

AGE FRIENDLY OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS WORKGROUP MINUTES



Date: 11/18/2020

Time: 9:00 am

Facilitators: Marian Vessels and Nicola Morgal

In Attendance

Don Mock

Nicola Morgal

Margaret Pittman

Marian Vessels

Terri Hansen

Matt Madera

Mary Pat Donelan

Kathleen Krintz – Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved

Announcements:

Nicola stated the group will review the goals and objectives that are close to being finalized from the October meeting and finish working on the next part of the form. The last piece is to work on our action steps at the December meeting. The January meeting will be for finalizing the rationales.

Old Business:

The work group worked on updating the document Goals and Objectives for consideration during the meeting and updates were made in real time by Terri Hansen. The updated version was sent out to all group members for review following the meeting.

Items discussed during the review:

- Terri asked about the specifics regarding wayfinding in the parks and whether that was in the 2nd goal.
- Discussed the Age-Friendly certification program for parks. It was asked if this group would be establishing guidelines for what it would take to be considered an Age-Friendly park or area in Howard County.
 - Nicola responded yes. If an area meets the criteria (based on a checklist), it is considered a certified Age-Friendly park/area.
 - ✓ Terri stated that it is consistent with another workgroup that is working on an Age-Friendly Business criterion.

Terri went over the Recommendation Form that all workgroups are using.

- Recommendation Number
- Specific Initiative
- Priority is high, medium and low.
- Timeframe is
 - Short – less than a year
 - Medium – 1 to 3 years
 - Long – 3+years.

Just a reminder the plan will not be finalized until June and the timeframe starts in July 2021.

- Group/Agency/Individual Responsible for who this group is earmarking/recommending to be involved in making an initiative happen.

As one is writing initiatives, think of them as smart goals. Having some time constraints and also that they are measurable. The specific initiative is what will be translated into the actual task within the action plan. Will also need the rationale which will explain why, where and background information for our action plan.

- Marian mentioned that there is a difference between complying with the ADA which is mandatory under Federal law, and Universal Design, which goes above ADA requirements.
- Terri mentioned that at the last meeting of the Respect and Social Inclusion work group Police Chief Lisa Myers spoke. She was very personable and community-oriented and very interested in the Age-Friendly concept. This is important given this group's focus on safety in parks. It was suggested having the Senior Liaison from the Police Department to come speak to the group.
- Terri mentioned she sees the ambassador program working well beyond this work group, being involved as it relates to Social Participation and reaching out to the community at a grassroots level in trying to address isolation.

Terri mentioned that part of what we have talked about from an Age-Friendly perspective is making sure we are offering options to people who get their information from different places. What if the person is not technology inclined? Do we have a way of providing information for people in a different format?

- Discussion on the app, and what other ways can be developed for those without access to a smartphone/computer.

Next Meeting: December 16, 2020 – 9:00 am