MIM MINUTES - Sept. 17, 2026

Present: Robin Yerkes - Jody Lally - Michelle Held - Cheryl Maciorakowski - George Forcier - Meg Ryan - Rachel Stoller - Tilda Hunting

I. Festival of the Hills - Sunday Oct. 4, 2026 - 10-4

Our new tent needs to be set up the night before, & taken down soon after 4 PM, on the 4th

Jody will contact her grandson, Mickey Brownlow, and his friend, William Merritt for help with this.....payment in cash by Robin.

There is still concern re. Robin's difficulty in securing the needed information fo our tent location.....but prob. will be down in the ballfield.

Shifts can be about 2 hrs./ person.....and we will need more than just 2-3 of us.

Robin has secured the Health Equity surveys from Meg, which will be handed out to all who visit our tent and us at the FOH.

There is a QR code for these surveys, and Meg hopes to have 25-30 returned by 11/30/ 26.

2. MIM FY '27 Proposal due Sept. 30th re. costs for the FRCOG Purchase Order & Budget - Robin will see this is in on time

It's all about: How does our Committee make Conway more age-friendly?

1. Village to Village/ Neighbor to Neighbor Project
2. Senior Social in May
3. Pie Day in February
4. Robin's Tues. group, 1x/ month: 'Joys & Concerns of Aging'

Other possible concern:

A letter to the Selectmen requesting pneumatic door openers in the Town Hall - - for both the inner (into the large meeting room) & outer Main Doors (to the outside)

3. Village to Village Project

We know that Northampton & Montague have good N to N programs in place + as does Ashfield

We need to consult with some of those involved, as this is also a program for all.....not just 'seniors'

.....set up a goal that seems doable & possible.....

George: Reminded us that MIM is a planning group, so see what works - & then move on it!

Robin will contact JoAnn Levinson:

Jo Ann is a Conway resident who is involved in the Ashfield initiative

Robin will invite her to our next mtng.

4. Senior Social

Robin thinks that the FML will agree to pickup much of the cost, as we will be able to supply those funds in this next FRCOG/ $$ period.

5. Pie Day in February 2027

Agreed that this event will again occur at the Conway Congregational Church

The only expense for us is the Church's fee

However, we do need to do 2 things:

1. We must emphasize with better PR for the event, and especially we want kids to attend.
2. To that end therefore, we need to work with both the Church itself, and especially with the Conway Grammar School
3. In Dec. or January, we must emphasize contacting the Parents/ Teacher Ass'n. at the school - & an article into the Currents
4. Also flyers will be distributed around town.

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Rachel advocated for the value of the post card to advertise events…….it's proven to be smart & very effective.

Michelle suggested that another good avenue for distribution is the Town Sr. Thursday lunches

******Hank Horstman joined us around 10 AM -

He advocated for a possible collaboration with Shelburne Falls, especially in sharing the use of their Town Van?

OR even better - Is there the possibility of Conway having such a service for those who need such transportation?

Both Robin and Tilda addressed this issue which has been much discussed in past MIM meetings.

It is not a simple issue, as it would involve not only a large outlay of expense, but liability/ insurance issues, and CORI checks for 1-2 drivers.

Additionally, Conway doesn't possess a Sr. Ctr., as does SF - so there's also the issue of van storage.

So though a transport service clearly is needed for some persons in Conway, this

issue has so far proven to be too thorny & difficult to move forward.

Observation: Conway has no Senior Center, from which it would clearly benefit. So where is our “home”?

In general & overall - We must take a long-term view……..both George & Robin advocated for the most ’sustainable’ view as well.

Some thoughts on moving forward:

Rachel: Perhaps we can try to connect more with the Council of Aging?

George: Pursue the Neighbor to Neighbor initiative

Meg: Reiterated George’s suggestion, and consult with Whately’s N to N program

Jody: Ask a Whately person involved in their N to N program to attend our next mtng., or the one after it

George: Great that the costs of our next year’s projects all fit into our FRCOG allowances!

Next meeting: Thursday October 15, 20026 - 9 AM

Respectfully, TILDA HUNTING