

**Mission: The AIP Mission is to:**

**Provide advocacy for changes in Eliot's physical, economic and social environment that enables Eliot's residents, especially older residents, to live in their homes for as long as possible, and foster the creation of services and programs geared to keeping all residents active and engaged in the community.**

**Present:** Ellen Ceppetelli, Gail Licciardello, Nedra Sahr, Tracy Dunton, Jordan Miles.

Melissa Layment and Michelle Meyer arrived late.

**Meeting called to order:** 4:01 PM

**Review of Minutes:** No corrections proposed.

Since there is a voting member vacancy, Ellen appointed Melissa as a voting member for this meeting.

**Motion:** Nedra moved to approve the minutes. Tracy seconded. Nedra, Tracy, Ellen, and Melissa voted in favor. Gail abstains, as she had not reviewed the minutes. None oppose.

**Aging in Place Committee Secretary:** Nedra moves to offer the Recording Secretary Position to Tracy Dunton. Gail seconded. Gail, Melissa, Ellen, Tracy and Nedra vote in favor, none opposed.

**Chair Update:**

Ellen had attended the Gerontological Conference. It was excellent and Ellen listened to all of the presentations. One presentation was done by Dr. Noble, who started the Loneliness Project, which is now called the Successful Aging Project. It was very interesting information.

The other item Ellen brought up was the AARP Livability Dashboard. There was a walk-through last week and there will be another this week on their website. Ellen sent in the 57 additions that Melissa and Amanda Ouelette submitted to the Southern Maine Agency on Aging, which will be added to the dashboard. There is a specific form to be used for additional information. Melissa stated that it can be sent in as a spreadsheet as well. On December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 there will be an update and all submissions will need to be sent in by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There will be a whole plan to access the dashboard at the December meeting.

Ellen asked Tracy and Melissa their opinions of the dashboard. Tracy stated that had she had the information years ago as a caregiver, how helpful it would have been to know of so many resources. Melissa enjoyed the presentation, from a technical aspect there is a centralized location for all resources. Ellen and Gail are performing route updates.

Nedra asked as a member of society, how one could go onto the dashboard to find out information. She voiced concern that there is a plethora of information. There was discussion about collaboration with Eliot Connects (Michelle is a member of that Board), and SOBO. Ellen also attended a Zoom meeting with Eliot Connects. It was decided to wait until the end of the meeting to collaborate on how to address this concern.

Gail mentioned that the committee doesn't currently have a regular way of communicating with Eliot residents. A newsletter twice a year or once a quarter stating any updated information was discussed. Obtaining a logo was also brought up to better help with communication. It was stated that a plan needed to be created for better communication. It will be the focus of the December meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Gail stated that the committee should have funding leftover from the New England Grass Roots Fund in the amount of \$571.78. The Aging in Place Committee received the \$1000.00 scholarship from the New England Grass Roots Fund back in March or April. It was made available to towns for pandemic relief. It was discussed that the scholarship could be used to provide food or medications for resident. It was not needed at that time. \$235.00 of the scholarship was used for fuel for a resident who didn't have hot water. Another donation was made for the purchase of food. No additional expenses were incurred. Remaining balance being \$571.78.

**Motion:** Nedra moves to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. Tracy seconded. Gail, Ellen, Nedra, Tracy and Melissa all in favor, none oppose.

**Arts in Healing Aging Project:**

Ellen had sent out two forms. The first being the Creative Circle Club. It would be a continuation of a current memorandum of understanding and the agreement to continue to be connected. A new memorandum of understanding would be signed, new supplies would be ordered. The supplies cost \$41.00 per member. 5 more supply packs would be ordered. The Creative Circle Club would have their own facilitator and would recruit more people. Their obligation would be that they need to have their own facilitator. The question was asked if the committee wanted to continue, the Creative Circle Club's last meeting is in November. Gail stated she would like to see some feedback before approving.

The official outcomes of any such feedback will be available for the committee to review. Ellen stated that she will ask Deb Llyod for a copy of the report. Tracy thinks that a written report would be in good faith. Tracy also stated that it may get the funding for the minutes for the December meeting as well as create ease for recruiting. Melissa is in favor of the Creativity Club and the art sessions. She stated it is very healing and a good way to connect. The facilitator will have access to the committee's Zoom for the Club's use. Someone from the Club will learn how to run a Zoom meeting.

