

AGING IN PLACE MEETING NOTES

August 25, 2016 at the Shutesbury Town Hall

Those in Attendance: Carla Palmer, David Dann, David Wheeler, Paula Lyons, Nina Compagnon, Susan Rice, Sally Fairfield, Jill Solomon Marland, Thomas Masterton (from the Leverett)

Carla shared with us her conversation with Sara Lenox from Northampton Neighbors a village to village network that broke off from an Amherst group. They have been in existence for about two years. She will also forward notes from a June meeting of all the Massachusetts village to village networks for us to read that Sara sent to her.

Carla is our primary contact with the national village to village network organization and will register all the approved secondary members. Those members are David Dann, David Wheeler, Paula Lyons, Susan Rice, Jill Marland, Nina Comagnon, Linda Seidman, and Thomas Masterton. We will still have two additional secondary memberships that we would like to hold for participating neighboring towns.

We had an interesting discussion on aspects we liked from Nauset Neighbors (vvt) that is run entirely by volunteers and who we are and what we want to be. Some of the highlights include:

- ✓ It would be great if we could find ways to involve young folks for volunteering
- ✓ We all liked the idea of a volunteer bank- details to emerge
- ✓ David Wheeler shared with us his class on chronic illness as well as being considered as an advisory council member to Cooley Dickinson hospital
- ✓ it often takes vvt models two plus years to launch their program into the community
- ✓ vvt models have a wide range of annual membership fees, often based on if they have hired help. We all felt our model should allow for a wide range of participants regardless of their income.
- ✓ Our relationship with Shutesbury COA is beneficial at this time and that David Dann will be responsible to post the meetings and send minutes/notes to the town clerk for recording. At some future time we will determine whether to become an independent 501c3.
- ✓ For now the best name for our task force is neighbor to neighbor-mission statement "helping each other age in place". Our goal is to help elderly folks to remain in their homes.
- ✓ We have a wealth of resources in our community (Umass and Amherst College among them) that we should find ways we can interface with.

Action steps for our next meeting September 29th.

- Susan Rice will outreach to Pelham
- Paul Lyons will outreach to Wendell
- David Dann will meet with COA groups from Wendell and New Salem
- David Wheeler will outreach to LifePath and Amherst College

- Jill, Sally, and Nina will visit some of our elders to interview them to see what services they want/need in order to stay in their homes
- Thom will conduct a limited interest survey in Leverett
- Carla will review vtv community survey form, will register all 8 secondary vtv members, and send us Massachusetts vtv meeting notes
- Susan Rice will be next month's note taker

David Dann