Age-Friendly Transportation Workgroup Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2020

PRESIDING: Terri Hansen, Age-Friendly Coordinator

Members Attending

Brad Closs   Paul Vershinski
Bruce Fulton   Manuel Evangelita
Georgea Moore   Marian Vessels
Niti Srovastava
Jim Sanders

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm

This was an initial meeting and was considered an "exploration" meeting. The meeting's intention was 1) to have members get to know each other, 2) learn about the role of the Transportation workgroup, and 3) to look ahead to what's possible in the future.

Introductions

Each workgroup member was asked to write down why they wanted to be a part of the Transportation workgroup and then introduced themselves and shared with the group what they had written down.

- **Georgea Moore:** Transportation empowers people
- **Jim Sanders:** As I age I don't want my transportation to be car-focused
- **Paul Vershinski:** Worked as a planner for Transit Admin for 30 years, worked on many committees, MDOT is working on autonomous vehicles, don't think the County has done much
- **Kim Serman:** I want to get around with out a car, I was on the RTA Board which became unsuccessful, I have a CDL license, am on the TVIH – membership committee
- **John Eberhard:** 50 years' experience in transportation; we need to look at human capabilities – most older people who can't drive can't use public transportation either, I think not driving a car = loneliness
- **Manuel Evamgelita:** Important to look at sidewalks and bike lanes; people need to get to medical appointments, we need to look for other delivery options
- **Niti Srovastava:** ICA senior club coordinator. My husband and I run an audiology practice. My dad was a regional regularly transport officer in India.
- **Brad Closs:** Several years at Neighbor Ride as CEO On the board for Self-Suffiency
- **Bruce Fulton:** Current CEO of Neighbor Ride. We enable fundamental capacity to age in place
- **Marion Vessels:** Member of TPAD and ADA group. Interested in learning more, provide perspective as a person using a wheel chair
- **Sharonlee Vogel:** I have worked in transportation many years; I believe the county needs to do more.

Roles
- Coordinator
  - Terri Hansen is the Coordinator of the entire Age-Friendly Howard initiative.

- o She will attend as many workgroup meetings as she can
- o She will work collaboratively with the Steering Committee.
- Steering Committee
    - o The Steering committee will be made of members from the government, non-profits, faith-based communities, chamber of commerce, library, Howard Community College, Howard County General Hospital
    - o The Steering committee will receive all the action plans from each workgroup and will determine which actions will be included in the final action plan
- Workgroups
    - o Members need to be committed and be an active member of the group
    - o Each member of the workgroup (except for government staff) will need to register as a volunteer on the Howard County volunteer website, www.hocovolunteer.org
        - ▪ Each member will be responsible for logging in all their volunteer hours
- Co-Chairs
    - o Each workgroup will have Co-Chairs
        - ▪ One must be county staff
        - ▪ One from the community
    - o If interested in becoming a Co-Chair, submit answers to following questions to agefriendly@howardcountymd.gov by February 5th
        - ▪ Why do you want to serve as co-chair of the workgroup?
        - ▪ What previous community experience in a leadership role or experience on the topic make you a good candidate for co-chair?
    - o Responsibility of the Co-Chairs
        - ▪ Keeping the workgroup on task
        - ▪ Developing agendas
        - ▪ Delivering the work of the workgroup at designated timeframes
        - ▪ Meeting quarterly with the Steering Committee

Age-Friendly Overview

Age-Friendly is a community effort and is not considered to be just the work of Howard County Government. It is a joint effort between the government, non-profits, businesses, and the community at large. There are 8 domains of Age-Friendly. Many domains overlap. The Age-Friendly initiative will allow workgroups to explore 1) where we are today, and 2) how we will look 5 years from now. The 8 domains are:

- **Social Participation** – Access to leisure and cultural activities; opportunities to socialize, engage and combat isolation
- **Community Support & Health Services** – Assistance and affordable care options for all ages
- **Work and Civic Engagement** – Opportunities for active community engagement, paid employment and meaningful volunteer options
- **Respect & Social Inclusion** – Programs that promote ethnic and cultural diversity, as well as multigenerational interaction and dialogue
- **Transportation** – Sidewalks and safe, crossable streets for pedestrians; dedicated bicycle lanes; public and other transportation options
- **Outdoor Spaces & Buildings** – Availability of safe and accessible recreational facilities and accessible buildings
- **Communication & Information** – Information sharing through a variety of delivery methods, with respect for cultural and age-related differences
- **Housing** – Housing options to meet the needs of those with differing incomes, ages and life stages

Age-Friendly Process

Developing an Age-Friendly community is a 5-year plan
- **Years 1 & 2:** 1) Conduct a survey and listening sessions, and 2) develop, a comprehensive action plan

- o The action plan will identify benchmarks and will be able to measure success.
- o The action plan is to be submitted to the Steering Committee by the end of October 2020 and is to be completed by December 2020 in time for the 1-year anniversary of Age-Friendly Howard County on December 3, 2020.
- **Years 3-5:** Implementation
- **Year 5:** Progress/status update

<u>Survey</u>

A survey has been developed through the Howard County Office on Aging and Independence and is it its final stages. The purpose is to get feedback from the community. The survey will go live on February 3rd. The survey will be available online at: www.howardcountymd.gov/agefriendly

A paper copy of the survey will also be available at 50+Centers, libraries, county buildings, and other places throughout Howard County. The survey will be in four languages 1) Korean, 2) Hindi, 3) Mandarin Chinese, and 4) Spanish. The survey is geared toward the 50+ population, however all adults of any age are encouraged to complete it. The survey will be available until the end of February 2020. The survey will be analyzed, and the data will be available by the end of March 2020.

<u>Discussion:</u>

- Need to look at technology and the options available
- Need to focus on ways of moving people
- Paul asked for specific metrics to help inform the work
- There was considerable discussion about whether there was budget available for the initiative

<u>Next meeting:</u> No date determined for next meeting. A doodle poll will be sent out.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.