

MINUTES

Wednesday, July 12, 2015

5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Denno, Teri Maloney-Kelly, Tom Gruber, Peter Bingham, Barbara Berkovich, Cathy Campbell, Lisa Crowley, Jean Lamson, Sandra Parker, Kendall Putnam, Sally Semmes-Pierce, Cicely Russell, Paula Slipp, Christine Turner, Eileen Wyatt

OTHERS PRESENT: Sandy Nickerson, Michael Kemna, Delores Vail from Falmouth's Senior Citizen Advisory Committee and Jeanne Chadbourne, Selectperson, Town of North Yarmouth.

I. Welcome

II. Approval of the June 10, 2015 meeting minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve the June 10, 2015 meeting minutes as presented.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

III. Leadership Team Change

Tom Gruber shared that Pete O'Donnell has resigned as Co-Chair due to a job change that would prohibit him from making meetings. In addition, Teri has decided not to be a Co-Chair moving forward. It was agreed that going with a committee format like the other Town committees, with a Chair and Vice Chair, is the best format moving forward. Dale Denno was nominated to be Chair and Teri Maloney-Kelly was nominated as Vice Chair. A Motion was made and seconded to accept these nominations.

VOTED: UNANIMOUS

IV. Survey Feedback

962 survey responses were received. A copy of the complete survey and results were distributed prior to the meeting.

Priorities

~Lower property taxes. This was clearly the highest concern from survey respondents. Tom and Dale shared an idea which could assist some tax payers in capping taxes deferring them until the property is sold. There would be criteria as to who would be eligible such as longevity of ownership, age and income guidelines. Tom is Chairman of the Finance Committee on Town Council. The State did away with the Circuit Breaker Program which provided \$80,000-\$100,000 of assistance to our seniors in town in the past. We are actively looking for ways to bring back some assistance. All options will be reviewed.

~Community connection. We need to look at ways to better connect our citizens. It is not uncommon for families to move into town for the schools then move out once their children are through the school system.

~Transportation. The survey revealed that there is a desire for transportation options.

~Health and socialization. A need for access to trained home health services is needed.

~Vetted repair and service vendor list.

~Senior center.

~Affordable housing.

~Mobility options such as lighted walkways and sidewalks.

~Good and services availability.

Communication Plan

The Leadership team will put together an Executive Summary of the survey results for public distribution. This will be put on the AIP page on the website.

Follow Up With Volunteers

Those who expressed an interest in volunteering received a letter thanking them for their willingness to help and that we would be in touch as plans are formalized. We had 8 volunteer to do home visits, 6 for helping with chores/repairs and 5 in the socialization area. These names will be shared with the subcommittees so they can make contact and keep these resources in our communication loop.

V. Leadership Team Expansion

We will be expanding the Leadership Team to include more Town resources to assist in executing initiatives and drive deliverables. Town Manager, Bill Shane will join the Team. In addition, all subcommittee chairs will become part of the Leadership Team and join in on the biweekly meetings. This should improve communication among the members and keep us better updated on the committee activities.

VI. Update on SMAA Contract Resource

Tom and Dale met recently with SMAA's operational leader to better formalize our needs. We shared the survey results as a means to focus in on the position priorities. There are three internal candidates being considered. This will be a contract position providing assistance to our committee and citizens 10 to 12 hours per week. This position will be filled within the next month.

VII. Forum Planning

Dale and Tom are working with Bill Shane on securing a date and place for the Forum. We are looking at dates in October and this will be finalized soon.

VIII. Subcommittee Updates

Delores Vail from Falmouth shared their Town's efforts. A committee has been formed, a survey was conducted at the June elections and they are currently meeting two times per month. They will be making a recommendation to the Town Council to hire a person to lead their initiative. They will be looking to partner with other towns on Community Block Grants submissions and other related projects.

Jeanne Chadbourne from North Yarmouth shared she is here to find out what we are doing and how North Yarmouth can partner with us as well as begin this important work in North Yarmouth. She has lots of questions and will be in touch.

Subcommittees have not met since our June meeting so there were no reports.

The next AIP Committee meeting will be held on September 9th at 5:00 p.m.
The next Leadership Team meeting will be on August 24th at 5:15 p.m.

IX. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Teri Maloney-Kelly
Acting Committee Secretary