

Minutes
March 9, 2016
Ad Hoc Committee
Age Friendly Community

Present:

Romaine Turyn, Marianne Perry, John Moran

The meeting convened at 4:00 in the Readfield Town Office.
The minutes were reviewed and no changes were suggested.

Updates

Selectperson Bruce Bourgoine called to say he was ill and could not attend the meeting.

Lydia Adelson informed the group she did not have time to be a formal member of the committee.

John Moran could not reach his contact for the Readfield Guys and Gals. Will keep trying.

Marianne learned of two people potentially interested. She will contact them and inform of them of the application process.

The meeting was joined via telephone by Peter Morelli, AARP. Peter briefly described AARP's interest in assisting towns be Age Friendly. They have a grant from the John T. Gorman Foundation to assist communities. .

The goal is to develop an intentional community; to help make people feel a part of the community. There are many components and models and Readfield can select its own should we choose.

The first step is to gather objective information to determine what people need and want. AARP has funds from the Gorman Foundation to assist with a community needs assessment. The town must apply for them. The funds are geared to low income communities and Readfield does not meet this criteria. We would need to design our plan to dig deeper to connect with lower income individuals.

In addition to factual information we should gather opinions through a public survey and connect with other community groups to help identify perceived needs. The final product would be a report listing the issues identified. From that list we would decide the ones first to be addressed and develop an action plan. Some issues could be addressed immediately; others may take 2-5 years. The towns of Bowdoinham and Bethel were identified as good examples of community efforts.

Romaine distributed the 8 domains used by AARP and others to define an age friendly community.

After the discussion with Peter Morelli, it was the consensus of the committee to proceed with the grant application. It was agreed that Romaine would work on a draft based on suggestions from John and Marianne. They agreed to get information to Romaine by Wednesday March 9th. That would provide time to create an outline by the next meeting on March 23rd at 4:00.

Other tasks:

Reach out to the Senior Café for a potential member.
Write an article for the Readfield Messenger

The meeting adjourned at 5:30