Aging and Disability Commission Subcommittee (Age-Friendly Community)
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 6, 2026 – 2:30 PM
Virtual Format Only via Zoom

Jan Beatty, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm.
PRESENT: Jan Beatty, Mike Jennings, Libby Easton-May
EXCUSED: Ed Lamontagne, Valerie Finney

PUBLIC AUDIENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT: No one from the public was in attendance and no comments were received.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:
September 1, 2026 – Ms. Easton-May moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Jennings seconded. All voted in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Recap of Aging-in-Place Expo 2**

Ms. Beatty thanked the Senior Center and Library for being terrific partners in the venture. Members who were present at the Expo confirmed high interest from attendees as well as great enthusiasm from table hosts in spite of lesser attendance over last year's. One table host – Gold Shield Construction – did not attend having confused the date. Exit surveys again confirm interest in having the expo again.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Members Update**

With Cheryl Cook's resignation, one spot is available and will be opened to Aging and Disability membership at next meeting.

- **Meeting dates/format for 2027**

Current members like existing time and format; will be voted on when membership is full.

- **Action Plan Revisions**

Mr. Lamontagne had submitted some status updates for the Outdoor Spaces portion of the plan; members indicated they liked his spreadsheet and would use going forward. Ms. Beatty read the nomination from Age Well Across CT for the Simsbury Police Department's inspiring program on accessibility (assuming month-long focus on handicap-awareness) and suggested adding it to status under Goal 4 of Transportation in Plan. She also suggested adding in AARP's CarFit program there (suggested by Deputy Town Manager). Ms. Easton-

May noted that her church is considering accessibility issues and wondered about possibility of grant coverage. Ms. Beatty suggested adding Senior Tax Workoffs (see below) in Housing section. Further additions/changes to be discussed next month.

- **Walk Audit Schedule/Plan**

  Date and co-captains to be determined. Mr. Jennings provided objectives for walk to cover Hopmeadow Street downtown area and suggested that local and perhaps state officials be invited to participate. He noted that in past a police officer had been assigned to work with the group. DPW to be contacted re date(s).

- **Summary of AARP Age-Friendly Webinar**

Integrating Age- and Dementia-Friendly Initiatives

This webinar was held on September 8, 2026. Several speakers noted how they worked dementia-friendly activities into their Action Plans. A speaker from Cary, NC noted they have dementia-friendly movies in a local theater which are sponsored by local businesses to cover refreshments. Each movie has about 50 attendees. Another speaker noted importance of grants in funding rural transportation initiatives. Most interesting was Senior Tax Workoffs (in MA towns) were older adults can volunteer (using minimum wage) in lieu of paying property taxes up to $1500

- **Upcoming AARP Age-Friendly Webinar**
  October 13, 2026, 3-4 pm
  From Barriers to Belonging: Age-Friendly Approaches to Housing
  Important!

OTHER

Ms. Beatty provided reminder of free George Washington Univ. webinar/conference Age-Friendly Summit via Zoom on Thursdays in October from 1-3 pm. Notable is one on Oct 29 on housing and social connections. Register here: https://gwu-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/35c3KxPnSZSJbPlcHXfp2Q - /registration

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Next Meeting: **November 3, 2026 at 2:30 pm**, **via Zoom.**

Submitted by Jan Beatty, Chair