

Minutes

Ad hoc Senior Steering Implementation Committee

Wednesday

June 12, 2019

5:30 to 7:00PM

South Portland City Hall Basement Conference Room

Members Present: Maxine Beecher, Susan Henderson, Donaldo Gotelli, Anthony Grande, Carol Kilroy, Adele Edelman, April Caricchio, Peter Stanton, Alan Cardinal, Kathleen Babeu

Members absent: Deqa Dhalac, Bernadette Kroon, Phil Smith

Meeting called to order by Maxine Beecher.

Review of Minutes: Minutes of May 8 accepted after amended to correct spelling of Dhalac and forth in last bullet changed to fourth.

Sue reported that she asked the City Clerk, Emily Scully for a print out of our funds. According to the records, \$ 1,476.50 is available to the Committee from the remaining funds allocated to the *ad hoc* Senior Advisory Committee. As of July 1st, an additional \$15,000 will be allocated to our committee. A budget report will be included with the minutes each month.

Guest Speaker: Maxine had invited the Executive Director of the Maine Council on Aging, but she was not able to attend. Sue called Jeanne Saunders from Saco but Jeanne was attending a conference on home sharing in Vermont. She would be happy to come another time.

Approve final operating principles: The proposed changes to the Order were sent to the City Manager. The Council will vote on amending the order to increase voting members from 7 to 9 members and add Adel Edelman and Maxine Beecher as voting members and remove Maxine as an ex-officio member, leaving Sue and Kathleen in the ex-officio role. The Council meeting will be on June 13.

Copies of changes made to last Operating Procedures were reviewed. The changes made to the Mission and Operating Principles were accepted with the addition “of order to “(see Part C)” “of order” was also added to : “purposes outlined in Part B above “ Under Operating Principles, the word Steering was deleted from G. The motion to accept was made by Alan Cardinal and seconded by Peter Stanton. All were in favor

Election of officers:

Adel Edelman expressed a willingness to serve as Chair and Maxine Beecher was willing to be vice chair. Maxine nominated Sue Henderson as secretary, Sue offered the role to others but there were no other nominations or volunteers for the positions. It was questioned whether or not a non-voting member should be secretary and member of the executive committee. The

motion to approve the slate of officers was made by Peter Stanton and seconded by Carol Kilroy. All in favor. Sue will check with city manager re appropriateness of non-voting member being secretary.

Identify sub-committee chairs and empower: Sue lead a discussion about the priority recommendations identified by the Gap Analysis: There are no services to assist with shoveling or yard work, there is no volunteer transportation identified at present and an organized non computerized communication process has not been set up. Therefore recommendations under housing, transportation and communication were reviewed.

Tony Grande agreed to chair the Transportation Sub-committee. The status of The Shoppers' Link grant was reviewed. Maxine Beecher noted that establishing plans for after the pilot was critical and it was identified that Tony Grande would clarify with Zoe Miller from GPCOG re follow up plans. It was suggested that Karla Doyan (Parks and Recreation) from Senior Activities at the Community Center be included in work of the transportation subcommittee.

Donaldo Gotelli agreed to chair the Housing subcommittee. There are several different aspects to the recommendations for this subcommittee that may require different people with different skills. For example, Jim Welsh has offered to work on considerations for possible tax relief for seniors. It was felt that one chair could organize the different aspects. Donaldo has spoken with a gentleman from Harpswell who has worked with Habitat for Humanity on home repairs. It was noted that snow removal is a high priority in terms of residents' request and we need to address a plan to address providing help. The discussion moved to sidewalks in general and differences between commercial and residential areas. The possibility was discussed about how sand buckets could be provided in commercial areas and how sand buckets could be provided to senior citizens who asked for one. It was suggested that perhaps Knightville might be a pilot commercial area for sand buckets.

A discussion of Communication recommendations was lead by Kathleen Babeu. She and Marilyn Reilly have been working on material that can be presented as tri-folds or cards identifying resources available to seniors. These could be placed in several areas including kiosks at the Community Center and the Hub. Kathleen agreed to chair the Communication subcommittee. Carol Kilroy and April Caricchio agreed to serve on the committee; Marilyn Reilly is serving on the committee to develop a resource list.

Advocacy was discussed. For some of the recommendations, the Community does not have the authority to make changes, but rather the role would be to advocate for change. For example, many of the recommendations under Open Spaces require advocacy and relate to issues of mobility which is also an issue of transportation. It was suggested that subcommittee chairs look at all the recommendations and identify things that are synergistic with their charge.

Public Comments: no additional comments, non members spoke to issues throughout the meeting.

Date, time, location of next meeting and Agenda: The next meeting will be: **Wednesday, July 10, 2019, 5:30-7:00, South Portland City Hall Basement Conference Room**, Agenda items will include looking at recommendations under the domains and consideration of outreach.

Agenda to follow.

Adjourned at 7:00

Sue Henderson recording