

Town of Readfield

Boards, Committees & Commissions

Approved Meeting Minutes

- Age Friendly Committee Minutes April 13, 2023
- Comprehensive Plan Committee (DRAFT) Minutes April 19, 2023

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

Comprehensive Planning Committee Minutes

April 19, 2023

Present: Paula Clark, Jessica Cobb (KVCOG), Eric Dyer, Jessica Gorton, Elaine Katz, Matt Nazar, Dennis Price

Absent: Jeffrey Carlson, Chris Cheney, Greg Durgin, Greg Leimbach

Jessica G. called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. in person at the Town Office and via Zoom.

MINUTES

Paula had one change for the March 29 minutes. After that was made, Dennis moved that the minutes be approved. Paula seconded. All approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Final Draft Plan Review

The final draft plan was sent to the committee via email. Jessica C. said there are not a lot of changes to most of the plan with the exception of the Future Land Use chapter. She did add PDFs of some maps.

Paula said she had a few changes for the Future Land Use chapter, and she noted one section that was confusing that was corrected. She and Jessica G. are going to connect to discuss the last few final changes.

Eric said that Select Board member Kathryn Woodsum devoted a great deal of time to reading the entire plan for content, grammar, syntax and punctuation, and made those corrections. The committee noted how much they appreciated her efforts.

Eric also noted that there is some confusion among residents about the difference between open space and land that is conserved through easements or other official processes. He said he was going to talk to Jerry Bley and address that issue in the appropriate sections.

Other than a few maps and any changes to Future Land Use the draft plan is complete.

Dennis moved to accept the final draft of the conservation plan as amended. Matt seconded. All approved.

The Select Board will need to have the plan before the end of the month. They will be reading it for final approval the first week of May with a vote on May 8 before the document is officially posted for the upcoming June vote.

Public Information and Education

Eric said it's important that we continue to provide a steady flow of information to counteract efforts to distort the purpose of the plan. Dennis suggested that it might be useful to present a comparison of the plans.

Jessica C. suggested that it would be good highlight the Rural Resource District, which was suggested in the old plan but never followed through.

Paula said it might be helpful to present some of the key points of each chapter.

Eric said he'd like to see open space and recreation highlighted.

Jessica C. suggested making a list of the major changes to highlight at the meeting. Dennis said he thought it would be useful to present it visually, and the committee discussed how to present the plan. Paula said she'd like to see a presentation in addition to any printed matter or Power Points.

It was noted that the residents need to know that this is the final plan and not an opportunity to make suggestions for changes. The plan as it stands will be voted up or down in June.

Jessica G. suggested the information be divided into chunks and each chunk presented by a different committee member. After some discussion, the following was decided: There will be an Introduction by Jessica explaining the purpose of the plan and process of the planning, followed by Public Input - Surveys and Results presented by Eric. Dennis will discuss the chapters that haven't changed, which include Architectural and Historical, Transportation and Public Services. Greg L. will cover Natural, Agricultural and Rural Economic Resources, and Matt will discuss Community Profile, Local Economy and Housing. Paula will close out with Once and Future Land Use.

Eric said there will be a printed tabloid-style explanation printed to send out to voters. Eric said because of absentee voting it needs to be ready six weeks before the election.

There will be a hard copy of the plan at the Town Office and at the library, information on the town website and on its Facebook page. Jessica G. wrote something for the Kennebec Journal, but it has not yet appeared.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting on May 17 will be a public information meeting to present the plan to residents. Before that the committee will approve the maps and any other changes via email.

Dennis moved for adjournment; Elaine seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Holly Rahmlow