

Age-Friendly Sullivan Minutes, Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 10am-noon + lunch @ Sullivan Town Office

Topic	Discussion	Action
Introductions/sign-in	Review agenda / additions / changes	
Announcements/Updates	Distribution of “Making Room - Housing for a Changing America” Jeanne: 3/15 ME Humanities Council/re: State Maine Bicentennial Hermon gathering — offering lunch & mileage	See Balloon Discussion under Earth Day
AARP/Age-Friendly Maine	3/27 9am: Tech Call: Conflict Management 4/03 1-3pm: Hancock County Meet-up at Blue Hill Library 4/17 9am: Tech Call: Partner with Spiritual Organizations 5/22 9am: Tech Call: Liability (Insurance) 6/5-6/6 Building Maine Conference, Lewiston 6/19-6/20 National Rural Workshop, Portland	Tech Call: To join by computer: https://zoom.us/j/135854865 To join by phone: (669) 900-6833 or (646) 876-9923 Meeting ID: 135 854 865

<p>Housing (Jeanne):</p> <p>Bobbie Harris 207.610.5916 Vicki Young 207.610.5917</p> <p>Handouts EPA: A Citizen's Guide to Radon, guide to protecting yourself & family EPA: Be smart about using household products DEP: You can Make your Home Lead-safe Thermostat Recycling Efficiency Maine: Free to Low Income - heat pump water heaters; LED & low flow aerators FEMA: Replace smoke alarms every 10 years Kidde: Carbon Monoxide Safety USDA Rural Development 504 Repair & Rehab Loan program Home Repair Assistance loans & grants DCP Resource Advocate Program DCP Fact Sheet LIHEAP / Community Resource Advocate benefits DCP Tax Preparation & other Services brochure packet</p>	<p>Downeast Community Partners — housing / weatherization; property tax rebate (Sarah can go back 5 years); LiHeap — have to qualify for LiHeap in order to qualify for additional services; Emergency Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) 1/8th of tank — up to \$400 (another 100 gallons of fuel); or can do furnace repair; or if they (THAW) The Heating & Warmth fund = private donor funds; use for additional fuel benefit (do not need to be income eligible); for those just over income;</p> <p>CHIP - central heating & improvement program, if you own home, and condemned by licensed heating tech; waiver for wood stove; \$200K this year; not considered emergency program; 3 bids from licensed vendors - 2 weeks; year-round program; vendors were 2-3 months; Furnace replacement program</p> <p>Weatherization services - ME Housing; rank folks; children under 2; disabled; elderly 60+; if eligible for fuel assistance, all access LIHEAP; air sealing; blown in insulation; science-based; homes were too tight, need air circulation; 3 certified energy auditors; can replace furnace if not 75% efficiency; infrared imaging from outside; applied for aging-in-place grant for WA County - safety modifications to home; home repair AST (DEP) Above ground storage (oil tank); rusted; replace at no charge; paid 100% by DEP; DEP is encouraging conversion to LP — 5 this year.</p> <p>Window Dressers — DCP would be interested in partnering with AFS Resource Advocate Program - 80% are elderly; help navigate all the systems; Ida Bagley;</p> <p>Home Repair assistance loans — up to 30%; loan decreases 2%/year for 10 years; if less than \$7500 (grant) repair. FMI: tracie.jordan@downeastcommunitypartners.org or 207.610.5957</p> <p>USDA Rural Repair — extensive waiting list; couple weeks in 1 town, move to next town; 4-5 contractors + DCP crew in WA County; waitlist check-in after 6 months; contractors must be lead-certified; insurance liability; certifications.</p> <p>Referrals from town managers; word-of-mouth;</p> <p>MSHA imposed lot of paperwork regulations; process is improving this year; if need help completing fuel application;</p> <p>Statewide 25% decrease in applications for LiHeap; DCP intensive marketing - increased</p> <p>Housing — Milbridge 2 apts VA; property in Machias; tiny house project in Cherryfield through private donors (homeless vet) solar power;</p>	<p>Candy to send Window Dresser info to Vicki & Bobbi</p> <p>potential of town volunteer to complete LiHeap - let Vicki know; training</p> <p>LIHEAP is now year-round applications — 12 month eligibility</p> <p>Extra copies of brochures are at town office - see Stacy</p>
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Previous Discussion	Administration & Infrastructure — cabinet in large room with supplies	
Funding & Finance:	AARP Donation - vests & T-shirts for Earth Day AARP National Challenge Grant Opportunity? 2 MCF grants submitted	
Legislation / Civic Engagement	<p>Don Snoke - updates</p> <p>Augusta updates — too early in new administration to know much; Governor’s budget hearing starting this week; Legislature — called Nicole Grohoski; 10K placeholders; look for duplicates — sponsoring legislators huddle together; as of last week 1/3 of way through the pile; then listed in database; lobbyists and special interest groups are circling statehouse; school-funding (state should pay 55%, back in the 20’s) disproportionately paid by property taxes; AARP proposes reinstate circuit breaker program (reimbursement); broaden overall tax base (sales tax); Medicaid expansion (feds 90% reimburse 5 years); 80% of XIX eligible over 60;</p> <p>Outreach — elderly — financial support / medical needy</p> <p>The Maine Council on Aging — lots of organizations; presented agenda to legislature; 26 bullet items; inter-agency coordination; housing; development of direct care workforce; transportation; food & financial security; support for community initiatives</p> <p>EAAA — regional, Senior Expo 5/22; caregiver support group at ELP; furry friends food banks;</p> <p>AARP — website; could do more to connect with them; events in Sullivan = Belfast; every Tuesday at the State House</p> <p>DGP / Friends-in-Action</p> <p>Discussion: Sensitivity to school funding; become active on school committees; stay current with info on www.RSU24.org; excitement building for new high school.</p>	
Current Discussion & Project Updates:	Friendly Caller Program (Andrea/Bonnie) Training / start-up / Updates Business cards — distribute to clergy, fire department, clinics	3/9 1pm Committee meeting at FBLibrary
	Social Participation / Community Room @ Rec Center (Myra - absent)	

