

March 16, 2022

Attendees: Ruthann Dobek, Susan Granoff, Jude Kidd, Elenore Parker, Yolanda Rodriguez, John Seay, Carol Seibert, Ruth Seidman, David Trevvett, Melissa Trevvett, Matt Weiss, Sonia Wong.

1. Goals & Accomplishments – Age-Friendly

- a. See final report attached
 - i. Add Goddard as a collaborator.
 - ii. Matt send updated document to John for the website.
- b. Ideas for web page <https://www.brooklinema.gov/657/Age-Friendly-Cities-Committee>
 - i. Link exists to the web page from the Age Friendly Cities Committee page on Brooklinema.gov
- c. Status of application to AARP
 - i. Matt will aim for completion by May meeting.

2. American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)

- a. Submission Review Committee site: <https://www.brooklinema.gov/2103/American-Rescue-Plan-Submission-Review-C>
 - i. Now on a fast track with Friday public committee meetings.
 - ii. Public hearing April 11th.
 - iii. Subcommittee supported CoA recommendations.
 - iv. Advisory committee has not yet voted.
 - v. First round decisions toward end of April (19th?).
 - vi. Everyone should watch progress and attend meetings.
 - vii. Michele Ashkenazy and John VanScoyoc are co-chairs.

3. BrooklineCAN Age-Friendly Business (AFB) Program

- a. Discussion regarding future of the program.
 - i. JF&CS has provided a stipend for two people to work on the AFB data base and they have been added as members.
 - ii. People are Miriam Diamond and Rosaline Lowe.
 - iii. Contacts provided. By next month we should see progress.
 - iv. John Seay indicated a first few updates have been provided.
- b. Collaboration/follow up re Town's brochure re accessibility.
 - i. Hard copies available at Town Hall and on line at ODICR.
 - ii. Sonia Wong will deliver copies to the Senior Center.
- c. Grant progress from JF&CS
https://www.brooklinecan.org/age_friendly_business.html

4. COVID Pandemic Continues/Future of mask mandates

- a. Ruthann reported – Town ended mask mandate March 13th.

- b. Senior Center sensitive to people who continue to wear masks.
- c. COVID tests available at Senior Center for all (not masks).
- d. Starting in July quorum for formal meetings must be in person.
- e. Others beyond the quorum may attend in hybrid mode.
- f. Town will run hybrid meetings in September.
- g. Senior Center hybrid capability with free equipment thanks to John Seay.
- h. Town did not consider the Senior Center as a Town building needing hybrid equipment, so separate ARPA request for hybrid equipment was submitted.

5. Candidates Afternoon April 12th 3-4:30pm

- a. Encouraging older Brookline residents to vote is important.
- b. Susan Granoff – 246 TMM seats open and 322 candidates.
- c. Every precinct other than precinct 12 is contested.
- d. Concern that there will be reduced number of older adult TMMs.
- e. (Note: post meeting we learned there is a very large majority of older adult candidates.)
- f. Susan – Only warrant article that of assistance to older adults is the pedestrian lighting article.
- g. Ruth – Two articles will be in the April BrooklineCAN newsletter.
- h. Discussion followed re endorsing of TMM candidates.
- i. Susan – Three days of early voting at the end of April.
- j. Melissa – Need to use the forum to inform candidates of needs of older adults.
- k. Yolanda Rodriguez – Write-up key questions for candidates.

6. BU Projects

- a. BU's Metro-Bridge Program – Matt Weiss
 - i. Projects are ideation design for communities and they are focusing on older adults.
 - ii. Two meetings set up with Elenore re family businesses and with Jude and Melissa re membership and the annual meeting.
 - iii. One project is ways annual meeting can be used to reinvigorate current members and attract new members.
 - iv. Note that project members will likely want to interview members of BrooklineCAN.
- b. BU's Public Health Project – Ruthann (see attached description)
 - i. Similar to Metrobridge but focused on public health and will be working with Ruthann and CoA staff.
 - ii. Project members will also want to interview older adults and public health/social services personnel.

7. Treasurers report (John Seay)

- a. John noted the yearly Fiscal Management fee to the Multi-Service Senior Center Corporation providing non-profit status.

8. Committee reports

- a. Membership
 - i. Annual meeting is scheduled for September 15th from 5-7pm.
 - ii. Assigned two committee members to education programs at Goddard House and the Senior Center.
 - iii. Ruthann – Books from current and past speakers at education programs are made available at the each education session for those who sign up to be members of BrooklineCAN.
 - iv. Note new Goddard House representative is Christine Nagle.
- b. Communications
 - i. Newsletter – Candidate forum and election articles discussed earlier.
 - ii. News Releases – Tiny Hangers owner Lucia Berman Rossi. David Trevvett reminded the committee that releases should all reference BrooklineCAN and age friendly business activity or they lose their value to BrooklineCAN.
 - iii. Website – All checkout BrooklineCAN.org
 - iv. AFC-TV – Jim Lee is new chair of Commission on Disability. Sigalle Reis is the new Director of Public Health and she will be on a future show.
- c. Livable Communities – next meeting April 4th
- d. Education
 - i. Talk Topic: “I’m Getting Older Too”: Challenges and Benefits Experienced by Very Old Parents and Their Children
Speaker: Elizabeth Gallagher April 27, 5:30PM at Goddard.
 - ii. Stephen Post- “Dignity for Deeply Forgetful People”
scheduled May 24 at 5:30PM at Brookline Senior Center.
 - iii. Jane Fleishman- “Let’s Get Physical: Biopsychosocial Aspects of Sexuality and Aging” Wed, June 15th from 1:30PM-3PM.
 - iv. Re-invite Harry Margolis- “Getting Your Ducks in Order”.
 - v. “All the Lonely People” update.

9. Old & new business

- a. None.

10. Next meeting: Wednesday, April 20th