

Town of Readfield  
Boards, Committees & Commissions  
Meeting Minutes (Approved & Draft Form)  
as 02-23-2024

- |                          |                                       |                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Age Friendly Committee | January 10, 2024<br>February 14, 2024 | Approved<br>Draft |
| • Recreation Committee   | January 18, 2024                      | Approved          |

**Age Friendly Committee Minutes**  
**January 10, 2024 on Zoom**

Present: Maggie, Marianne, Deb, Marge, Ed, Elaine

Absent: Eric J.

Old Business:

Approved Minutes of Dec 13, 2023 minutes

Readfield U:

The March calendar is filling up with many interesting learning opportunities. There are still a few programs that have to be nailed down. Once the calendar is set, Maggie will set up packets of posters and flyers to be distributed by all of us according to the sign up list that was created today.

It was decided that we will not be scheduling a Potluck dinner this year.

Maggie also described what a labor intensive process organizing Readfield U has been for these last 2 years and perhaps going forward we can develop a subcommittee of volunteers to work on this.

New Business:

I. Maine Community Foundation Grant

Melissa Small ( Readfield Community Librarian) has generously offered her time to submit a grant application from Readfield Age Friendly Committee on behalf of the Town of Readfield.

A wish list of items that would support the many activities of the Community Café and Readfield U was compiled:

A microphone/headset. This could be used for any program the committee sponsors as well as Readfield U and the Community Cafe. Several of our program participants have varying degrees of hearing loss making it difficult to participate. This would be an important step towards increasing accessibility.

Funds for materials to be provided to presenters at Readfield U (eg. art and craft supplies)

Printing and publicity. Readfield U has a website to maintain . Hundreds of flyers are printed each year, and dozens of posters for Readfield and surrounding communities, including Winthrop, Fayette, Mount Vernon, Manchester, Wayne, Augusta and Hallowell.

Signage for both programs

Refreshments - coffee, tea, edibles, coffeemaker and tea kettle.

Possibly rental of the Vestry for the Community Café and other AFC activities during the summer months.

Canvas tote bags to use as Welcome bags for new residents

Clear nametag holders for the Community Café and AFC activities

Lightweight folding chairs for outdoor events

Lightweight easy to carry plastic tables for outdoor events.

## II. 2024 AARP Livable Communities Rural Lab Application

Everyone agreed that with all the activities that AFC is currently working on, it is not possible to take advantage of this particular grant opportunity as the application deadline is Jan 19, 2024.

## III. AFC role in developing Emergency Response community support.

Unfortunately, due to the chaotic weather events today, the meeting with Sean Goodwin from the Kennebec County Emergency Response agency was rescheduled for the Feb 14, 2024 AFC meeting at 10 am. However, a discussion ensued and the committee agreed that this is a very important topic that we want to pursue. In addition to learning more from Sean Goodwin, we will try to reach out to Manchester and Mount Vernon to learn what is going on in our neighboring communities.

Elaine reported that there have not been any responses to the ad regarding a Calling Tree that has been in the Readfield Messenger for the last 2 months. Maggie suggested that we learn more about a program called Nextdoor which has contacted some Readfield residents to gauge interest.

## IV. Indoor Walking at Maranacook;

This will be available Monday- Thursday from 3:30 -8:30 pm. Each loop through the hallways represents ¼ mile.

Meeting adjourned 10:15

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine

## Age Friendly Committee Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

February 14, 2024

Present: Maggie, Eric J., Deb, Ed, Marge, Elaine

Regrets: Marianne

Guests: Sean Goodwin, Eric D., Steve DeAngelis

Approval of January 10, 2024 Minutes

### **Readfield U Update:**

Registration is going strong. We will continue to publicize locally and the surrounding communities. Maggie will do a presentation at the Maranacook Community Café this Thurs.

We will also be reaching out to our presenters to see if they have spent money on materials for their presentations that we may be able to reimburse.

Many AFC members will be attending the different programs and when possible, providing refreshments.

We also plan to create Sign up cards for Disaster Assistance to be distributed at all AFC events.

### **Update on Grant Possibilities:**

Maggie and Elaine met with Melissa to review the Maine community Foundation grant application. There was complete agreement that at this time, we could not come up with enough immediate expenses to warrant this type of grant request. One of the items AFC thought would need to be purchased – an amplifying headset – has been donated.

### **AFC Budget:**

As of this meeting the balance in the AFC budget is \$ 1,862.60. Money was spent on purchase of AFC T-shirts for committee members.

Anticipated expenses for the remainder of this budget year are:

Maintenance of RU website - \$ 12.00

Storage container for Café supplies, non-perishable items, name tags

Additional Welcome Bags

Magnets for Handy Helper Resource

Additional items: Eric J. will investigate the cost for ordering AFC Mugs that would have printed phone numbers for Handy Helpers, NDN

Elaine will ask Kristin to print off more Resource Magnet strips and possibly business cards.

