

Ad hoc Senior Implementation Steering Committee
Meeting Feb 12, 2020
South Portland City Hall Basement Conference Room
5:00-7:00 PM
Minutes

Present: Maxine Beecher, Chad McCleod (via zoom), Lisa Joyce, Susan Henderson, Kathleen Babeu, Anthony Grande, Peter Stanton, Alan Cardinal, Carol Kilroy ,Jeff Steinbrink
Guests: Ann Caudle and speakers from Southern Maine Area on Aging(SMAA), Doug Wilson and Mary Haddlock

Meeting called to order by Chair Maxine Beecher at 5:00 pm. Introductions were made.t

Minutes: A motion was made by Lisa and seconded by Peter to approve the minutes of Jan. 8, passed unanimously.

Treasures Report: presented by Alan Cardinal. We have \$13,654.98 in our account. Motion made by Lisa, seconded by Carol, passed unanimously. Alan will bring back a proposal to request more money from the Council for the next fiscal year.

Exec.CommMinutes of 1/13 were distributed. After discussion it was identified that the Exec Comm needs to approve their own minutes, the Steering Committee cannot as they were not present. The minutes are shared to be informational.

Operations Report:

Project Tracker: The Project Tracker was described to the group as an Excel like program in which goals, such as the recommendations from the report, are listed along with status of where they are in process and actions to achieve and a timeline. This work is a follow up from Chad's organizing/planning session at the last meeting. He used the Project Tracker to identify short term goals and priorities.

Short term Goals and Priorities: A hand out was presented that contained suggestions for discussion about short term (3 months) and longer term goals that the sub-committees might consider. Discussion identified that the group needs time to think about ideas, they will take the hand out home to read and consider re what needs to be discussed at the next meeting.

Peter has spoken to someone from Augusta re their shoveling program. Shoveling is a complex program to set up with many variables to consider. Augusta uses prisoners to shovel. We might not want to do something like that. Some cities have set up 501c3s as a non profit for background checks and liability. Sue is to ask about liability and will contact the city manager and attorney.

Volunteers also were discussed, people are needed to help with tasks, but people are also needed to help with planning. It was suggested that a next Sentry article address need for volunteers.

Sub-Committee Reports”

Communication: Kathleen brought copies of the articles prepared for the Sentry. The Solo Singles project was discussed, article cannot be printed unless group willing to support the doing the project which was briefly described (a hard copy of description of proposed program given out). Initially the group seemed to feel that time was needed to consider, but it was decided that Solo Singles was a worthy program that would be well received and that it should be presented on April 16, as initially proposed. Lisa and April agreed to help Chad with the project. A subcommittee should claim ownership of the Solo Single project. Sue suggested Community Support and Health. The article can be published in the Sentry as planned.

The Resource Directory has been updated on line and can be printed in version specific for seniors. In talking about money for projects such as printing, April said she may be able to apply for a grant in April (related to her connections from Cape Elizabeth Home) for communications project. Lisa said that with grant applications, identifying specify projects money would be used to fund greatly increases success rate and she offered to help with the application.

Housing: Sand buckets are still being distributed but requests have decreased. Peter has not heard back from Public Works about the sand buckets for the commercial areas. That project may well end up being implemented next fall and preparation work done before then. Snow shoving is not ready to implement this winter. More preliminary planning needs to occur.

Transportation: Tony reported that through his work on the Bike/Ped committee he spoke with Art Handman about bus service to the Food Pantry and was told that the busses cannot maneuver in the area. Tony reached out to RTP who said is \$5 round trip and some qualify for a free ride. The possibilities will be further explored.

The value of an article in the Sentry on pedestrian and traffic safety was noted. The danger of dark clothing at night was stressed as Tony distributed the snap on reflectors to increase walking safety.

Community Support and Health Services: The initial grant to fund SMAA volunteers coming to the library a hour a month to discuss accessing resources with individuals was funded for 7,500 by Harvard Pilgrim with \$2,000 by matching funds provided by our Committee. Addition funding was received so that the program can be presented two Mondays a month. There are also care giver classes being given at the Library, one class in “drop in” the other is a sign up for a six week program. There are two classes of 14 people attending A Matter of Balance.

Speakers from SMAA: Doug spoke about SMAA, saying it is based on federal funding and Area Agencies on Aging are a national program. He reviewed a few of activities. Mary spoke about their grant to work with volunteers. They work with over 600 volunteers over 55 in Retired Seniors Volunteers Program (RSVP)

These volunteers could help with our projects. In working with volunteers it is important to identify what is needed but also their interests and skills. Not all programs require background

checks. The volunteers need a position description, recognition and thank you. SMAA trains volunteers and provides insurance. Their volunteers can even help with planning.e

Comments:It was hard to hear in the meeting room. The speakers were excellent, very helpful!

Next Meeting: Will be March 11, starting at 5pm. Agenda to follow

Recording:Sue