

COA Meeting Minutes
20 April 2017 9:30 AM

Present: Members Terry Allen, Judy Hobart, Thom Masterton, Judy Raphael, Sue Swartz and Jennifer Glover, Outreach Coordinator
Absent: Dave Evans, Betty Wilson

The Select Board has requested that the COA research whether the town should apply to join both transit authorities. It currently belongs to the PVRTA, but can now also join the FRTA, which offers ride services to Franklin County.

Terry passed out several documents concerning the FRTA and what it offers for services and a PVRTA Assessment by year showing what the town has paid from 2000 to 2018. This assessment shows that ridership has varied greatly over the years and increased a great deal in 2016 and 2017. The assessment indicates what the town paid for services for the previous year, e.g. 2016 assessment was for rides during 2015.

Terry called the FRTA administrator, Tina Cote, who told her that Leverett can ask to join their service, but may not be accepted. We must have an indication of how much demand there will be and when it would occur in order to find out our cost. It does not make sense just to join if there is no call to use their service.

We discussed making up a survey to assess demand and decided to make a postcard with 2 questions – Do you go to Greenfield for medical services? Would you be interested in a ride-share service to Franklin County? With one box to check, YES. We will place the cards on the document table for Town Meeting along with a box for replies. JR said she would make the cards.

Next meeting – Thursday, 4 May 2017 at 9:30.

Adjourned at 10:35 AM

After adjourning, Roy Kimmel came and told us the history of his extensive research concerning the transit authorities as our representative over the years. He contacted Steve Kulik about the fact that the town could not belong to both the PVRTA and the FRTA, and Steve got a bill through the House that passed recently giving us the authority to belong to both transit authorities. He suggested finding out how much need there is for any transit service in Leverett and thought our Town Meeting postcard was a good idea. Roy told us that he was no longer acting as our representative.