

Aging in Place Task Force  
Minutes of meeting December 8, 2016 at Shutesbury Town Hall

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In attendance: David Dann, Susan Rice, Georganne Greene, David Wheeler, Maggie Houghton, Abbie Jenks, Thom Masterton, Paula Lyons, Nancy Spittle, Linda Seidman (notetaker).

Read and approved minutes of previous meeting with spelling corrections.

David Dann suggested, inspired by an email report from Paula concerning the work of the small group that met to discuss possible names and mission, that we develop a list of what we want to accomplish in the next 4-6 months.

The list comprised:

Name of group

Mission statement

Determine degree of interest in towns

Complete surveys (Nancy reported that she and Maggie developed a phone survey for Wendell, building on the housing survey done recently.

Begin to determine services we will offer

Create tentative structure (will we be all volunteer, have paid staff, a mixture, a time bank?)

Apply for non-profit status

Develop CORI policy

Determine vetting process for volunteers and for vendors

Develop resources—find a legal friend, IT support, develop relationships with Life Path, Highland Valley, local groups.

Establish communication network.

Collect names and vet vendors.

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Paula presented the brochure from Northampton neighbors group, suggesting we might work with their approach to explaining ourselves by using a brief subtitle after our name. Following considerable discussion of possible names and “subtitles”, we arrived at the following:

**Village Neighbors; empowering aging adults to lead independent and engaged lives at home and in their communities.**

We agreed that consulting with the Northampton group, which is further along in its developmental process than we are, might prove beneficial in helping us think about how to go forward. Paula will follow up to see whether a small group from our task force could visit with them and will report to us via email about that possibility.

Thom reminded us that Village to Village has mentors. Both Nauset and Monadnock offer such services. David D. will ask Nina to ask Nauset, an all-volunteer organization, if (name) would mentor us.

Maggie asked whether we might want to consider the hub and spoke model, with Northampton as the hub.

We discussed the volunteer services we could say we will offer. We know that, for the most part, they will fall into categories most villages offer:

Transportation

Help with chores

IT.support

Social contact

Vetted service referrals (we asked what we mean by “vetted”—insurance, license, CORI check, recommendations for quality of work and reliability).

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Agenda item for January 12, 12-1:30, meeting: how will we be organized? Look at Village to Village for models.

February meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 12-1:30.