

BrooklineCAN Steering Committee

Notes

December 16, 2015

Attendance: Peter Ames, Lance Chapman, Carol Caro, Frank Caro, Ruthann Dobek, Karen Fischer, Marsha Frankel, Susan Krinsky, Michelle LaPointe, Elenore Parker, John Seay, Molly Turlish, Matt Weiss, and Roberta Winitzer.

Update on hiring a membership assistant. Anna Bodo has been hired to fill the position, has begun training, and is scheduled for a second session 12/18. She saw the listing in the BrooklineCAN newsletter.

Update on TRIPPS. Volunteers to assist in Administration and as Travel Assistants are needed. The Advisory Board meets 12/17.

Volunteer database. Alberta Lipson has been conducting one-on-one interviews and has found interest. The three conditions set at the November meeting (create an independent domain name, change the title on the database from “Brookline Community Aging Network” to something about volunteer opportunities (without including our organizational name or logo), and take responsibility for keeping the data up to date) need to be communicated to her. Then the database could be hosted on GoDaddy and a link added to our website. Ruthann will follow through with Alberta.

New resource for household help. Ruthann is meeting with the CEO of Gladly Do, an app and website that connects college students with “odd-jobs.” More details after that meeting.

Flyer template. John distributed an update to the format approved by the Communications Committee; it was approved by the Steering Committee. Lance will check the layout of the Founding Partners logos with Center Communities of Brookline. The template will appear in a “members only” section of the website that can be reached by clicking on the “Entering Brookline” sign on the homepage or by entering members.BrooklineCAN.org. Also included in that area of the website is the promotion request form.

Treasurer’s report. Our usual fall deficit has shrunk significantly – from \$ (585.50) as of November 17 to positive \$996.50 – thanks to memberships coming in and to a lack of expenses paid. The total balance on hand equals \$20,748.

Special project ideas. Funding is available for special projects. We are planning to use some of the money for a print version of the residential guides. Marsha Frankel proposed that we offer a shredding day. We offered a highly successful shredding event once in the past. Michelle will reach out to Lisa Berger as a possible sponsor of the guide. Carol will ask Eastern Bank whether they would provide a shredding truck for a shredding day. Molly will ask the Membership Committee

whether they would sponsor a shredding day in May. Marcia will work on it. Other possible co-sponsors mentioned include Century Bank, East Boston Savings, Canton Savings (Elaine Joseph), and Brookline Bank (Susan would ask them). PSPG members could be offered an opportunity to have a table.

Education. The Committee is meeting 12/28.

Membership. Today, we have 384 active members down from 396 in November but up 29% in a year-to-year comparison. Numbers tend to be volatile at this time of year because November, December, and the early months of each year are months with many renewals. We plan a letter in January to people whose renewal dates fell in October 2015 and earlier. Early in January, the list will be circulated to the Steering Committee so that we can identify people we will write notes to. The plan is for the letters to be available for note writing at the January 20 meeting of the Steering Committee.

At the December committee meeting, Susan Granoff spoke about the two pedestrian safety projects she is involved with through our Livable Communities Advocacy Committee. Several Membership Committee members expressed interest in volunteering to check lighting on sidewalks when the walks begin again in the spring.

Communications. The January newsletter copy deadline is today (12/16). Elenore is working with Bea Mikulecky to develop a feature article on the Sidewalk Safety project with residents of Senior Public Housing. They are targeting *Globe Metro* for coverage.

Professional Service Providers Group (PSPG). The December 10 meeting at Goddard House a visually impaired spokesperson (Kyle Robideaux) and Beth Levine, an audiologist talked about working with clients with hearing loss and limited or no vision.

Repairs and referrals. No change.

Livable Community Advocacy Committee. Shirley Selhub has joined the team for the Age-Friendly Cities TV program on BIG, providing back-up for members of the team. Frank reported on a possible breakthrough in the four-year process of securing parking for volunteers at the Senior Center. Tags might be made available for parking at the Fuller Street lot or the Centre Street lot. Parking for users of the Senior Center remains unresolved. The proposal needs to be reviewed by the Transportation board. Frank is hoping that the proposal will be on agenda for the January 2016 meeting of the Board.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 20, at 3:00 PM.

Notes prepared by Molly Turkish