

Freedom Advisory Committee on Aging
Sept. 11, 2018

Present: Rick Davidson, Cindy Fleming, Sandy Boyle, Linda Habif (via phone), Anne Cunningham, Cheryl Harris
Community Members Present: Hazel & Dick Gauley, Lee Fritz

Review of minutes: Correct July 16 minutes, quote by Anne, to reflect that now the village store has only a few folks. Both minutes of July 16 and Aug 20, 2018 accepted with change to July.

Rick brought up Bailey Island/ Harpswell/Moore's Island, which has some impressive activities that are now being done—they have found ways to get grants and work with Habitat for Humanity. One activity is home repair activity—grant covers materials and volunteers who do the work for free if meet certain financial criteria—may be a staggered pay scale (unclear). They do Lunch with Friends and may get donations from restaurants. Transportation is using a pool of available folks that if you need a ride you ask a few days in advance. Sandy mentioned RSVP which covers Carroll County does transportation. Cindy and Rick going to Carroll County committee meeting and may find out that there are some services available that we would not want to duplicate.

Anne suggests that many of these services are currently in existence through various organizations in the community such as OCC, FCC, Conway Lutheran Church for home repairs.

There must be someone who establishes eligibility but unclear who. Rick also suggests that perhaps folks could have one person who becomes their advocate and assures access to services.

Cindy suggests that there must be a central point of contact that is appointed or an outside organization perhaps paid for by grants. Towns can't easily get grants-but a private non-profit might have easier time. We've really started to determine what is out there and need to codify, and determine what is still needed based on focus groups.

Rick thinks that we need to get the BOS to determine directions.

Cindy reviewed what needs to be reported to BOS and Cheryl suggested that there be concrete recommendations for the BOS to use as a future strategy.

Outline for BOS presentation

- Identify needs based on focus groups + interviews
- Available Services currently available (separate public & private)
- Recommendations to include Coordinator position
- Printing costs

Anne thinks the coordinator position could go into the town budget and a warrant article into the town meeting. The warrant could be written so that a funding could be from a grant or through town funding (?tax rebate for folks over 84?) It would take a while to obtain 501c status which would take a while.

Rick thinks we need to get out information out to people-as we have obtained quite a bit to date. May be able to post information on new Freedom email bulletin board. We might become the keeper of the list of resources or a private non-for-profit organization. Sandy says we need printed copies that folks can pick up who don't have computers: Church, Freedom Discount Beverages, Library, Town offices, A Second Glance or other salon. Huggins and Memorial Social Services

Should get on an October BOS agenda.

Need information on salary, job description, recommend if full time or part time-# hours/week, computer, mileage, phone. Our designation as an AARP community may make grants more accessible to us. Although it may be that a private organization may have an easier time of obtaining grants.

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There is an issue that right to know law will require that notes of the interviews be made public- and this is very private information. Anne urged caution with how we include the interview information so that no privacy violations occur and we remain in compliance with right to know law.

The focus groups repeatedly said that we need someone to help find resources—being official might be good or a turnoff.

Anne will do an outline and send out to us.

Next meeting Oct 10 at 2:30 PM

Executive summary, written report and summary slides on paper

Get on BOS agenda for 10/15 or 10/22.

Lee Fritz brought up that the BOS were told that more folks would be needed in the future and if they do hire a coordinator then there needs to be designated space for the office—perhaps at the Village Store building. She did mention that the informal email system worked to help one resident find a new apartment.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Harris