

**Weston Council on Aging
Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 13th, 2019, 2:00pm, Weston Community Center**

Meeting called to order at 2:00pm

In attendance:

Gerri Scoll, Melissa Galton, Jean MacQuiddy, Mignonne Murray, Audrey Pepper

There were no Resident Concerns and Comments

Minutes of November 6, 2018 approved

Discussion of Electric Vehicle Grants

There is a program that has recently reopened to provide discounts off of electric vehicles. The group liked the idea of an electric vehicle. We should look into the two top choices of PEV (Fully Plug-in electric vehicles) and BHEV (Plug-in electric vehicles with gas backup). Research trips to look at vehicles will take place. Purchase rather than lease is preferred.

A second vehicle would be useful for several reasons. Often only a few residents are transported at one time in the van, it would be more efficient to do these kinds of rides in a smaller vehicle. It would also expand the service to some residents that feel a stigma to a large municipal vehicle coming to their home. Also we have been expanding our day trips and when a trip is running the van is unavailable for the day to day transportation trips. Mignonne and Audrey will research vehicles and bring more information to the next meeting.

Taxi Service/New Agreement

Our current taxi agreement runs until the end of June 2019. We will need to request quotes for a new agreement. We will send out a request for quotes to several companies and review when they are returned. This needs to be done in the next few months so that we can get a new agreement in place.

Update on Ride Hailing/Dispatch Services Research

There are partnerships emerging between Lyft, Uber and third party companies such as circulation and GogoGrandparent. There is great opportunity to tap into these services. We will continue to do research in this regard but will move forward with the taxi agreement in the short term. Mignonne reported that detailed information about the Newton replacement to their taxi program is not yet available.

Other updates

A conversation took place regarding MWRTA
Jean mentioned she had heard mention of a study done by the planning committee. The rest of the group had not heard of it. Mignonne will track down the presentation.

Meeting adjourned