

# AGE-FRIENDLY OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS MINUTES



**Date:** 02/19/2020

**Time:** 09:10AM

**Facilitator:** Terri Hansen

## In Attendance

Mary Pat Donelan

Alice Lewis

Nicola Morgal

Manuel Evangelista

Marian Vessels

## Approval of Minutes

Motioned to Approve: Nicola Morgal

Seconded: Alice Lewis

The minutes from January were approved as written.

## Announcements

- Terri gave an update on the survey. There are over 2300 response so far. The focus groups and listening sessions will be scheduled in late March through April.
- The work group still need co-chairs, members were asked to reconsider. Terri Hansen offered the possibility of merging with another workgroup if no one comes forward to serve in a leadership role. The group will consider.

## Discussion

- Terri suggested the group may want to begin looking at the possible scope of the domain and how to structure the group's work over the year.
- Where do we want to focus in relation to the Survey results?
- One member stated we need structure within the work group.
  
- Strategies for the workgroup were discussed
  - What is the big vs small picture of the workgroup

- Set parameters that can be successful
- Goal is to increase awareness to the whole county
- Objective – outreach to community
- Challenges working with the steering committee through different programs
- Change in policy and in thinking when planning and developing new spaces
- Having a Columbia Association representative in the group would be very helpful
- Make sure we are not duplicating work
- Objectives – Each person does his/her homework and bring to group (looking at AARP website action plans for various jurisdictions and review of booklet: Creating Parks and Public Spaces for People of All Ages
- The following ideas were noted and then discussed and may be included in recommendations in the action plan
  - It was noted that many senior living apartments are not located in great places (should be nearer to open spaces)
  - Add additional bus routes to make transportation to parks and open space.
  - Look at purposefully adding walkability and/or transportation when designing new spaces
  - Planning - who needs to be involved – when it comes to accessibility to parks and open spaces?
  - Transportation is huge problem for the county as a whole
  - Find a way to make everyone aware of outdoor spaces/parks—need to find ways to get information out
  - What open space/parks are available in your own neighborhood?
  - We want to increase awareness of trail system; people should be able to navigate
  - Think of where to publicize a map of parks and open spaces if one is developed. Consider new places, like the AAA office.

## Homework

- Need 2 or 3 goals from each member of the group at next meeting
- Need to share email group
- Explore the AARP Livability webpages – Review different communities action plans
- Using what is learned from existing action plans (what’s out there), consider what you want the group’s focus to be

## Next Meeting

03/18/2020 | 9:00am – 10:30 am, 9830 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30