

Brookline Community Aging Network

Livable Community Advocacy Committee

Notes

July 25, 2016

Attendance: Members: Shirley Selhub, Peter Ames, Joan McCabe, Carol Seibert, Ann Stitt, Susan Granoff, Henry Winkelman, Ruthann Sneider, Asaya Zimbov, Matt Weiss, Jackie Wright, Vera Sharma, and Frank Caro

Guests: Judith Vanderkay (Town Meeting Member), Rhonda Glyman (Hebrew Senior Life), and Elenore Parker (BrooklineCAN communications committee)

Guests from JCHE: Amy Schectman, Zoe Weinrobe, and Alexis Smith

1. Amy Schectman gave a presentation on JCHE's plans for the KI site. The building will have 62 units. The vast majority will be one bedroom. There will also be several two-bedroom units. One-bedroom units will be an average of 600 square feet. All of the units will be priced below market rental rates. However, not all will meet the official criteria for affordability. JCHE anticipates that one-bedroom units will be priced at \$1,050. Two-bedroom units will be priced at \$1,250. Plans call for 14 parking places within the building. JCHE hopes to start building in late 2018. The projected completion date is 2020. The staffing model is a full-time property manager/social worker and a half-time professional service coordinator. The building will pay full property taxes. The maximum height of the building will be 50 to 60 feet. Amy answered many questions about the project.
2. We discussed the June 28 meeting with DPW on the pedestrian safety project. DPW did not report on any new work accomplished in the past six months. Further, DPW staff did not make any promises to address problems on our list. Frank reported that little has been accomplished near Sussman house since the meeting. On the plus side, two cross walks have been painted and bark mulch has been placed in some tree pits on Harvard Street. Most tree pits on Harvard Street remain hazardous in spite of the bark mulch. To be sure that all of the problems have been recorded officially by BrookOnLine, Frank has submitted everything on the Sussman House list. Asaya and Vera reported that some work on tree pits has been done on Longwood Avenue near the Morse Apartments. They reported that a number of old trees with problematic roots have been removed. Frank agreed to place complaints about Winchester Street tree roots on BrookOnLine. The locations are 71 Winchester and 43 Winchester. We have spoken with DPW staff

about these hazards for users of the Senior Center in the past but have not previously recorded them with BrookOnLine. We do not know whether our submission of an electronic report through BrookOnLine will increase the chances of action by DPW.

3. Susan reported that the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee will hear a progress report on site selection for a new elementary school from an architectural consultant on Tuesday, July 26. Representatives of the "Save the Stop & Shop" campaign will be present. The campaign is particularly concerned that the Town may take the site for exclusive use by the Town for a school. If that were to happen, the super market would be eliminated.
4. Susan Granoff reported on continuing work on a planned warrant article to request a study committee to consider that Brookline adopt Sudbury circuit breaker plan for seniors. Susan and Frank met with Assessor Gary McCabe to discuss the proposal. Gary's preliminary assessment is that the plan is administratively feasible.
5. Frank encourages members of come to the BrooklineCAN annual meeting on September 15 at 5 PM at the Senior Center. Frank asked for volunteers to help at our table. Peter Ames, Susan Granoff, Joan McCabe, and Asaya Zimbov volunteered. Others who are interested should contact Frank. Volunteers will be at our table for 20 to 30 minutes between 5 and 6:15 PM.
6. BrooklineCAN will participate in Brookline Day on September 18 at Lars Anderson Park from 11 AM until 3 PM. Frank is seeking volunteers to help at our table. Volunteers will be asked to help for an hour.
7. Date for next meeting: Monday, September 26 at 3 PM