

Age-Friendly Community Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2024

- I. Attendees: Leroy Walker, Frank Pippin, Diana Pippin, Debbie Bechard, Tina Eugley, Bill Eugley, Donna Wallace, Belinda Gerry, Dana Morrell, Larry Pelletier, Bob Cavanagh and Renee Bucknell. Special guests: Al Anderson and Jonathan LaBonte and Debbie Bechard from Seniors Plus.
- II. Meeting opened and minutes were reviewed. Motion by Frank Pippin to approve. Second by Diana. All in favor
- III. Clothing Give-Away will be held on Saturday, May 18th at the Auburn Library. Lots of clothing has been received. Help is needed on Friday, May 17th at 10:00 to move clothes to the library, and at 11:00 to set everything up. Leroy will have hangers and coat racks, etc. Lots of calls have come in thanking us for sponsoring the give-away. We may do another one in the fall and maybe next spring.
- IV. Movies – Several people have signed up (over 16) for the May 21st movie “The Bucket List”. Popcorn and water will be provided.
- V. Congratulations to Ben Weisner on his new 10 lb. baby boy!!!
- VI. Open Session
 - A. There are four appointments to the Age-Friendly Committee who need to be sworn in for a 3-year term.
 - B. Frank thanked the committee for supporting the veterans and spouses breakfast at the American Legion. These breakfasts are held on the first Sunday of every month from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Leroy is planning a baked bean supper in October.
 - C. Larry spoke about the Honor Flight trip
 - D. Debbie Bechard works at Seniors Plus and spoke about Pilot Sites, which are a community-driven software program. This will launch in the fall and it is hoped that we have a leadership person by August. The purpose is to reach out to immigrants in the community. This may be a stipend position or mini grant that supports Age-Friendly.
 - E. It was announced that Donna Wallace is now the new director at the Auburn Public Library. Summer program: Read Me – Mom in Full and The Road to Dolphin are two books by Maine authors. Adventures in Nature Programs.
 - F. It was asked if Age-Friendly could do something with the library (purchase something.) The book club is held once a month – take books to nursing homes, Barker Arms, Tech Talk Friday – Second Friday of each month.
 - G. Renee reported that the Sunshine Club made 40 bouquets to deliver to shut-ins. Coffee talks monthly.
 - H. Larry received an email from Eddie Burgess stating that he could not make the meeting because his 88 year old friend has fallen and broken 2 vertebrae. His niece has POA and is giving him a hard time getting information. He wants to step up and do more for him.
 - I. Belinda reported that the Community Gardens are starting up. It is \$10.00 per plot. The old beds fell apart, so new ones are needed.

- VII. Al Anderson from Advocacy & Outreach works on issues like utilities, etc. at Augusta. Second Congressional District. Aim is to support what is being done in communities and bring up new ideas. Transportation is a concern for Auburn. Programs are run by volunteers. Up-coming events include: “On Tap” event on June 27, 4:00 p.m. at Margarita’s, July 13th from 12 to 4:00 p.m. – Power Health Tours – a community give-back day – James Longley School gym on Birch Street. AARP has 200,000 members in the state to help and support un in any way. The final Thursday of the month, speakers come to Senior Centers and give presentations. Jonathan LaBonte thanked AARP for the grant that allowed us to do a walk audit and would like to work with AARP to do more walking audits.

Leroy thanked Al for coming to our meeting. There is interest in fraud protection and scams.

Jonathan LaBonte is concerned with the sidewalks at Festival Plaza and is looking into making them safer.

- VIII. Adjournment at 6:35 p.m. on a motion by Larry Pelletier and second by Dana Morrell.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Biron, Secretary

Minutes taken in my absence by Cindy Larrabee (Thank you!)