

BrooklineCAN Needs You!

BrooklineCAN is a volunteer-driven organization. Serving on a committee offers you the opportunity to work with others to forward the mission and projects of the Brookline Community Aging Network. Please consider sitting in on any committee meeting to see one that interests you before joining. Contact a chairperson to ask the date of the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Carol Caro

Telephone 617.739.9228

Email: carol.b.caro@gmail.com

This Committee keeps the community informed of BrooklineCAN programs and services and area events. It creates newsletters, promotional materials and a website – www.BrooklineCAN.org. The committee seeks individuals to draft newsletter articles, write news releases, help create promotional materials, and help bring BrooklineCAN to the attention of all Brookline residents. If you have skills in journalism, public relations, or photography, please join us. We are also looking for individuals with experience with websites, content management software, and WordPress.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Interim Chair: Ruthann Dobek

Telephone: 617.730.2756

Email: rdobek@brooklinema.gov

The Education Committee responds to members' interests and needs by providing a variety of informational programs and forums. Topics range from alternative health and embracing your sexuality to housing, transportation, and legal issues. Events and forums have also included movie screenings, panel discussion and a health expo. New members are welcome to join us in brainstorming and developing programs to meet the needs of our diverse membership. All members are encouraged to suggest potential speakers and topics.

LIVABLE COMMUNITY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Chair: Frank Caro

Telephone: 617.739.9228

Email: frank.g.caro@gmail.com

While Brookline offers a great deal to its older residents, we want our town to be an even better place to live. This committee calls attention to what Brookline offers and advocates for improvements, including expanded housing for seniors, expanded property tax exemptions for seniors, improvements in specialized transportation for those with disabilities, safer sidewalks, and improved amenities for pedestrians. The committee has created three internet guides about Brookline features of interest to seniors and others: rental and condominium buildings with elevators, restrooms available to the public, and businesses with automatic door openers. The committee also deploys a team that monitors sidewalk conditions in commercial areas after snow storms. The committee provides additional opportunities through Brookline's Age-Friendly City program, collaboration between BrooklineCAN, the Council on Aging, and the Town to make Brookline more age-friendly. Housing, transportation, libraries, and health are among the main concerns of the Age-Friendly Cities effort.

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MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Molly Turlish

Telephone: 617.277.8237

Email: mturlish@comcast.net

Because BrooklineCAN has greater impact in the community with more members, this committee plans and conducts outreach at events, over the telephone, and through email and other media. Members of this committee work together and with others to make Brookline an even better place to live for people of all ages by inviting others to join us. The committee sponsors an event in May each year focused on a topic important to members as we age. Our work underlies and supports the work of all other committees and the organization.

SERVICE REFERRAL

Chair: Renny Harrigan

Telephone: 802.310.0740

Email: renny.harrigan@castleton.edu

One of the most visited sections of the BrooklineCAN website is the list of service providers. Members check this list to find plumbers, handypersons, contractors, electricians and others who have been recommended by other members. Volunteers have the opportunity to enlarge the list by contacting and vetting additional service providers who have been recommended. The Committee meets quarterly or as needed. Volunteers work from home and are in touch with each other by phone and email.