

Living Well in North Yarmouth Minutes 4/8/2019

Location: Fire Station, 1PM

Attending: Donna Palmer, Priscilla Brobst, Ginny Vandyke

Gay Peterson, Steven Palmer

Kites and Banner: The kites were removed by the Public Works Department. The kites were in poor condition due to the winds and harsh weather. The banner also did not hold up to the wind and so is now being evaluated for more permanent means of hanging. Although the kites were in disrepair, they seemed to elicit sufficient interest and curiosity within the town to cause the committee to re-establish the banner and kites. It was agreed purchasing manufactured kites would be a more efficient solution to getting large enough kites with plenty of color. It was agreed we would purchase 25 kites. Donna and Steve will first try Walmart and Target stores to see if donations are a possibility, assuming the kites available fit the described need. The second option would be to purchase them on-line. The hope is to get this done by the end of the month. Rob Wood and Steve will work on getting the banner up.

AARP Conference: Donna has been approached by Patricia Oh to present our kite idea at the upcoming June AARP workshop. Donna has agreed and so we are thankful to her and for the opportunity to share our idea with other communities. **The workshop is June 18 - 21 in Portland at USM Hannaford Hall. There is no cost to attend this workshop.** Donna should have more to report from the second go-round with the banner and kites!

Report from Clark: Public works is prepared to post the traffic speed recorders on Route 115. This will capture vital information on the speed of traffic coming into town from both directions- that is when the snow subsides!

Ride Program: Both Ginny and Donna addressed the rides being offered 2 residents, one mostly for social activity, another for assistance with obtaining food from the food pantry. The committee agreed both causes fit the reason we are working to provide transportation. However, it was also suggested a guideline of parameters used to decide if a ride request conforms to the basic rationale for Living Well to provide the service. *To create the guideline, committee members are asked to submit thoughts, suggestions*

and language to Steve. He will then select and then distribute the list for further review.

The suggestion of writing a letter to neighborhood folk for potential volunteer drivers seemed a wonderful idea. Donna will send a letter to Mountfort Road people with the hope of getting a few people who can volunteer to assist with the needs of a Mountfort Road resident. The idea of neighborhood contacts to assist people seemed like an encouraging method to help with reaching a broader base of volunteer drivers directed specifically to neighbors within close reach.

Ideas for the guideline: certain town events, health appointments to local offices, social opportunities limited to a distance, food pantry assistance

Debbie Grover: It was noted we have become a referral resource when town either Debbie or Greg Payson are called for assistance to those in need. Living Well has become an important committee in the town's overall ability to respond positively to our fellow citizens in need.

Collaboration: Our committee recognizes that there have been times when meeting with other committees of town could strengthen the outcomes of our individual efforts, and/or enhance the ideas generated by each of the committees. Although collaboration has been tried and has been minimally successful, we continue to see it as an important issue. Given the belief that there is strength in numbers, the committee concluded there would be benefit in meeting with other committees to engage in conversation on this topic. Members thought the better place to start would be with the chair persons of each committee (Events, Parks & Rec, Living Well at minimum). The chair will pursue this further with the town manager.

Community Services Position: The town manager was thankful for the support given in discussing the position proposed for Wescustogo /Community Center. The town agreed to support a fulltime position to manage the events, activities and marketing of the new building. The committee discussed a continued relationship with the position. Living Well speaks directly to the varied needs within the community and is an important advocate for community activities that speak directly to the needs/interests of our residents. Therefore, the committee would favor a conversation with the town manager to explain its rationale for the Living

Well to act in an advisory role to the newly created position. The chair will have this discussion with the town manager.

Minutes recorded by Steven Palmer. Meeting adjourned at 2:50

Special Dates:

Joint EDSC & Living Well meeting to discuss Traffic Calming with Vanessa Farr April 25th at 6:30 Town Office Meeting Room

Living Well meeting; May 6th, 1PM