

DATE: November 14, 2022
TIME: 9:00 AM

**Age-Friendly Action Committee (AFAC)
Meeting Minutes: October 13, 2022**

Attendees- Committee Members:

- Judy Morrison, Chair, COA rep
- Tim Flood, Belmont Sepac
- Judy Singler, Housing rep
- May Forkin, Library rep
- Lt. Kristin Daley, BPD, Public Safety rep
- Jolly Kabatoro, Resident rep

- Amy Checkoway, School rep
- Susan Polit, Resident rep
- Theresa O'Connor, Recreation
- Dana Bickelman, Ex-Officio

Others Attendees:

- Andrea Paschal, COA Board

Agenda:

1. Call to Order: 11:10am
2. Approve Past Meeting Minutes: Deferred; will approve at next meeting.
3. Agree on administrative items including rotating minutes:
 - Meetings will be 2nd Thursday of each month.
 - Future meeting minute takers: Nov (Susan Polit); Dec (Kristin Daley); Jan (Amy Checkoway)
 - Recreation rep is pending identification.
 - Library rep shifting from Peter Struzziero to May Forkin.
4. Comments from Town residents: None
5. Updates from each working group:
 - Housing – Susan / Kristin
 - Increase in fraud/scammers a concern.
 - Making homes safer for senior residents to “age in place”.
 - There are some guides available for free.
 - Judy Singler and Kristin were instrumental in gathering the information.
 - There is a brochure that is being prepared to include Belmont-specific requirements about permits needed, zoning concerns, how to pick contractors, architects, licenses required, recommended contract, recourse if something goes wrong, and similar.
 - This brochure is in almost final form. Negotiated with the high school who has been asked and has agreed to help design; five advanced students to help on content, how to deliver in print and digitally. AARP may assist, providing a number (about 500) of their materials, and paying for printing of the Belmont-specific brochure, with some acknowledgment. Starting project in November, to have done by end of year, with goal of sending it out in the spring.
 - This should be positioned as a new tool to lighten the load of community development which has to field a lot of calls. Kristen will run by Tom Clancy to get OK before it becomes final.
 - Will want to mention all who helped out in the development office and other town departments.
 - Will have AFAC and a few others proofread before finalizing.

• Transportation/walkability – Judy

- Cindy Dinan is new volunteer coordinator. Official start date October 24th.
- Restarting volunteer driver program through the Senior Center.
- Have funding to support transportation through end of year.
- Judy Morrison is meeting with Amy Grossman on connecting Belmont retail centers/transport.
- Senior center volunteer coordination for shoveling senior walkways, leaf and foliage removal, land technology coaching/advise.
- November 1 at Beech St Center is Open House for volunteers, including seniors helping seniors.
- Discussion on getting volunteers, especially high school students:
 - Nov. 1 event is posted on Facebook Parents' page
 - Is there a min. age for service? Younger aged may need to have an adult to supervise.
 - Middle schoolers? There is a community service group at the Chenery school. Check with school staff.
 - Under 18 CORI checks – not sure, but probably is NOT needed if not on-site at a school.
 - Dana Bickelman will investigate further.
- Numbers regarding falls and ER visits; Judy is checking.
- Amy Checkoway has walkability maps prepared by Safe Routes To School; will share with the team. Suggest that Tim review with an ADA perspective. Judy Morrison asked if Amy could ask how they did the surveys, what criteria used, and could focus on Beech St. Center and retail hubs in Belmont. Question about signage; someone mentioned seeing in another town. It was suggested having the Safe Routes to School point person come to a future AFAC meeting; Amy will work to arrange it.

• Outdoor spaces – Tim/ Andrea.

Need to have new recreation department person ID'd (coming on in early November) and get a meeting to jumpstart. Judy request that Tim and Andrea let her know when a good time to have regular meetings. Tim has surveyed signage in other towns for walking and guidance; he will resend. Inclusive playgrounds; Playcore is the primary entity handling the inclusive playgrounds. Tim has a meeting coming up with them. ADA requirement is access, but not necessarily usability. There is a posting on the town website of all recreation areas, and now would be a good time to get involvement on making these sites more accessible for seniors. Partnering also on Community Path – forum on Phase 2 design. Encourage seniors to attend.

• Communications – Peter/Amy.

Initial meeting with Peter at library. Judy needs to set up next meeting especially now that May has been identified.

6. New Business: None

7. Next Meeting (Date & Time): November 10th at 11am.

Meeting adjourned at noon

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Paschal