

## **Age-Friendly Conway Committee**

**Minutes from April 17, 2025; 9-10:10 a.m.**

### **Town Hall, General Purpose Room**

**Present:** Chair Robin Yerkes, Phil Kantor, Tilda Hunting, Kat Llamas, Jody Lally, Pat Lynch and George Forcier; Rachel Stoler from Franklin Regional Council of Governments.

**Minutes** of March 27, 2025, meeting previously approved unanimously.

**Senior Social (Prom):** Robin reported ongoing logistics with co-organizers at Friends of Field Memorial Library. Helen Baker has agreed to cater with finger foods. Robin still negotiating price. Phil to seek one-day liquor license from Selectboard in time for the June 14 event. Kat to seek donated gift certificates from town businesses including Baker's, the Inn, Natural Roots and OESCo. Tilda and Robin to arrange for post card invitations to be mailed to residents about 3 weeks ahead and for a poster at the event, all of which will promote donors. Post cards might also be available at Town Meeting June 7.

**Installation of bench:** Robin has persuaded Open Space Committee to allow us to install our age-friendly bench in the South River Meadow. AFC members will meet with Open Space Committee to settle on a specific location, so the town Highway Dept. can install. Robin will arrange installation with town administrator.

After it was reported that Open Space Committee members didn't think an age-friendly bench with arms was appropriate in the Meadow because older people who would appreciate such a bench probably wouldn't be able or willing to use the Meadow walk, Rachel observed that town committees need to broaden their thinking and planning to incorporate age, dementia and disability friendly facilities and services.

**Senior ride program:** Committee voted unanimously to send Phil and Kat to the April 22 Selectboard meeting to express the committee's desire that town administrator expedite insurance

company review of the pilot “Uber” program funded by a grant through the committee. Time is of the essence because future grant prospects are contingent on demonstrating the program’s viability by spending a substantial amount of the current grant by June 30.

**Emergency house key lock boxes:** Voted unanimously to approve spending about \$300 for 10 boxes sought by the police chief for residents who might need emergency services access. The chief would install the boxes.

The committee would entertain requests for additional boxes in the future.

**Other business:** Rachel noted that a county-wide Age Friendly ( Mass. in Motion) summit is scheduled for May 16 at noon at the Erving Public Library.

**Next meeting:** May 22, 2025, 9-10:30. Kat to reserve the room for the third Thursdays at 9 going forward.