



## **Age Friendly Georgetown Meeting Draft Minutes for January 10, 2022, 4 PM**

Present: Jim Peavey, Elaine Varney, Karen MacGillivray, Sheila McCandless, Peggy Kapisovsky, Joyce Oliver, Roger Bogart, Ole and Sandy Jaeger, Rick Cliffe

Minutes for 11-18- 2021 meeting: Peggy suggested an edit to change wording, which has been done. Otherwise approved.

### **Age Friendly Financial Status**

On January 1, 2022, Jim sent out an email with the follow summary of finances to date:

On 7/15/21, the Town transferred to us the remaining funds from the grant funding from (1) AARP, for our survey and program startup, and (2) Maine Community Foundation for the Assistive Technology program. This amount was \$1,042.54.

In the first six months of the year, our main expenses were for the AT devices and display supplies, amounting to \$1,150.

From September to the end of 2021, we spent \$104.74 in support of AFG Job Squad activity and CPR training support. We had several generous donations in 2021 from community members amounting to \$785. Truly amazing, this town!

So, we start this New Year with a balance of \$3,200.10. We don't have any designated use for these funds at this point, other than on-going Job Squad support. Jim suggested that we allocate some amount to support the Gleaning Program when it starts up again in the late spring. We spent between \$40 and \$50 a week to supplement what Merrymeeting Gleaners and local produce donors provide. The group decided to use some of these funds to support the Gleaning program through 2022. Peggy suggested we might be able help folks who can't afford broadband installation and on-going fees.



(Editorial comment from the Secretary: Jim deserves our gratitude for managing the monies connected to AFG. Most organizations have a treasurer, so Jim is doing double-duty with grace.)

### **Ideas for the coming year**

Peggy wondered if some folks in town might need help with upcoming broadband\_costs. Rick said that Amanda is the contact person for requesting help with the costs. Such requests will be passed onto the Broadband group. There are also grant programs available to provide financial assistance. The Georgetown Broadband team can provide additional information.

Sandy suggested a fund for tools to aid the Job Squad. Jim reported that the Job Squad workers ordinarily supply their own tools. The question of tools should be revisited as people are more comfortable using this resource. The website and word of mouth will advance the service being used more widely.

Peggy suggested that the Job Squad might help with the slippery steps leading to the beach at Reid. Jim will send out a notice requesting Job Squad volunteers to monitor the steps for shoveling and sanding needs. A handrail along those steps is needed as well. Roger has been aware of the issues and reports that resources from the Park Service are stretched thin at the moment. (Post-meeting update: Jim has arranged with the Park Manager to allow volunteer shoveling of the path to the beach. Seven volunteers have been come forward and we are ready to begin with the next snow.)

Trekking is paused but always available for individuals who want to enjoy the winter beauty of our many trails. Joyce reminded people that the State of Maine is a resource for information on trails beyond Georgetown.

### **After School Program**

Sarah Mancini has created a very popular series of activities for the Central School after school program under the auspices of the Georgetown Recreation Committee. Contact Sarah, [smancini@AOS.98schools.org](mailto:smancini@AOS.98schools.org) if you can donate your time, skills, or supplies. The program for the week of January 10th is cancelled due to Covid concerns.



## **New Business**

Rick reported that there will be help with tax preparation available, at the Patten Library and Senior Center in Bath. Forms needed are available on our website and through the Town Office. United Way also coordinates tax preparation with CA\$H Maine. Information will be distributed through the Age-Friendly email list (210 people) and put on our website.

The Chafe's donated firewood is seasoning on their property. Dave Polito, Mary McDonald, Rich Donaldson, Roger, and Jim will assist in the disbursement of the donated wood in the spring.

The State of Maine now offers a Property Tax Deferral program. You must be at least 65 years old and/or have a documented disability. More information and forms are available on our website and at the Town Office. The program will cover property taxes for individuals who need assistance. The State pays the taxes and is reimbursed when the homeowner sells their property, or the property is transferred through inheritance. Individuals should check with the Town Office first as they may be able to offer local assistance.

**Next Meeting is Monday March 14th at 4:00 PM. Location TBD**

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila McCandless, Secretary