	<p>Transportation (Christina regrets) - updates from West Bus Service General conversation about creating a bus stop at the Rec Center. In the past year, only 2 pickups in Sullivan. Must wave flag at first entrance to Rec Center, then run to catch the bus. Only Ellsworth stop is Mike's Country Store, Water Street. Maintenance of the bus stop would be the responsibility of either AFS or Rec Center.</p>	<p>3/28 Training for Volunteer Drivers at FBLibrary</p>
	<p>Outdoor Spaces: Sullivan Community Garden (Durin regrets) \$1000 NEGRF grant; \$25 gift card Reny's; \$50 plot rentals paid \$100 from AARP original grant balance to AFS garden - 4 plots Discussion: Healthy Acadia Food bus; gleaning;</p>	<p>See Durin's update below - email provided 3.07.19</p>
	<p>Earth Day Clean-up (Saturday 4/20) (Rob) (rain date 4/27) AARP: T-Shirts (17); Yellow vests (7) DOT: On-board with pickup & supplies Shorter sections; more folks for drivers; central dispatch at Town Office; shorter hours 9-noon; cookout; additional breakfast snacks; Bug spray — offsite; away from the door; Discussion: Balloons — Will Jones, Kennebunk HS student advocate to eliminate balloon releases; provide some education;</p>	
	<p>Health Services: Paula Burnett from U Maine RSVP Bone Builders program - 3/19 meeting at Town Office - assess space, discuss program.</p>	
	<p>Bucket Brigade Update: over 25 senior homes have sand buckets</p>	
	<p>Resource Guide Updates: Leonard Lake Senior Housing, Wood St. & Shore Dr., Ellsworth, ME FMI & application: Call 207.866.4634, Housing Foundation, Orono, ME</p> <p>26 units of senior rental housing, 22 one-bedroom units and 4 two-bedroom units with associated senior center and public park. Affordability limits \leq 60% AMI for all units.</p>	
	<p>Other: Cecily Judd — Handyman List *Cecily's List" — stack firewood; clean gutters etc. No ideas. Should we make a list of Homeowner Resources (similar to our Resource Guide)/ Other: Nadine Murphy re: accessibility to Sumner Park; dedicated parking space; access to park;</p>	<p>Candy to get back to Cecily — see if committee needed.</p>

Future Activities:	Thurs 3/14/19: AARP Tax Aide - FBL 1-5 Sat 3/16/19: FBL Cabin Fever Book & Bake Sale; Silent auction donations 10-2; Suppa for Frankie FR 4-6 Sat 3/23/19: Spaghetti Supper Benefit Cindy Eklund Sat 4/20/19: Roadside Clean-up/cookout (Earth Day 4/22)	
Next meeting:	April 3, 2019, 10am-noon Regular AFS meeting; followed by potluck - guest speaker: 1-3pm Hancock County Age-Friendly meet-up; Blue Hill Library	

Garden Update (Durin email):

Two weeks ago, Brion Holbrook, the shop teacher from Sumner, called to ask about some blueprints I'd left for the raised bed display (for town office); I haven't heard back from him but assume he will call when it's ready. He had all the materials needed on hand; also he said that they'd gotten two rototillers all ready for us and are happy to store them there for the time being.

As for building the actual raised beds for our garden, I'm confident the high school will again pitch in but I think we'd be wise to get the ground prepped and cover-cropped before worrying ourselves about the raised beds. As we discussed, it's better not to have lumber laying around for any length of time before we are ready to use it. I gather that we are still waiting on grant money which we will need for the \$6-900 cost of building 4 to 6, 12' beds. At any rate, they are easily constructed and installed, with a little help, in a day or so.

I will contact the Pathways director today and see "where we're at." To reiterate, Susan did say that their high school greenhouse is available for our use and also that the students could be involved with initial care of seedlings (presumably seeding and watering until transplanting). I would like to meet with a master gardener (and maybe also with Susan) at the greenhouse and make a list of things that we need to prep for seeding. Now that we have a little money we can probably buy whatever we can't scrounge up.

As for seeds, I will also be calling Marjorie Peronto today to see if they've received any from either Feed and Seed or Salisbury. I don't know what has been turned into the town office or library. We do need to sit down and talk about what we plan to put in raised beds and maybe spend some time with a seed catalogue. And also lay out the garden on paper.

Feel free to call and leave a message, 422-3230.