### **Inserts for Welcome Bags**

Explanations for painted stones and pocket mice and Snowmobile applications

### **AFC discussion regarding work on Emergency Response Kits**

An important focus of the State wide Lifelong Maine program this year is Disaster Resilience. Readfield AFC is interested in exploring ways we can support our older residents in the event of short term and extended emergency situations. Many of these situations are related to extreme weather events during which time there are extensive power outages, loss of internet and loss of communication capabilities.

We recognize that some situations are spontaneous and of short duration while others are predicted as in extreme snow storms, wind storms, extreme cold and even extreme heat events.

The AFC is interested in exploring the ways in which we can help residents prepare, endure and recover from these extreme events. One way is to explore how other communities have developed Disaster Resilience Tool Kits – Elaine presented the program developed by the Bowdoinham AFC - She urged the committee members to log onto the Bowdoinham town website to view the 10 minute video that describes in detail how they went about developing this successful program. As an example, their kits include hats, gloves, hand warmers, wind up or battery powered radios, battery powered lanterns capable of charging phones, toe grippers, emergency light sticks. Hopefully, our AFC will continue this discussion during our next meeting.

Guest Speaker : Sean Goodwin from Kennebec County Emergency Management Agency – their role is to support the needs of a community as they organize their local disaster response.

Examples given – cots, blankets, food, animal crates, generator for the town buildings. They do not direct the local town response.

Sean explained in detail the role of the KCEM agency - they have a Civil Emergency Response Team that will train community volunteers who will be part of a larger town core response team.

This can include how to work communication devices, basic CPR training etc. to become certified.

Discussion then turned to how to establish local warming center which is different than an overnight – these sites need to be accessible, have at least one bathroom, water and available to pets.

Some towns have developed policies that will automatically set up a shelter upon a Target Temperature so that residents can anticipate this to make arrangements to get there.

Sean indicated that there are many grants available ( although competitive ) that can support acquiring the necessary items.

Eric D. provided the AFC with some very important updates:

All town trucks will be equipped with radios to improve coordination of response.

The town has been approved for the creation of a low power FM station – This has tremendous potential for improving communication throughout the town on a 24 hour basis for providing instructions during an emergency response. However, this is a work in progress that will become operational several years down the road.

In the meantime, the Readfield AFC would like to work on emergency response in several ways-

1. We will create a Resident Response Card that people can fill out if they would like to be placed on an Emergency Call list. This could include name, address, how many people in the household, if there are pets, and also an alternative contact person.
2. Educate residents that help is available for rides to a warming place, getting food, water medicine and that there are no eligibility requirements such as age for the assistance.
3. If we can get this Resident Response Card created in time, we can distribute it during Readfield U programs, the Maranacook Community Café, during elections and even incorporated into the Tax bill mailing.

Meeting Adjourned 11:00

Next meeting March 13

Respectfully,

Elaine

Readfield Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 18, 2024 – Approved

Attendees:

- Sean Keegan - Selectman
- David Linton - Selectman
- Tom Labrie
- Greg Leimbach
- Amy Therrien
- Jennifer Worthing
- Hannah Flannery
- Jeff Carlson
- Matt Lajoie

Agenda:

- Recreation Director - Sean Keegan to outline a request to create a paid position for coordinating town activities.
- Questions are:
  - What work are we doing as part of recreation?
  - What work are we not getting done?
  - Feedback is below:
    - Different points of contact make it difficult to coordinate.
    - Having someone take the activities and coordinating the efforts and help ensure that we're able to consistently.
    - Be able to publicize
    - Rec has expanded to be RSU 38: Including towns (Manchester, Wayne, Mt. Vernon, Readfield and Fayette).
    - Basketball and Soccer are blended town teams. Baseball still is not.
    - Representation from each town. <- Separate from
    - Include Water Safety Program, swimming lessons.
    - Summer rec
    - Coordinate afterschool program
    - Basketball: About 150 kids.
      - Hard to find people with skills and drills
      - Coordinating practice, gym and game scheduled, cancellations. Ensuring they are working with the schools. Custodians get paid from 10-5pm, but don't do anything until the end of the day.
      - Can't start until 6:15
      - Order jersey's
    - Matt Lajoie reviewed the following: Rec Responsibilities
- Fair grounds discussion (recap of meeting on 1/17/2024).
- Potentially use any surplus from basketball to give a gift to the coaches ( polo?). If there are enough funds to thank the coaches for their time and efforts. First: Matt L, Jeff Seconded.

Readfield Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 18, 2024 – Approved

- Budget review the following document: Rec Budget
- Discussed: Increasing participation fee for baseball.
  - Majors/Minors: 75
  - Rookie/Rookie AA: 60
  - T-Ball: 35
- Looking to defray the costs with sponsorships. To help with the costs of shirts and provide scholarships.
- Softball: For Majors we're losing kids to augusta. Discussed ways to address this to keep the kids more local.
  - Identify available fields: Mt. Vernon, Manchester (readfield is not a viable field).
- Sign-ups open for 1/22/2024 for baseball and softball.
- Field Clean-up day: 4/13 with a rain date of 4/20. Flier to be created.
- Evaluation day: 3/9 OR 3/16
- Next meeting: 2/13