

Swampscott for All Ages Committee Meeting Minutes, January 4, 2023

Attendees: Michele Audet, Kevin Breen, Alyce Deveau, Marzie Galazka, Patricia Hines, Joan McCormack, Jenn Nisbet, Bob Powell, Bill Quinn, Claire Regan, Margaret Somer, Sue Sussman, Heidi Whear

Meeting called to order at 7:11 pm

Minutes from Nov. meeting approved

Domain Assignments and Updates

Housing: Bill Quinn

- SfAA advocating Hadley School conversion to affordable housing and active community center
- Swampscott Senior Center will host a Talk About Town-What's an ADU? presentation, Friday, January 6, 11:30am: Guest Speaker Mike Proscia, a Project Manager at Jones Architectural firm in Boston, will demystify the concept of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)
- Swampscott planning board will hold an ADU presentation featuring an expert from AARP and an ADU builder on Monday Jan. 30, 7 pm at the High School

Transportation: Bob Powell, Pat Hines

Salem was not included in the grant to fund a subsidized rideshare program in Salem, Beverly and Peabody. SfAA members are scheduling a meeting with US Congressman Seth Moulton to discuss how Swampscott can be included in future grants.

Outdoor Space and Buildings: Marzie Galazka

Town of Swampscott will hold an ideas-exchange meeting on Jan 28 for public input on the future use of the Hawthorne by the Sea property; time and place TBD. SfAA Committee members encouraged to attend.

Social Participation: Alyce Deveau

- Seaglass village now has over 100 members; and close to 70 volunteers
- Upcoming social activities include small group discussions on aging and a pot-luck soup lunch
- Collaboration with local churches and synagogues continues

Civic Participation and Employment: Margaret Somer, Michelle Audet

- Exploring ways to get residents involved in the community through volunteering, community organizations, etc.
- AmeriCorps is providing grants to support seniors in seeking employment.

Community and Health Services: Sue Sussman, Joan McCormack, Kevin Breen, Heidi Whear (dementia-friendly initiative)
Planning a caregiver resource conference in May

Communication and Information: Jenn Nisbet, Claire Regan

Respect and Inclusion: Alyce Deveau, chair; to be combined with social participation
Subcommittees meet monthly as tasks dictate

Annual Report FY 2022: Approved w/addition of committee members and link to website; report will be included in Town report

COA Update: Grant from MA COA for caregiver conference/resource fair scheduled on May 6, 2023 at Swampscott High School (SHS). Developed brochure to promote conference and to help people self-identify as caregivers; it will be included in upcoming census mailing to Swampscott residents.

Action Plan Year 3 Goals - 2023

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings: Increase the number of public restrooms; determine areas of need. Create plant pollinator garden in the Swampscott high school quad.

Transportation: Pursue funding to support ride share/Salem Skipper type program in Swampscott. Explore Go-Go Grandparent, a ride-sharing service for older adults.

Housing: Promote understanding of ADUs, benefits of ADUs, particularly for aging population with goal of passing revised zoning by-laws in favor of ADUs. Continue to promote the development of affordable housing for seniors through the Hadley Reuse Committee findings for affordable housing.

Social Participation: Partner with Swampscott Recreation department, local non-profits including Seaglass Village to expand opportunities for social participation.

Respect and Social Inclusion: Promote Purple Table program to restaurants. Train staff. Promote program in Swampscott.

Civic Engagement and Employment: Participate in Caregiver's Conference in May. Increase opportunities for residents to volunteer and stay civically engaged in town activities.

Communication and Information: Explore the possibility of having a centralized social calendar for events happening around Swampscott as a way of making residents aware of programs. Create and share instructions showing people how to stay connected with the town and all the latest news.

Community and Health Services: Work on Caregiver Conference in May 2023; ensure all resources promoted at Conference are included in a resource guide. Improve public education about dementia, access to adult day programs, and businesses that are trained to interact with people with dementia may be considered.

Other Business: Temple Sinai in Marblehead is holding a weekend workshop, Jan. 20-22 featuring Rabbi Laura Geller, author of Getting Good at Getting Older

Next meeting: Jan 18, 2023, 7 pm; virtual meeting only via Zoom

Adjourn: 8:50 pm