

**Bowdoinham Advisory Committee on Aging
Meeting Minutes: February 12, 201 2:35 PM to 4:35PM
Coombs Municipal Building, Graduates Room**

Meeting called to order at 2:35 PM by Kathy Pszczolkowski
A quorum was established

In Attendance: Kathy Pszczolkowski, Diana Mosher, Alice Pollis, Patty Melander, Rachelle Tome, Rachel Evans, George Oliver

Absent:Joan Smith, Joanne Savoie

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to accept the December meeting minutes as corrected.
Minutes accepted.

REGULAR COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES REPORTS

- Kathy Pszczolkowski reported that 7 people went on the the Wilbur Candy Tour and it was a great tour; not that long; lots of samples; and samples to take home
- Diane Mosher reported that no one is attending the Coffee Cafe. It was suggested not having it every week, but maybe once a month to see if that improved attendance.
- George Oliver reported that the same group comes every week for line dancing; he will provide a couple of beginner sessions in order to encourage more people to come (2/27; 3/6 6-8pm); this will be in addition to the regular line dancing schedule
- Diane Mosher reported that Rides in Neighbors Cars is going very well;Patty Melander reported that it is rewarding to be a driver; it was also mentioned that it is not only seniors who are using the service.
- Rachel Evans explained next steps for the Resource Manual; specifically assembling a list of resources to be included so that a summer intern at the town office can help to put together the document. Rachel will convene a meeting with Rachelle Tome, George Oliver, and Kathy Pszczolkowski, who have volunteered to work on this initiative.

SPECIAL EVENTS REPORTS

Rachel Evans reported on her attendance at the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging (TSLCA) summit, November 28, 2017, at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland. She attended sessions that focused on data collection and evaluation, with an eye toward gaining information helpful to the collection of metrics to evaluate ACOA's Three Year Plan. It was a good conference and the biggest take away was that there are lots of different sources of data we can use to evaluate the effectiveness of our three year plan. Data collection is a big task, however, and-its important that we get administrative help. Rachel Evans and Kathy Pszczolkowski had a conversation with Bill Post, Town Manager, a few minutes before the meeting. He is seeking to fill a part-time administrator position for the town and that person could provide some administrative support to ACOA. He also employs interns during the summer who have excellent administrative skills. He will put the Resource Manual and the Three Year Plan data spreadsheet on the list for projects for an intern this summer.

LOCAL AGE-FRIENDLY SERVICES REPORTS

No Reports

DISCUSSIONS

Planning for 2018 events:

- It was suggested that ACOA might encourage more elders in the community to contribute to the story telling event at the next Ice&Smelt Festival since the story hour was so well received and it would be good to hear more from local elders.
- The committee agreed that a “Spring Fling” event would be a good idea, a little like the wellness fair but focused on transitioning from winter to spring. George Oliver will chair a planning committee for the event. Rachelle Tome and Alice Pollis volunteered to be on the committee.
- The committee agreed that it would be good to plan another event for Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Kathy Pszczolkowski has been in contact with Mary Hanley who specializes in issues have to do with elder abuse against women-who would like to come and talk at the event. It was also mentioned that we might contact administrators of the Martha’s Cottage, a shelter for abused elder women about speaking. The date would be June 14 or June 15. It was suggested that break out groups for discussion be provided. George Oliver will do breakfast.
- There was a discussion about whether to put services that are fee based in the Resource Manual such as Muriel’s Angels 207-730-1618 (See website). This will be something that the Resource Manual committee will consider in terms of setting criteria for inclusion.
- There was a discussion about a problem with heating fire station when it is very cold. The heat pump should work as long as the outside temperature is above 0 degrees. It was decided that it was important to let people know that programs may have to be cancelled if the weather is very cold.
- We are working with the Town Manager to get more administrative support.
- We had a discussion on hosting a cribbage tournament and paying for the \$100 entrance fee for the winner. The committee felt that we could not justify paying the entrance fee, and that we didn’t want to set a precedent by trying to do so. During the conversation, it was mentioned that sometimes donations are collected via activities and that we need to be clear about the allocation of any such donations collected during ACOA-sponsored activities. These funds may need to go into the ACOA budget maintained by the town. This will be clarified with the town manager.
- Kathy Pszczolkowski asked people to review the grant opportunities that were emailed to the committee members and consider whether there are programs that might be applicable. Rides in Neighbors Cars and the raised garden beds projects were mentioned as possible programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35PM. The next meeting is Mar.19, 2018 at 2:30PM at the Coombs Municipal Building, Kendall Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Evans, 2/13/18