

Freedom Advisory Committee on Aging
3/20/18

March 20, 2018

Carol Anthony, Sandy Boyle, Cindy Fleming, Rick Davidson (chair), Anne Cunningham, Cheryl Harris

Community Members present: Nancy Seabury, Diana Thurston, Bill Elliott

Review of minutes: Correct date of 3/13/18 meeting from 3/12/18 to 3/13/18. Change Carroll County from supervisors to Delegation. Minutes accepted with these changes. Minutes from 3/6/18 accepted without changes.

Mailing has been accepted by BOS and Planning Board for funding. Rick summarized for community members current status.

Next is to look at the logistics of the mailing. We were told we cannot send out anything with the tax bills.

Anne said mailing is ready to go to Minuteman Press when color of paper is established (Cheryl to get) and may have to change from Freedom town postal permit. Carol asked why colored paper—studies have shown that some colors of paper have greater contrast and so easier to read. Mailing is going to people who are tax payers and renters based on voter check list and tax lists. Lists are not current, have lots of dead folks as well as folks who have moved—cannot change this list without notifying state by certified mail. Anne has gone through each listing in order to identify population, total mailing is 684. Will print additional copies at town hall to post at town offices, library, church and Village Store on white paper.

Sandy did send a message to Lisa Wheeler, so it should be in today's paper. Need to know specific date of mailing; should say it is about seniors and caregivers as well as those in Freedom who may be a senior someday.

Minuteman Press will take about a week and sent bulk mailing so let Lisa Wheeler know that it will come in next few weeks and focus groups will be in May.

Need to add sentence that folks should respond within 3 weeks of mailing.

Focus groups: Logistics of doing focus groups needs to be addressed, secondary issue is what to do with the data when the focus groups meet. It is important that something change based on information. Carol will do a poster to advertise the mailing.

Anne and Rick going to Carroll County Aging Workgroup tomorrow and will be interested in what they hear.

Clarified what requirements are for right to know law related to this meeting.

Focus groups need to be no larger than 18, and probably 3 sessions on different days of week and daytime and evening. Will have to wait until get responses to determine when to set up focus groups.

List of available services was taken to Planning Board and BOS. Also need to get Sylvia's list into an official list and put on the website. All need to be noted as constantly in revision as changes occur. Of course, many seniors are not computer savvy or even have access to a computer. Also need to tell folks to go to the library and use the computer.

Off topic: Rick mentioned that they used to do course for the elderly in computer use. Need to find a place where we can offer such a course. May be able to get folks to donate usable computers to elderly.

Next steps: get mailing out, assemble responses; at next meeting move forward from there.

Boudinham ME is still communicating with us.

Community Club presentation: Rick is unavailable to speak at the community club dinner 4/11 at 7 PM. Cindy volunteered to do instead. Anne suggests that we tape it to capture ideas,

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make a two way conversations. Because 4 members will be there, needs to be published as a public meeting with an agenda.
Also take flip charts and Sandy and Cheryl will capture comments. Important to make sure that this is not a substitute for the regular focus groups.

Resource list: Cindy asked what is happening with liability issue on resource list—Anne will check with town counsel. Based on the good morning call in, need to clarify as there is nothing on sheriff's office or Freedom police sites. Freedom uses the sheriff's department but we need to talk with Sheriff's department and Freedom police department. Josh does do a wellness check. Can we get Josh to add this to his website and we can publicize? Cindy will talk with Josh.

Public comment: make the section of mailer "if you don't have an email" in bold so it stands out.
Community Club just put together a magnet with numbers, Bill doesn't know if the good morning call info is on that.

Schedule next meeting: April 24 10 AM to look at setting up focus groups and review responses to mailing.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Harris