

MINUTES
Advisory Committee for Age Friendly Bowdoinham
July 14, 2025

Committee Members Present: Mary Kelley, Karen Mayo, Lois Smith, Maureen Booth, Bill Small.

Excused: Deb Smith

Staff: Jason Lamoreau

Guests: Colleen Crowley, Carol Linna

The group began the meeting with thoughts and fond memories of Ann Hartzler, committee member who passed recently.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Maureen established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:35pm.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 09, 2025 meeting were approved.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The new by-laws require that all terms are one year. Maureen designated Jason to preside over elections. The group elected Maureen as chairperson and Lois as secretary. Jason reported that the Selectboard has approved Bill Small's appointment to the committee.

V. BOWDOINHAM COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

BCC hosted the meal for the first summer concert. Around 50 people were served, with donations totaling a net of \$450.

The ribbon cutting for the shade canopy also went well, with a great speech by Deb Smith.

Carol updated the group on the status of the oral history project. After asking the committee members to share how they envisioned the project, Carol determined that the next step is to meet with the BCC committee to gather their thoughts, and then to take that information back to the Mt Ararat volunteer coordinator. The next meeting of BCC is August 1. Colleen is interested in being involved with the project.

VI. STAFF REPORT

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Deadline for the town's Sept-Oct newsletter is July 31. Maureen volunteered to write something, possibly about accessibility, and/or about Anne's contributions to the community.

NEW PARK Utilities are installed, landscaping is complete. Paving will be done to increase accessibility.

FIREWOOD is available for use by residents, located behind the fire station.

AARP HOME FIT GUIDE is available for use/distribution.

SHADE CANOPY has been well-received by the Farmer's Market vendors. More landscaping will be done next year to improve the approach to the canopy.

VII. CELEBRATE BOWDOINHAM

This year's event will take place on September 13. AFB will be sharing booth space with BCC. Mary and Karen volunteered to organize our effort. The group suggested various ideas to entice visitors to the booth, including chair massage, echo dots demonstrations, and promotion of the DME (durable medical equipment) that is available to residents. Jason will demonstrate the echo dot system at the September AFB meeting.

VIII. MONTHLY LUNCHEON PLANS

Sam Hayward has agreed to be responsible for most of the cooking on a trial basis with George taking the lead in Sam's absence. Jeff Fisher is available to assist. Karen is working with the group to provide a schedule, and suggests that if a date goes unfilled, Subway, Grazi's to Go, and Three Robbers are catering options. Our committee may need to supply additional volunteer time to replace the many hours that Judy provided.

IX. STATUS REPORT

Recruitment Update: Maureen reported that the new pastor of the 2nd Baptist Church, Ken Smith, is interested in partnering with the committee. There is a meeting scheduled for July 29 with Maureen, Mary and Barbara Rollins. Karen reported that Laura Arnold and Lisa Weisel are interested and may attend the September meeting. Colleen expressed interest in becoming a member.

Pop Up Tent: Maureen reported that on further review, she has learned that the tents are heavy, and take two people to set up. Because of this, a pop up tent may not meet our needs. She suggests shelving the idea, and researching other options. Lois volunteered to assist.

Web Site: Shelving the pop up tent frees up funds for the web site. Lois and Bill will work with Maureen to develop an initial outline of what the site might contain and look like.

Transportation Gap Study: The Midcoast Thriving Communities Initiative, funded by USDOT) is engaging the public to support the development of the Midcoast Rural Transit Feasibility Study. To that end, Bowdoinham has been asked to join one of four working groups to provide input into local needs and potential options. Maureen will circulate the invitation to members for those who may be interested in participating in the subgroup.

Community Paramedicine: Jason continues to work with Maine EMS and John from Lisbon Ambulance to move forward on determining the feasibility of establishing a community paramedicine program to serve the region, including Bowdoinham. Maine EMS is developing some training to bridge between the training already done, and what is needed to comply with new regulations.

Monthly Printed Calendar: The email calendar that has been distributed with Grace’s help is being discontinued, with the email list possibly being moved to the *Bowdoinhammer*, which duplicates the information but on a weekly basis.

Maureen reports that she distributed the printed calendar to each apartment at Bowdoinham Estates, and received reports back that residents like it. Other distribution locations include the post office, the town office, and Library. We don’t have much information on how useful it is to other community residents, however. Lois offered to continue producing it as we gather more information about usefulness. She will also provide a version that Jason can post on Facebook.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Approved by:

Maureen Booth, Chair

Date

Jason Lamoreau, Older Adults Services Coordinator

Date