**Note: Michelle Meyer joined the meeting at this point.**

Ellen will contact Deb about continuing the second session of the Creative Circle Club.

None oppose.

Nedra proposed that herself, Ellen and Deb get together to write up an article for the newspaper.

**Motion:** Gail moved that the committee support the Creative Circle Club in continuing, if the participants are interested. Michelle seconds. Gail, Nedra, Ellen, Melissa, Tracy and Michelle all in favor, none oppose.

**Motion:** Gail moved, pending the report from Deb Llyod regarding the Arts in Humanities Project, that the committee move forward for the second session. Tracy seconded. Gail, Nedra, Melissa, Tracy and Michelle all in favor, none oppose.

### **AARP Challenge Project:**

A huge thank you was voiced for Tom. A letter of recognition on Town stationary was discussed. Gail will write the letter. All members will need to stop into the Town Office for signatures. The committee has not yet heard back from Steve about when the benches will be picked up. The question was raised on if a ceremony should be performed when the benches are being placed. It was mentioned that due to COVID, having a ceremony may give the wrong impression. Bringing that many people together may send the wrong message.

A picture will be taken and released to the public. The committee will request that Ralph from the Portsmouth Herald do a write up of the occasion. Melissa offered to take a small video once the benches have been installed. The question was raised if there should be documentation of Public Works installing the benches, then again at the first snow. The option of adding Christmas lights. Also, possibly having someone walking to the benches to show the ease of access. The video's length would be approximately two minutes. It was also discussed that the Eliot Gardening Club is interested in adding perennials. Melissa and Gail will work together in creating the video. The video will also be sent to AARP. There was discussion on adding in someone with a dog as well as Christmas lights. It was noted that the positive press will be helpful.

### **Action Plan: Social Participation Domain, Civil Participation and Employment**

It was stated that Social Participation was covered immediately due to COVID. The other areas that need attention were Civil Participation as well as Volunteer and Engagement. Nedra agreed that those items need attention.

Gail mentioned that the logo should be completed. The initial plan was to work with the high school to create a competition, then give an award. Due to COVID restrictions it seems to have fallen through the cracks. Michelle offered to approach Claudia Keener from Eliot Connects. There were logos that she had created for Eliot Connects that could easily be transferred to Aging in Place. Michelle also mentioned that her husband owns a business that has an art department. She could approach the art department and see if they would be willing to work on the logo. Michelle stated she would look into both options.

Ellen will forward Saco's logo for inspiration, along with the Aging in Place mission statement. Nedra mentioned using "Eliot, The Place to Live Forever" or "Eliot, The Place We Want to Stay". The committee agreed there was money in the budget to compensate whoever was going to spend time working on it.

It was discussed that the Town received a 5 out of 100 for walkability. Nedra mentioned she would make changes to the Outdoor Space on the dashboard. There are 57 changes to be made and added to the dashboard for Public Spaces. Gail also agreed to take a look at the updates. More can be added in January. All updates can be put into a spreadsheet. Updates need to be in by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and the submit will be done on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Partners in AIP Work:**

The question was raised on how Aging in Place can work together with Eliot Connects. It was noted that Eliot Connects is an umbrella organization. It works with Non-Profit Status and provides Liability Insurance to any organization who fit their mission statement of those in need of the Town of Eliot. They connect those in need with the services they require.

Vision is a one stop shop for services. For example; fuel assistance, the food pantry, as well as places in the community that not everyone would know about is located in one area. Churches, food drives and toy drives are also listed there. All of this information will be under the Eliot Connects logo. The Aging in Place logo will be underneath Eliot Connects. The committee is in the process of deciding on how to connect into the Eliot Connects website. The discussion will be continued during the December meeting. Melissa will talk with Ellen about joining Eliot Connects.

**2021-2022 AIP Budget Request:**

The budget was cut to \$3000.00. Multiple grants were received this year and there is a remaining balance with the budget. Successful Aging is something that the committee would like to put \$1000.00 into for next year. The money will be to attend a meeting for at least 1 member.

The SMMA Sand and Salt Project is a home bound project only.

Ellen will submit a \$3000.00 budget; it is reasonable due to current circumstances.

**Motion:** Gail motioned to adjourn. Nedra seconded. Melissa, Gail, Nedra, Ellen, Tracy and Michelle all in favor, none oppose.

**Meeting adjourned 5:20 PM.**