



Age Friendly Georgetown Hybrid Business Meeting
June 12, 2023

Present: Jessie Graham, Jim Peavey, Karen MacGillivray, Lisa Reece, Sheila McCandless, Peggy Kapisovsky, Roger Bogart
Zoomers: Ole Jaeger, Sandy Jaeger, Elaine Varney
Sorry Zoomers, the room was double booked so we had to cut you off at 4:30. The rest of the meeting was held outside at the picnic table.

Minutes: April minutes were previously distributed and approved

Guest: Debbie Atwood shared information from *Habitat for Humanity 7 Rivers Maine*, which serves Brunswick, Harpswell, and Sagadahoc & Lincoln Counties.

- A new Habitat home was built on Federal St. in Wiscasset. Due to the cost of materials, there will now be a larger gap between builds.
- ReStore is moving to the Bath Shopping Center (former CVS) this summer.
- The Critical Home Repair Program helps people stay in their homes. Labor is provided by volunteers and material costs can be up to \$1,500.
 - To qualify a person must be the homeowner or live with the homeowner. There is an income requirement - up to 80% of the median income of the area.
 - Projects include building ramps, replacing windows, mounting bathroom fixtures, and much more. They don't paint or work on roofs.
 - We need to encourage people to apply to the program at adam@habitat7rivers.org or call (207) 504-9332.
 - The wait time is only 3-4 weeks at this time.

Debbie asked about our Job Squad and Jim told her 135 jobs were completed in ~3 years. Contact debbie@habitat7rivers.org if you wish to donate to Habitat and want the money to stay local.

Technology Training: The Digital Equity Center will be offering courses once again. The system will have local people set up the room and the instructor will be remote, live. Sheila McCandless, Jessie Graham, and Peggy Kapisovsky volunteered to attend a 2-hr. training session to be facilitators. Each course will have a limit, from 6-10 people depending on the course. Jim is working on getting the program running again and setting up a course list to circulate.

Action Plan Progress Reports: The Network of Age-Friendly Communities requires a 3-year progress report. Jim sent us a draft and would like comments by June 16. Let him

know what he may have missed. The report will be submitted during the week of June 19.

Aiding Georgetowners in Need: Sandy J. brought up the fact that when someone needs help the burden falls on Jim. She suggested a “Community Helpers” team of the Job Squad be established to help people who are alone.

- Provide meals when needed,
- Take trash to the transfer station,
- Get groceries,
- Drive them to appointments.

We have 3 new drivers for our transportation program hosted by People Plus. There are not many riders but the riders we have need frequent transportation. The question of liability was raised. People Plus does cover drivers and can occasionally provide a gas card. Our Job Squad doesn't have liability coverage but clients and volunteers sign waivers.

Jim asked Elizabeth Gattine of the Governor's office to check with Legislators about having the State cover volunteers doing this kind of work.

Updates

• Housing

- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU), home sharing, rent a room, donated houses turned into apartments – lots of ideas but a “Champion” is needed to lead the cause.
- The Chafe's past offer of 15 acres near Charles Pond was discussed. There were many barriers that could not be overcome at that time but it may warrant another look.
- Lisa mentioned Northern Forest Foundation buys houses and turns them into apartments for professionals in towns such as Bethel, and Millinocket.
- Jessie will read the housing section of the Georgetown Comprehensive Plan and also check Island Institute research.

- **Community Yard Sale:** Miriam Nasset is ready to head up the 2023 Community Yard Sale on August 26 outside the First Church from 9:00 am – 1:00. Now is the time to declutter!

Other

- The gleaning table begins Weds. June 14.
- All major local suppliers of oil/propane are on board with pricing programs. Call your dealer to execute a contract for their special rate. Check with Jim if you have any questions.
- A point was made that contact with neighbors needs to happen on a regular basis, not just during emergencies. Roger mentioned that he has a neighbor who puts a light on at night and turns it off in the a.m. to signal all is well.

- A question was asked about having a blood drive in town. Jane Whittaker our Local Health Officer would be the contact person.
- A question was asked about brown tail moths & barberry and if there is any Grant \$\$ to address these problems. The contact person would be Kathy Gravino who serves on the Conservation Committee.

Meeting Adjourned @ 4:50

Next Business Meeting is Sept. 11, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Karen MacGillivray