Age-Friendly Georgetown

Hybrid Business Meeting

March 11, 2024

**Present -**  Bonnie Trigg, Jessie Graham, Jim Peavey, Karen MacGillivary, Michele Melanson,

Peggy Kapisovsky, Roger Bogart

*Zoomers*: Joyce Oliver, J.P, Schneider, Lisa Reece, Ole Jaeger, Sandy Jaeger

**Minutes -** Januaryminutes were previously distributed and approved.

**Email Distributions –** There was discussion around what to include in AFG Town-wide emails. It was agreed that no messages should have political overtones. A suggestion was made to have parameters on the website to bring clarity as to what is acceptable. Jim will draft guidelines and ask for opinions from the group as the need arises. He will refer those who ask him to post furniture listings to recycling sites. (MarketPlace, Habitat Restore, Neighborhood, Transfer Station bulletin board…) It was also suggested that emails be linked to the AFG website.

**Website –** TheContractors section of the website has beenupdated. Jim and Karen reached out to all who were listed in the past, eliminated those who did not wish to remain on the list, and added new names that were recently recommended. Any new recommendations you may hear of send Jim’s way.

**501(c)(3) Yes or No? –** Although most grants require 501(c)(3) status, the group decided that it wasn’t for us at this time. We feel we are financially stable at this point in time.

**Zoom License –** A Zoom license was purchased for $170.00/year. This amount was covered by donors.

**Volunteer Transportation Program –** Georgetown currently has 5 drivers; 6 ridersused the People Plus system last year; 220 rides and over 6,000 miles were logged. Michele Melanson noted that the Greater Bath area is not officially in the People Plus network, which focuses mostly on Brunswick, Topsham, and other area towns. We have submitted the regular request to the Town for $500.00.

Michele is now co-chair of Age-Friendly Communities of the Lower Kennebec (Arrowsic, Bath, Georgetown, Phippsburg, West Bath, Woolwich). This group is working to expand the volunteer ride program through an AARP Challenge Grant; Georgetown is by far the most significant user of these Towns but Bath could expand significantly over time.

**Housing Forum –** The four teams (Age Friendly, Town Ordinances, Housing Options, and Foundations) are planning to hold a Town Forum in late April or May in the school gym. There will be a short presentation at the start to let townsfolks know about the work done to date, which has been research, education, and identification of possible options for housing in our town. The primary goal of the meeting will be to give residents the opportunity to express their ideas about the housing needs and challenges and to offer their thoughts on possible directions the town should take. A suggestion was made to hold the forum close to the Town Meeting date.

**Friends of Reid State Park –** Requirements for 501(c)(3) status have been met, including approving By-Laws and electing Officers and Directors. The Officers (also serving as Directors are: President: James Peavey; Vice President: Roger Bogart; Treasurer: Rufus Brown; Secretary: Gary Pankey; fifth Director: Jessica Weller.

Roof work has begun on the Old Schoolhouse and a volunteer workday is scheduled for March 27.

Lee Cooper has volunteered to organize the Fall Art Show. Hopefully, the concession building will be ready to use as the venue. Pop-up tents will allow expansion of the footprint. Questions to be answered include: should the show be open only to Georgetown artists? what date between late August and mid-September seems best? and should it be combined with Fall Frolic as a way to bring the community together?

**AFG Financial Status –** The checking account total is $5,592.73 which includes one donation of $50.00 in appreciation of Job Squad work. Peggy Kapisovsky asked if options to invest some of the money are feasible. She will research and talk with Bath Savings.

**New Business**

**New Trail** - AFG has been asked to partner with the Nature Conservatory to create an age-friendly nature trail at the Ledgemere preserve. The plan is for an “easy access” path leading to an area with a viewing platform. We have connected Nature Conservancy with the trail building company we used for the Schoener Forest trail.

**Intergenerational Activity –** AFG will partner with the Friends of RSP, the school, and KELT on the Reid Park Restoration/Nurdle Project, which will include students searching for nurdles and cleaning up the beach area.

**Community Calendar –** Peggy asked about the progress of the online community calendar. Jim reported that the process is on hold for a bit. Scott and Jessica Weller have been working on the FRSP website. The plan is to work with Scott to assist in problem-solving when his time is freed up.

Meeting Adjourned @ 5:05

Next Business Meeting May 13, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Karen MacGillivary