveling around the state trying to attend as many Age Friendly meetings as possible. She wanted to attend to listen and share information if relevant.

Proposed Property Tax Assistance Program

Eric Dyer presented the draft proposal to create a town Property Tax Assistance Program and to receive feedback from members.

It will be cash assistance or credit to homeowners without creating unnecessary burdens and piggy backing on the state program. It is not a work program such as the one in Saco and is modeled after a similar program in Monmouth and Cumberland. The program will include low income residents based on HUD guidelines and there will be a tiered approach to benefits based on income.

The proposal will require voter approval. Information about the program might be included in the tax bill to inform residents about the program.

Eric provided additional details about the proposal and responded to committee member questions. The proposal is having a second reading before the Select Board.

Sand Bucket Program

Several calls for sand buckets have been received but the demand has not been overwhelming. Ann Mitchell is keeping track of the number and location of the requests. Community members Greg Durgin and Bob Harris, in addition to the Age Friendly members have been delivering the buckets of sand. Information about the program is on the Fire Station marquee, and brochures were delivered to residents receiving services or participating in programs at the Cohen Center.

Publicity – Programs

There was discussion about mailing the Handy Helper, Sand Bucket and Library Home Delivery of Books brochures to residents over age 55. Romaine agreed to check if we

had money to do this. Lori Parham offered to mail the brochures to AARP members in Readfield.

Lori also offered the following information:

The website to post volunteer opportunities is www.createthegood.org

Information about a tax credit to assist with for expenses that make a home accessible is:

Here is info on the tax credit:

<http://www.mainehousing.org/programs-services/HomeImprovement/accessablehome>

And, she discussed recent federal legislation called RAISE that will assist unpaid family caregivers. It creates a cross agency committee to develop a national plan.

The minutes from the January meeting were approved as corrected.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00.