

Age-Friendly Conway Working Group
Minutes from Thursday, May 23, 2024; 8:40 to 9:50 a.m.
Location: Town Hall, General Purpose Room

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

Absent: Pat Lynch

Minutes of April 25, 2024 meeting approved unanimously.

Mass in Motion committees from towns in Franklin County met at Field Memorial Library May 16 from noon to 2 to cross-pollinate. The Franklin Regional Council of Governments organized the gathering. Towns with Age Friendly groups exchanged ideas and information about how towns can make aging in place easier. Phil reported on planned Conway Seniors “Uber” service designed to provide greatly subsidized transportation to anywhere the senior chooses.

Rachel reported today that she felt the event was a big success, commended Conway for hosting the first annual event and said we were leading by example.

Membership: The Selectboard must reappoint the working group membership each year. The presumption is that current members who care to stay will be reappointed, although Phil, as Selectboard rep, might not return in that capacity if he is not re-elected in June's annual town election.

Josephine “Jody” Lally of Academy Hill Road has expressed interest in joining the working group. Until the Selectboard appoints, Phil will encourage her to join us at meetings.

Senior Prom: Reviewed the logistics and budget for the over 60s social event at Field Memorial Library being held in

conjunction with Friends of FML on June 1. Besides serving as social event for seniors, the event is a chance for Friends and AFC to gather more information about the needs of senior citizens.

A final budget of \$2,000 was approved unanimously, which includes food and beverages, music and marketing, and other logistics. **Thad** got approval to make a 3-foot by 5-foot prom poster to display at the Annual Town Meeting. **Robin** agreed to take photos. **Tilda** will reach out to the Recorder's managing editor and **Phil** will reach out to a reporter seeking coverage of the event.

It should be noted the huge amount of work that Thadd and the Friends of FML has contributed to make this event happen.

Senior rides program: **George** agreed to ask Louise Beckett if she could create a poster promoting the pilot Conway "Uber" program, which is seeking volunteer drivers to make it happen.

Benches: The group agreed unanimously to buy "park benches" with the approximately \$1,500 remaining in our budget for the fiscal year ending June 30. **George** will ask Greenfield DPW where it sourced its benches on Greenfield town common and facilitate purchase before mid June. **Meg** will provide specs addressing accessibility. Where and how they are installed will be settled later.

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