

# Age-Friendly Shepherdstown

## Draft Minutes

March 18, 2026

Attending: Marty Amerikaner, Leigh Ann Evanson, Jan Hafer, Linda Spatig

1. March minutes were unanimously approved.

### 2. Old Business

a. AARP Community Challenge Grant. We thanked and complimented Leigh Ann for her good work on the grant proposal which was unanimously and enthusiastically supported by Town Council. Leigh Ann reported that we should get a decision about funding in mid-May. We agreed that it was important to include local businesses in future discussions and decisions about the temporary pedestrian plaza around the Marketplace Building downtown. There has been conversations about town funding as a “special project” if AARP funds are not available.

b. Safety and fall prevention. Marty spoke at a recent finance committee meeting, advocating for renewed focus on town-wide sidewalk repairs, especially as it has been one of the two 2026 priorities for in the Public Works committee, and a long-term safety concern for Age-Friendly Shepherdstown.

- c. **Bike Route.** Marty announced that the town has been informed that bids were out for installing a sidewalk from Shepherdstown to Morgan's Grove Park. It is scheduled to be in place by November 2026. Marty also reported that bike route sharrows will be redone when the weather is warmer and that two pole street signs were being moved to their correct places.
  
- d. **New AFS Action Plan.** Linda continues to work on this but asked for committee feedback/suggestions on the original Action Plan by Friday, March 27. Leigh Ann offered to examine the Shepherdstown Comprehensive Plan and our AFS Action Plan to identify connections between the two. We discussed including DUAs (Accessible Dwelling Units) and PUDs (Planned Unit Developments) in the section on increasing accessible and mixed income housing in town.

### 3. New Business

- a. **Committee Membership.** When Linda and Marty move in June, we will need a new chair for the Age Friendly committee. We discussed how we might recruit someone for that position. Linda agreed to consult with SAIL about finding a new SAIL liaison for the committee.

b. Arms for new town benches. Linda said that Linus, in Public Works, said he is aware that we want arms for any future benches. The arms enable people to more easily get up from the benches.

**4. Next meeting: April 15, 1:30pm, (TBD)**