

# Minutes

## Franklin County Volunteer Network

Friday, August 14, 2009, University of Maine at Farmington

**Present:** Lisa Laflin, Pauline Rodrigue, Dennis O'Neil, Paul Gilbert, Cindy Brophy, Becky Perkins, Trudy Hamilton, Jessica Dorr, Ashley Hunter, Lana Whittemore, Carlene Wilbur, Nancy Teel

### Month of Caring

We reviewed the Month of Caring Opportunities. Lisa has descriptions for the following organizations: AWAP, Western Maine CASH Coalition, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, SAVES, and Western Maine Community Action. Additional programs that may be mentioned are:

Mt. Blue Regional School District – Pauline Rodrigue  
Volunteers are needed to be chaperones for Agricultural Day at the Fair, Sept. 21.  
Mentors are needed for several of the district's mentoring programs.  
Volunteer aids to help in the classrooms on a weekly basis.

Community Concepts – Ashley Hutter  
Drivers are needed to transport folks.

LEAP – Carlene Wilbur  
Help is needed with the Stone Soup Gardens, a walking maze and setting up walking paths.

Nancy Teel– looking for teams of three to work as weatherization evaluators.

SeniorsPlus – Trudy Hamilton  
Looking for a Meals on Wheels driver for a route from Livermore to Phillips. Mileage reimbursement is available. Their Dine Around voucher program at the Chuck Wagon in Livermore Falls has been very successful and they're looking for other restaurants to take part. They are also looking for back up volunteers for their dining site at the Masonic Hall in Farmington one day a week.

If your organization has activities to be included in the Month of Service, please send your description to Lisa by Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

---

Lisa announced that FCVN is a grant recipient of \$6,000 from the Maine Community Foundation. In addition, \$3,000 has been awarded to United Way of the Tri-Valley Area through the Maine Hearth Project. Isaac Frith will be a Vista Volunteer working with the

project. The focus will be on weatherization projects, and building the capacity of the Energy Resource Team to ensure people stay safe and warm in this and future winters.

---

### **Volunteer Recognition Event, Friday October 23, 5:30 -7:00**

Dennis O'Neil explored the possibility of having the event at UMF. The cost of two different ice cream flavors and toppings would be \$4.30 per head with a minimum of twenty people. Coffee would be \$8.99 per gallon.

Different venues in the Farmington area were discussed. Cindy will explore the possibility of St. Joseph's Parish Hall; Pauline, Mallett School; Dennis, the Community Center and the Legion Hall. Most members felt a recognition event could be held more economically than UMF's offering.

The possibility of raffling a gift basket at the Volunteer Recognition was discussed. FCVN members will contribute items from their organizations for the basket.

The possibility of giving volunteers coupons as an appreciation when they volunteer was discussed. Pizza Hut gives away coupons for a pan pizza, Gifford's gives coupons for free cones to schools, Subway gives coupons for a dollar off a foot long sub and Three Rivers Outfitters give away a free weekend to non profits. Ashley and Jessica will look into these possibilities.

Lisa will design the invitation to the Volunteer Recognition event.

### **Stuff the Bus**

A Mt. Blue Regional School District bus will be parked on Main Street in front of Meetinghouse Park on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> as a part of United Way's Campaign kick-off event. UMF students will help with the Stuff the Bus Initiative on Sept. 26. Boxes will be placed at potential drop off sites. We need drop off sites in Livermore, Jay, Wilton, Farmington, etc.

### **Other**

Trudy Hamilton is looking for Network volunteers to serve on a panel at the Blaine House Conference on Volunteerism, Oct. 13.

AWAP is holding an educational conference on Oct. 19 at the Hilton in Auburn. The focus is on gender violence. Steve Rowe is keynote speaker. Darryl Fort, Director of Development for Gov. Baldacci will also present.

Paul Gilbert encouraged people to attend or participate in the upcoming Apple/Pumpkin Festival in Livermore Falls on Sept. 26. If interested, contact the Bonnie Perkins at the Jay/Livermore/Livermore Falls Chamber.

As meetings had only been scheduled until September, the group discussed how to proceed. It was unanimous that monthly meetings are desired.

**The schedule through December is:**

**September 11**

**October 16**

**Nov. 13**

**Dec. 11**

**Meetings will be held at 8:00 a.m. at UMF's Student Center, Room C123.**

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Pauline Rodrigue, MBRSD*