

Age-Friendly Chelmsford Implementation Committee Meeting Minutes
April 26th, 2023

Members Attending: Fred Brusseau, Deb Siriani, Colin Spence, Lisa Marrone, Jen Melanson

Members Absent: Lesley Kimball, Steve Callahan, John Bowles

Others Attending: Paul Cohen, Regina Jackson, Megan O'Neil

Meeting called to order at 9:03 by Fred Brusseau

Progress Report from Domains

Housing Domain, Connie Donohue

- Connie started off by giving us an update on housing. The construction and modification of Smith Street is complete, and people have been moved back into their units.
- People have been moved to other properties because they are emptying the entire building at Wilson St. and they are hoping to have it completed by July. The building will be new and modernized.
- They made sure to have space on their other properties in preparation for the construction.

Community Support and Health Services Domain, Deputy Colin Spence

- The department ran a banking crime seminar with Enterprise bank on the 4th and 11th at the Housing Authority. They are looking to do it again on Wilson Street and Smith Street sometime in the future.
- The department is in the process of ordering five more safety net bracelets. There are currently thirteen out now with number fourteen going out in the next week or so.
- Deputy Spence will also be a guest on the CTM Age-Friendly Chelmsford Talk Show in the coming month.

Civic Participation and Employment Domain, Lisa Marrone

- The date for the Age Strong job fair changed to October 4th, 2023.
- Lisa has observed that people are starting to use the fitness court. Lisa would like to do a segment on CTM to highlight the fitness court as a town-wide amenity that focuses on inclusivity.
- Lisa is trying to bring E-Bikes into the community and has gotten in touch with a couple companies. It has been a challenge because there is such a high demand, and the companies are behind by twelve months or more trying to get the bikes into the communities.
- Lisa will be working with the new art director on the MIP Grant and making it public. Lisa hopes it will help her to utilize her civic participation domain for volunteerism and

Age-Friendly Chelmsford Implementation Committee Meeting Minutes
April 26th, 2023

engagement with the community. Lisa stated the community has been chosen by the New England Foundation of the Arts to receive the grant and launch a temporary public art installation.

Transportation Domain, Jen Melanson

- Chelmsford Ride is giving their first rides this week, which they are excited about. They have been working hard on spreading the word and are underway with the program.
- Gardens for Good is getting ready to plant soon. They are actively seeking volunteers to help with the gardens. They will have an ad in the town managers newsletter for the month of May and will be doing a social media push as well.
- Fred asked about an update on the idea of using 10-gallon pails to help the garden out. Jen let Lisa take over answer, where Lisa stated that she spoke to John Bowles about it.
- John will be expanding on the grow a row with the idea of people joining through patio planters. John will be working with the boy scouts to use 5 -gallon buckets as planters for produce. They are working out the logistics.

Social Participation, Respect, and Inclusion Domain, Debra Siriani

- The senior center bought some large print books for the library's One Book program and would like to purchase more next year.
- Next month there will be a pronoun workshop at the senior center where people can go to learn about people's choice of gender expression (her/she, he/him, they/them, etc.). The hope is that it will give people a better understanding of the topic and will be able to answer any questions a person may have regarding the subject.
- Deb reported that the line dance social went very well, and she hopes the senior center will start doing more things that will be able to include the younger seniors who cannot make it during the center's regular hours.
- Deb is still interested in a talent show but will have to push it off for now because the CCA is running a theater project right now.
- The sensory garden is still in the works.
- Deb is also seeking help with receiving more raised beds for the gardens in the front of the building.

Fred spoke on behalf of Lesley saying that they are still working on being able to add an age friendly and other community events to the calendar on the library webpage. They are still working out a few bugs but hope to do it consistently by the end of the month.

Fred stated he also presented the FY 22 progress report at the town meeting and got the feeling it went well.

Age-Friendly Chelmsford Implementation Committee Meeting Minutes
April 26th, 2023

Lisa stated the CTM studio will be offline for June, July and maybe August so her and Debi are trying to come up with some other way to film and produce their show.

Deb stated she is doing as much as she can to promote the Chelmsford ride program. She was wondering if there was any way the program can extend their hours on Tuesday's so the Table of Plenty can take advantage of the program as well. Jen responded saying she would see if they could make the arrangements.

Status of efforts for Community Outreach

- Regina would like to promote the Chelmsford ride at the veteran's breakfast this month and Deb agreed.
- There was a discussion of how content would be approved for website after unauthorized content was on it this past month.
- Fred viewed the committee roster online and Lesley is now on the official committee membership list. Some members' terms are expiring at the end of June and there are hopes those members will re-new their membership.

Approval of the 3/29/2023 minutes

- Motion to approve – Deb. Seconded by Lisa. Approved unanimously.

Next meeting: 5/31/2023, 9:00am, Remote Meeting

Motion to adjourn by Deb. Seconded by Lisa. Voted unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32am