

Kennebunkport Senior Advisory Committee

Minutes – October 24, 2017

Members Present: Susan Boak, Loreta McDonnell, and Susan Gesing. Member unable to attend: Dean Auriemma, Penny Gruen and Bill Leffler

Vice Chair, Susan Boak called meeting to order at 9:20 AM. As there was not a quorum, minutes of prior meeting were not approved and no official decisions were made.

Susan Boak gave an updated presentation of the survey data. A few changes were recommended for the tables and charts. Loreta and Susan G. worked with Susan B the past week in verifying data and both gave appreciation to Susan B. for her outstanding work on the survey. No more surveys will be accepted, if submitted.

Several reactions and ideas were expressed relating to the survey results.

- Communication of available information for older adults appears to be a key issue
- While there are programs available to older adult residents, people do not necessarily know about them or how to access them.
- Signing up for informative “push” emails from the town would be useful for older residents.
- Possibly there could be a sign up table on voting days for this email service.
- If there is a standing committee for senior issues, it might be good to have the town nurse and a representative from Parks and Rec. on it —or a way to share information and ideas with these two town departments.

Specific ideas that might be forwarded to a standing committee might include:

- a. offering a meeting on home energy efficiency/saving on heating costs
- b. providing townspeople a list of people who provide snow plowing/shoveling.
- c. conducting a walking survey of town to identify dangerous spots for walkers.
- d. offering/promoting a mature driving course to help people drive safely as they age.

There was consensus that it would be useful to understand more about what the Health Council offers and to see if Alison Kenneway could arrange for this committee to meet with representatives from that one. Loreta will contact Alison to see if she can arrange that.

Susan B. agreed to speak to Laurie Smith to determine what the committee’s presentation to selectmen might be. Susan G and Loreta recommended that it be a shortened PowerPoint with pie charts and graphs and not comments from respondents (although hard copy of full PowerPoint with comments would have been given to selectmen in advance.) Meeting with selectmen would also include recommendations from committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45AM. Next meeting will be on November 14 at the North Street meeting room, 9 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Gesing, Secretary