

Age-Friendly Shepherdstown Advisory Board
May 3, 2023

MINUTES

Attending: Marty Amerikaner, Steve Ayraud, Marcy Bartlett, Stacey Kendig, Steve Pearson, Bob Smiles, Linda Spatig

1. Advisory board members introduced themselves to Bob Smiles, an individual interested in becoming a member of the advisory board. Linda gave a brief overview of the Age-Friendly Shepherdstown origins and history to date.
2. **Bike Route.** Linda reported that Shepherd University representatives presented their draft renovation plan at the April Town Council meeting. We discussed details of the draft plan and Stacey answered questions as they arose. After considerable discussion, we determined that our current bike route does not need to be changed. Linda spoke with the SU reps after the Town Council meeting and they assured her that the university is aware of, and supportive of, our bike route and that they appreciated working with Stacey Kendig, our SU rep on the Advisory Board.

Linda reported that she shared our proposed bike route with Matt Mullenax in relation to his work on developing bike paths throughout the county. Our next step will be to present the proposed route to the Shepherdstown Public Works Committee, which is scheduled to meet on Monday, May 22 at 9am. Linda invited other members of the Age-Friendly group to attend the meeting if they wished.

Marcy and Steve A. believe it is better to consult with Frank Welsh prior to developing a budget for the project. Steve Pearson suggested the entire project would cost less than \$10,000.

Stacey suggested that we meet with Scott Barton, who works with Facilities at Shepherd, to discuss signage for the bike route. Linda agreed to follow up with that.

3. **Fall Prevention.** Marcy reported that she has six participants who will work in two groups to identify areas that might be improved in an effort to prevent falls. They will begin by looking at railroad crossings and parks. She explained that Shepherdstown has funds to pay a percentage of the cost of sidewalk repairs.

Marty and Marcy will attend the upcoming meeting with Ron Eck, an engineer from Morgantown, who consults with towns about compliance with ADA requirements related to sidewalks, crosswalks, etc. They will do an extensive walk-through of Shepherdstown.

4. **Public Transportation.** Marcy reported on feedback she received from Shepherd Village Residents about the need for some kind of local public transportation such as a small EPTA bus. Linda reported on similar feedback from the SAIL Board of Directors. In both groups, there was not a strong interest in pursuing bus transportation at this time. Individuals in both groups seemed to prefer some kind of on-call ride system. We discussed the possibility of SAIL coordinating such a program. Linda will continue to pursue possibilities.
5. **Other.** Linda reported that the mayor had requested that she report on Age-Friendly Shepherdstown at the May Town Council meeting. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30, in Town Hall. Linda invited other Age-Friendly Shepherdstown Advisory Board members to attend the meeting as well.
6. **Next Meeting.** Wednesday, June 7, at noon, via zoom. Starting in June, our meetings will regularly be held on the first Wednesday of each month.