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BELMONT, MA**

DATE: June 9, 2022  
TIME: 9:38 AM

**Meeting Minutes  
Age Friendly Action Committee  
2-9-2022**

Attendees: Heidi Barberio, Timothy Flood, Kristin Daley, Susan Polit, May Forkin, Robert Hummel, ex-officio members Rachel Garrity and Nava Niv-Vogel,

The meeting began at 11:00 am.

**Call to Order**

**Introduction of Committee Members** Each member present introduced themselves, stating their name and which Town entity they represent.

**Appointment of Chair and Secretary** The group decided to defer this decision until more members are present.

**Review of Action Plan** Action Plan has not been widely disseminated. There are copies at the COA and it has been mentioned in the newsletter. Tim suggested sending Action Plan out to pertinent individuals now could aid in implementation; May offered to have copies at the library; Heidi suggested having some at the Town Clerk's office; Kristin offered to send the link to Wicked Local. It was noted that the Action Plan has not been properly added to the Town website. Nava will follow up with Town website managers to upload this.

**Request by Senior for Letter of Support for Making Home Age Friendly to Planning Board** Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas has applied for a special permit with planning board to re-do her home to accommodate aging in place. She is looking for a letter of support from Nava as COA director, but this is conflict of interest due to her husband being on the COA Board. Nava will attend the meeting to review Naomi's permit request next Tuesday as an interested party. Naomi is interested in helping this committee develop a guide for others seeking similar permits; she can help us understand the steps and processes. Tim questioned: If there is a request form a community member regarding the things we've discussed/recommended, why wouldn't we support them? Robert Hummel, Senior Planner, said that this committee can write a letter of support if they choose to do so and individuals can also show support. Group agreed that in general, this committee will support seniors' desire and ability to age in place. Additionally, requests like this will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis in order to gather more information about the exact nature of the request, and then make a determination on whether to support the request. Susan motioned for Nava to compose a letter to the planning board to the effect that our committee supports residents, whenever possible, aging in place and modifying their homes accordingly. Motion was seconded and unanimously adopted. Robert said the letter can be sent to him as Senior Planner. The group discussed encouraging similar inquiries be sent to Nava and for her to keep records of how many people are interested in this option so we have data to work with. Robert said that request records beginning from 2013 are available online. Kristin suggested a survey also be available to gather additional data. Developing a survey to determine need for home modification is an item in the Action Plan.

**Schedule Upcoming Meetings** The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 23rd at 11am** via Zoom. Nava will lay out a tentative calendar for meetings over the course of one year, so members can ensure attendance. Initially meetings will be biweekly, then we will transition to sub-committees which

will be responsible for specific items in the Action Plan. At that point the entire committee will meet 1x/month.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am