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Age Friendly Action Committee
August 10th 2021 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 11:05 a.m.

Present: Kristin Daley Judy Morrison Susan Polit Andrea Paschal Peter Struzziero, Amy Checkoway, Joel Iglesias, Hildy Dvorak Dana Bickelman, Tim Flood and Amy Grossman

1. All present agreed to Judy Morrison's idea to postpone approving the July 13th meeting minutes till the end of the meeting due to members having to leave early.
2. It was agreed that all members should introduce themselves due to several new members. Judy Morrison spoke about the members who were not present
3. Amy Grossman from the League of Women Voters was introduced as a guest of the meeting to speak about League's project bringing transportation to the town that is similar to Lexington's program. The idea is to bring transportation on fixed routes through town for all residents. The League has a group of members working on the program and is looking to work with other groups in town. Amy mentioned that the biggest challenge is to get funding for the program. They have spoken to Senator Brownsberger who has suggested that if they work with other towns that would bring more riders and a better chance of getting funding. AFAC members present liked the idea and agreed that working with other towns on this type of transportation would make it more feasible to obtain funding. It was also mentioned that there would be a fee for riders, however more funding would be needed.
4. Sub-committees were discussed
 - a. Communication - The sub-committee has not been formed yet. However Amy Checkoway, Peter Struzziero, and Joel Iglesias volunteered to be on the Communication sub-committee. They will look at the goals of the communication sub-committee and work together on scheduling a meeting for the group.
 - b. Transportation and walkability – Amy Checkoway is working on partnering with Safe Routes to School and will have more information on the partnership at the next meeting. Judy Morrison is working collecting data on Belmont residents who have fallen on Belmont sidewalks and have received an injury that resulted in a hospital visit. Judy asked members to share with her if they know of any falls that have resulted in hospital visits. Kristin Daley said that she would look at calls the police/fire department have had where someone has fallen. Amy Checkoway will see what the school committee and schools has collected concerning students safety when walking to school.
 - c. Open Spaces – Tim Flood gave an update on the open spaces. He discovered that there was a variety of town owned open spaces and that it made sense to

concentrate on the larger well known areas. Judy Morrison discussed how the AARP booklet may be able to help as a guide when trying to make these spaces elder friendly. The group also discussed on changing town by-laws so any future public space will be made age friendly.

5. The group discussed having a presentation for the seniors about the walking path and getting their input.
6. The group discussed the benefits of each sub-committee having google drives for their members. It was decided that a member of each sub-committee will set up the drive.
7. The members present decided to try a different day for the meetings so that most can attend. The meetings will now be on the second Thursday of the month starting on September 8th at 11 a.m. This meeting will also be virtual.
8. Due to several members having to leave the meeting early there was not a quorum to be able to approve the minutes from the last meeting. It was decided the minutes will be approved at the September 8th meeting.
9. The meeting adjourned at 12 p.m.

Next meeting will be on Thursday September 8th at 11 a.m. via remote access.