

## BrooklineCAN Steering Committee

### Notes

February 21, 2018

**Attendance:** Kathy Burns, Frank Caro, Ruthann Dobek, Susan Granoff, Susan Krinsky, Elenore Parker, John Seay, Ruth Seidman, David Trevvett, Molly Turlish, Matt Weiss, Roberta Winitzer

**Chamber of Commerce HeARTi Gras event.** Frank and Matt represented BrooklineCAN February 15 at the Chamber event that highlighted non-profit organizations.

**Stories about transportation, housing, and personal finances.** Frank noted the stories about health services in the February newsletter to illustrate the power of stories in highlighting services available. Frank met with TRIPPS volunteers who are conducting interviews to put together useful stories about transportation experiences among those who do not drive or who drive to a reduced extent. Initially, the volunteers will be interviewing one another. The services these stories highlight the importance of transportation to prevent isolation and to promote community participation.

**Age-friendly business initiative.** Matt Weiss, Renny Harrigan, Jerald Feuer, Ginny Mazur and other volunteers are reaching out to specific businesses to encourage them to participate. Deirdre Waxman is posting the opportunity to additional volunteers. The initiative has been endorsed by the Economic Development Advisory Committee and the Chamber of Commerce, and four applications have been received.

**Approaching Brookline Schools about volunteer opportunities.** Frank and Deirdre Waxman are making another approach to Brookline Public Schools about volunteer opportunities. They are hopeful since the upper administration has changed and the need for repeated override campaigns makes public support more critical.

**Nominating committee.** The enclosed outline of activities was reviewed. The committee is Ruthann Dobek, Roberta Winitzer, John Seay, and Ruth Seidman.

We discussed the merits of initiating applications for the Steering Committee from the general membership. An alternate approach is to draw Steering Committee members only from among active members of other committees. We had an unplanned, wide-ranging discussion of committee functioning and committee leadership. We are concerned that committees vary greatly in the extent to which they are functioning. Even relatively strong committees are challenged to find new members and new leaders. A more focused discussion of strategies to strengthen participation in our committees is planned for the March meeting.

**Treasurer's report.** The monthly financial report shows net income for the fiscal year of \$1,691.74. We are anticipating significant expenses for the membership drive mailers, the annual fiscal management fees and payment to the Town for the membership assistant.

### Committee reports

**Education.** On March 8, Margaret Gullette, author of *Ending Ageism, or How Not to Shoot Old People* will speak 6-7:30 at Hunneman Hall in the Main Library. Only one member of the Membership Committee is available to staff registration that evening; Frank will join Linda

Richards, and we hope that a third person will be able to join them. Three events related to the Hello, Brookline project are scheduled for the three library branches in March and April, and the Council on Aging is sponsoring a Contra dance April 8 (tickets are \$7). An event May 24 at the Senior Center featuring Paula Span, columnist for The New York Times, will be dedicated to Helen Kass.

**Communications.** The March newsletter is underway, to include Book Talk (a very popular feature), the Hello, Brookline events, and a brief article about the Spring Member Celebration (May 10). Two press releases have recently gone out: one on the March 8 program and one on the age-friendly business campaign. A few examples of ageism have been collected, raising the question of what to do with them.

**Membership.** Today, we have 324 current members, down seven from January; 308 membership drive mailers have been sent recently to former members and to people who sign in at events. We are tracking results and will report in a month or so. An outline of recommendations from the Membership Committee for the May 10 member celebration was presented (attached), and after discussion was adopted.

**Livable community advocacy / Age friendly city.** Slides on income insecurity that Frank presented at the LCAC February 5<sup>th</sup> are available on the BrooklineCAN website. February 26, the committee will hear a presentation by Susan Gittleman of B'nai B'rith Housing. LCAC and the Senior Center plan an election forum at the end of April on the Town election and override vote. Later in the year, LCAC and the Senior Center will organize a forum for candidates for the "Brookline seat" in the Legislature.

Sara Nelson is now the official Recreation Department liaison to the Age-Friendly City Committee, and membership in that committee will be updated shortly.

**No reports** from Member Volunteering or Service Referrals.

**Next meeting.** Wednesday, March 21, at 3:00 PM. Future meetings (third Wednesdays at 3 pm) are April 18, May 16, June 20.

Notes prepared by Molly Turlish

Enclosures: Steering Committee Nominations & Elections Process, Spring Members Celebration: Outline



## Brookline Community Aging Network

### Spring Members Celebration: Outline

Date	Thursday, May 10
Time	5:30-7:30 (5:30-6:10-food, beverages, mingling; 6:10-7:15-program; 7:15-7:30-wrap-up and departure)
Title	The Power of Play: games, puzzles, and trivia to keep your brain young
Tickets	Free to members, \$10 at the door (cash or check) to non-members (including former members)
Facilitator	Nancy Linde, author of two books of games, puzzles & trivia challenges specially designed to keep your brain young
Program Outline	The event will feature games, puzzles, and trivia targeted in six cognitive functions: long-term memory, working memory, executive functioning, attention to detail, multitasking, and processing speed.
BrooklineCAN	The introduction and conclusion of the program will include information about BrooklineCAN, and materials will be on the tables (brochures, membership mailers, etc.)



## Brookline Community Aging Network

### Steering Committee Nomination & Election Process

<u>Time Frame (No later than)</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in February	Appoint Nominating Committee and Chair	Steering Committee Co-chairs
April 30	Determine openings and a preferred slate	Nominating Committee
May 1 to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in May	Solicit acceptances from potential nominees	Nominating Committee
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in May	Present slate to Steering Committee	Nominating Committee Chair
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in June	Elect nominees (review the slate and request nominations from the floor)	Co-chairs and Steering Committee
July 1	Email successful nominees to welcome them and to inform them of the July meeting date	Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee
July 1	Update Steering Committee list for email distribution	Co-chairs and Vice-chair
July 1	Update Steering Committee list for letterhead and signature block of renewal email (in MailChimp)	Membership Chair, Membership Assistant
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in July	Update Steering Committee contact list and distribute to Committee members	Vice-chair
Annual Meeting	Recognize Steering Committee members whose terms have ended	Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee