

# Age-Friendly Chelmsford Implementation Committee Meeting Minutes

## February 22, 2023

**Members Attending:** Fred Brusseau, Debi Siriani, Colin Spence, Lisa Marrone, John Bowles, Steve Callaghan, Connie Donahue, Jen Melanson, Lesley Kimball

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Attending:** Paul Cohen, April Hunt, Regina Jackson

**Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Fred Brusseau.**

### **Progress Report from Domains**

Civic Participation and Employment Domain, Lisa Marrone

- Lisa M. and Fred B. went to AARP online event on civic participation and discussed a few ideas to increase interaction between community members.
- AARP has an employer pledge for local businesses to sign that we could promote possibly. Boston AgeStrong also has a similar pledge.
- Deb S. met with the Chelmsford Business Association to introduce the idea of an Age-Friendly and Dementia Friendly business model. They seemed willing to work with us.
- Deb S. and Lisa M. will review these pledges to see if they might be a good fit for Chelmsford.

Social Participation, Respect, and Inclusion Domain, Debra Siriani

- Deb S. also will be meeting with the North East ARC representative to discuss volunteer opportunities and social inclusion for their adult clients with disabilities. She will be giving a tour of the Senior Center and introducing them to the Table of Plenty.
- April H. said that the Hoarding Disorder Resource Network is going well, and all first responders in Chelmsford are now trained in Hoarding Disorder sensitivity, and she is working on training other towns representatives to train their first responders. 83 people signed up for the online HD informational webinar that she is offering. 2 members of the Chelmsford Board of Health will be starting another Buried in Treasures (BIT) Workshop Series in March. Tewksbury and Bedford and maybe Acton are now starting workshops as well.
- The Senior Center will be hosting “Coffee with a Cop” in April.

Community Support and Health Services Domain, Deputy Colin Spence

- The CPD will be running internet safety class in March for teens and parents, and will be working with the Senior Center to have one for seniors in June.
- 11 Safety Net bracelets have been deployed, and we have 4 bracelets left for people who need them.

Communication and Information Domain, Lesley Kimball

- The Age-Friendly webpage is now live, and there is a link to senior resources page for the library.
- The challenge is to update the webpage with events, so Lesley would appreciate people keeping her informed of items to put on the page. Deb S. can share the Age-Friendly Corner section of the newsletter monthly.

Transportation Domain, John Bowles and Jen Melanson

- John B. and Cindy P. of Chelmsford Ride will be visiting the Senior Center to do outreach on the program during the next Veterans' Breakfast.
- Jen M. said that they are having some trouble with the software due to lack of support services for the website.
- Fred B. mentioned that Brookline did a video for transportation options, and this might be a good suggestion for the Transportation Domain.
- Jen M. thanked Paul C. for the electric car available now for Chelmsford Ride.

Housing Domain, Connie Donohue

- The CHA will be doing renovations on Smith Street and McFarlin housing units in the Summer/Fall this year.
- Deb S. offered to send a flyer about their Mental Wellness Workshop on adjusting to changes in your living environment to post at the Housing Authority buildings.

Lisa M. has organized a Longest Day celebration for our committee members on June 21 at the Java Room to celebrate our achievements.

Fred Brusseau and Deb S. went to the Focus Group for NMCOG regarding transportation needs for the future. It was well attended by seniors, van drivers, and town officials.

**Status of efforts for Community Outreach**

- The Age-Friendly CTM show is now booked out with guests until June.

Discussion on future meetings- Zoom, or in person, or hybrid? It was decided to try hybrid at the Town Hall for the next meeting.

**Next meeting:03/29/2023, 9:00 a.m.**

**Motion to adjourn by Lisa M. Seconded by Connie D. voted unanimously.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.**