

Age-Friendly Conway Working Group
Minutes from Tuesday, June 11, 2024; 10:15 to 11 a.m.
Location: Town Hall, General Purpose Room

Present: Chair Robin Yerkes, members Tilda Hunting, Phil Kantor, Thad Bennett, Pat Lynch and George Forcier; Rachel Stoler from Franklin Regional Council of Governments.

Minutes of May 23, 2024 meeting approved unanimously.

Senior Prom Discussion: By all accounts the Senior 60+ Prom on June 1 at Field Memorial Library was a success. Attendees asked why something like it hadn't been done before and when the next would be.

Age Friendly Conway used the occasion to gather more information about what seniors wanted or needed to age in place in Conway. Survey forms indicated the top concerns were help with home repairs, outdoor exercise options, game nights, benches and transportation.

Phil estimated about 60 attendees at the peak and maybe a total of 70 overall.

There were people not typically seen at public events, which was deemed a success. Music seemed to be a draw for many. Local seniors art was a conversation starter.

Thad's extensive work pulling the Library Friends and AFC together and orchestrating all the details of planning the event were lauded.

The event cost about \$2,000. (Gift certificates \$75, music \$500, food \$750, poster \$82, library rental and services \$600, mailing unclear at the meeting)

Next step is to discuss ways such social events might be institutionalized in the future.

Benches: George was authorized to order a park bench with remaining state allocation for this fiscal year. (The 6-foot bench made of no-maintenance recycled plastic and aluminum was subsequently ordered at a cost of roughly \$1,200)

Next meeting: Thursday, June 27 at 8:30 a.m.