

**Town of North Yarmouth**

**Living Well in North Yarmouth Committee**

**November 15, 2021**

**Minutes**

Call to order: 3:15

Attending: Alvin Ahlers, Gay Peterson, Ann Dillon, Donna Palmer, Steven Palmer, Ginny Vandyke. Excused: Peter Lindsay, Peg Leonard

**Old Business**

Walk Program: Gay reported on the status of the original community walk conceived by Ginny and how it may also involve the more formal Wednesday walks sponsored by RRCT and the Chebague/Cumberland Land Trust. Chris Cabot has not yet reconnected with LWN Y to discuss how a relationship/collaboration might work. It was decided to continue with posting the community walk by Lisa Thompson. LWN Y would like to receive credit acknowledging its part in the Wednesday walks. Gay will talk to Lisa.

A lengthy discussion on the effort of LWN Y to collaborate with Lisa occurred. Gay, Ann and Peg have had three meetings with Lisa to develop program ideas. A list of ideas has been generated from these meetings. Implementation of the ideas is still being discussed.

Gay mentioned that Lisa seems to enjoy the benefit the “brainstorming” meetings while she is operating without the benefit of a town manager or other sounding board to determine the identity of the Community Center. The short period of time between the opening of the building and the pandemic has made establishing a routine for use of the

building difficult. Gay mentioned several ideas Lisa was hoping to promote: gingerbread decorations and a giving tree. LWN Y expressed a willingness to purchase 6 dozen gingerbread cookies for the children to decorate. The committee did not express support for the giving tree as there was concern for identifying those in need.

Volunteers for programs initiated by Lisa was discussed. The LWN Y volunteer list managed by Ann was determined not to be the type of list that would benefit Lisa in her search for volunteers. It was suggested that Lisa make habitual use of Reminders from Town Hall, the website and other social media to seek volunteers. Ann will develop an interest inventory with Lisa for a volunteer list in January.

Steve will meet with Lisa to discuss advisory support for her work and whatever else LWN Y can do to be supportive.

Gay suggested the idea of a whiteboard at the center to help announce what is taking place.

Reactions to the housing forum were discussed. The number attending each forum was relatively small, especially when eliminating those in attendance who are actively involved in committee work.

The discussion on Civic Participation was postponed

#### New Business

Revisit housing discussion. It was agreed that perhaps the best use of LWN Y efforts toward seniors might be to research the needs and type of support that will enhance and encourage people to live safely at home.

Ginny and Steve will arrange time to follow up with Greg Payson and Deb Grover on this subject. The committee

reviewed the housing domain and decided to remove advocacy of affordable housing and support low income senior housing initiatives and replace them with 'Future Meetings. We will now meet on the third Monday of each month, beginning in December. Next meeting will be December 20th at 6:30. Everyone asked about ZOOM. Steve will pursue this with the powers to be.

Round Robin. Steve brought the committee up to date on pickleball activities in the community gym. Play was organized through the Cumberland/North Yarmouth Rec program.

Ginny has received a call for transportation services. She will keep us posted on where this latest request might be headed. Steve mentioned RTP as a potential help. Peter Lindsay may help in this search.

Steve reminded the group to remain vigilant as to how North Yarmouth is publicized in the Cumberland/North Yarmouth Recreation publications. This was a topic of earlier concerns.

Ice Cream Social. Gay will followup when the SB makes a decision as to when the Town Meeting will be held.

Gingerbread Cookies. Ann will reach out to find a supplier for unisex undecorated gingerbread people.

Meeting Adjourned 4:48  
Recorded by Donna Palmer