

Eustis-Stratton
Access to Resources/Transportation Committee
Minutes of July 10, 2023 Meeting

In attendance: Janice Kent, Wendy Boyle, Craig Zurhorst, Dawn Smith, Peter Smith

Community Survey Update:

Pete reviewed the survey results with 62 respondents so far. **(see below for update)**

Access to Resources:

Dawn reported that there are 2 options to consider for a navigator to assist Eustis-Stratton:

1. HCC- Lori Brown talked with her Community Outreach Team and reported that they have the capacity for one of their Community Health Workers to do some weekly or biweekly outreach in Stratton starting in October. The thought is to trial this for a 3 month period with heavy marketing in September. This would be contingent on their staffing remaining stable.
2. Rangeley Health and Wellness: Dawn spoke with their navigator, Hannah Schwartz, who would be very excited about coming to the Stratton Community Building once a week and to also be available by phone the other days. She spoke with her supervisor who whole-heartily supports Hannah adding Eustis-Stratton to the territory that she covers.

Janice, Wendy, Dawn, and Peter all agreed that the Rangeley Health and Wellness proposal sounded like the most viable at the moment and Dawn and Peter are to follow up with Hannah to work out the operational details. **(see below for update)**

Pete suggested that we hold a community wide meeting in September to hear about what the community needs from a navigator and for the potential navigator to be introduced and to talk about what they can provide. Wendy and Janice are to determine a date that would work, the time of day, and the refreshments to be served.

Transportation:

Craig reported that determining if a public transportation system can happen for our area is still on the table for discussion. However, before WMT can speak further about it, they first need to expand their fleet of buses which will not happen until next spring.

Craig also reported that they are working with Rangely to try to increase ridership for the WMT bus that goes there. Janice suggested that if Rangely doesn't want to use the WMT bus that they move that service to Stratton. She said she is sure we could get a minimum of 4 riders. Craig is to take this under advisement.

Janice is to follow up with the Roadhouse to close the loop on providing in-town transportation. **(see below for update)**

No next meeting date was set.

Updates to the minutes

Update to the survey

As of July 20, we now have 66 survey responses from the community, This is an increase of 4 from the survey total of 62 reported on July 10. The result of the additional surveys continues to support the themes reported from the tabulation summary of July 6.

The results continue to strongly support the need for a Resource Navigator for the community, Attached is the most recent survey summary of July 20 FYI.

Rangeley Health and Wellness Navigator position update:

Dawn spoke with Jen McCormack, the director, who said that she is excited for Hannah to start helping people in Stratton on Wednesday mornings. She also agreed that Hannah would be available by phone the other days of the week. Plus she agreed that introducing Hannah during a community meeting would be a great way to get the word of mouth marketing going.

Dawn asked if Stratton-Eustis needed to compensate Hannah for her time. Hannah's position is funded through a grant until August 2024. Jen indicated that compensation is not expected or required. However, she felt that if a donation could be made to their upcoming fundraising golf tournament that would be a fabulous gesture and it would help them meet their goal. She said we would "call it good" and reassess how things are working next spring.

Attached is a list of the golf tournament sponsorship opportunities.

Transportation

Janice spoke with the Roadhouse and they are out straight with their business and won't be able to think about local transportation until at least October.