Brookline

COMMUNITY AGING NETWORK

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**2017 ANNUAL MEETING**

**‘Power of Engagement’**

Thursday, September 14, 2017

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Brookline Senior Center

93 Winchester Street

Brookline, MA 02446

[www.BrooklineCan.org](http://www.BrooklineCan.org)



Brookline Community Aging Network – BrooklineCAN – is a town-wide, all volunteer initiative founded in 2010. We pull together resources in innovative ways to ensure that seniors have the information and support needed to remain engaged in the life of the community. We succeed through advocacy, innovation, and collaboration.

Our 350 members – who range in age from 33 to 95 – live in all areas of Brookline, ten other towns and cities in Massachusetts as well as in other states. Members live in apartments, condos, single-family houses – every type of housing. Many, but not all, are retired. All of them care about making Brookline an even better place to live, for seniors and people of all ages!

BrooklineCAN volunteers – 77 and growing – team up to enhance communication, build membership, advocate for meaningful change, and engage older adults in stimulating educational opportunities.

***We are grateful for the contributions of our Founding Partners***

 

wwww.BrooklineCAN.org

Guide to Activities:

*First Floor:* Registration and Expo – enjoy wine, beer and hors d’oeurves

*Third Floor:* Award ceremony, Brookline High Jazz Ensemble, light dinner

**PROGRAM AGENDA**

 **5:00 pm Welcome to BrooklineCAN!**

Explore Expo, Network, Learn, and Enjoy!

 **6:15 pm Program**

**Welcome** Roberta Winitzer, *Master of*

 *Ceremonies*

 Frank Caro and Ruthann Dobek,

 *Steering Committee Co-Chairs*

 **Community Service Awards for Engagement**

*Promoting volunteerism, educating and informing,*

*encouraging involvement*

Brookline Interactive Group

 League of Women Voters of Brookline

 TRIPPS

  **Keynote Remarks**

Judith Gonyea, Professor & Associate Dean of Research

Boston University School of Social Work

“Promoting Age-Friendly Communities in the

 Current Political Environment: Opportunities and

 Challenges”

**2017 Key Accomplishments**

**Communications**

Over 850 subscribers receive the electronic version our monthly newsletter which is also available in paper version and at Senior Center. The Annual Meeting’s “Housing” theme was carried through in articles during the year. We initiated a regular column “Book Talk”, with recommendations for reading.

A major effort by media relations was publicity for The Reunion Project, the creation and display at the Senior Center and Goddard House of portraits of Brookline seniors, along with special related programs. The result was coverage in *Boston Globe West*, *Brookline Voice*, and a large article in the *Brookline Tab*.

The web site has expanded its Upcoming Events section and significantly updated the Service Providers section. We continue our presence on social media, with Facebook and Twitter, and the Twitter feed appears on the top page of the web site.

**Membership**

In May, current. former and potential members enjoyed an evening of “Staying Young While Growing Older – and Have Fun Doing It!” Members and guests shared an informative and fun opportunity to invite others to join. More than 70 people participated.

The first membership drive in January included mailing a printed invitation to join to more than 200 former members and about 100 people who had signed in at BrooklineCAN events.

**Volunteerism**

BrooklineVolunteers.org is for people of all ages who are searching for meaningful volunteer opportunities in the Brookline and Metro Boston area.  It is jointly sponsored by BrooklineCAN, the Brookline Senior Center, and the Brookline Commission for Women. It has been developed by volunteers for volunteers. It is user-friendly and is a place to start for prospective volunteers. They can research opportunities which they can then follow-up on their own.

**2017 Key Accomplishments**

**Service Providers**

New volunteers have re-launched this program! They have added new vendors and categories. We currently list 108 providers (86 new) in 28 categories (18 new). Members can read more and see updated listings on the website.

**[Education](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning)**

[Over 700 people attended seven stimulating educational programs this year. Among the events was our co-sponsorship of Coolidge Corner Theater premier of](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning) *[Reel in the Closet](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning)*[, an intergenerational evening celebrating diversity and equality. A “sold out” evening with author Ashton Applewaite highlighted content from her book,](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning) *[This Chair Rocks! A Manifesto Again Ageism.](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning)* [Other programs covered trending topics including:](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning) *[Age of Longevity](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning)* [by authors Barnett and Rivers, retirement income, and a MIT Age Lab presentation on mobility projects.](http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BrooklineCommunityAg/b3dcd6ebbf/21c069c0a3/19ce846bbd/utm_content=&utm_source=VerticalResponse&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Ebrooklinecan%2Eorg%2Fdocuments%2FBiennialReport2014-2015%2Epdf%20&utm_campaign=Alternatives%20to%20Driving%2C%20Books%20in%20Bloom%2C%20Online%20Learning)

**Livable Community…**

It was another BrooklineCAN banner year for influencing policy on issues of interest and importance to seniors and others.

--Town Meeting established a committee to consider improved property tax relief options for low-and-moderate income seniors; it also created a committee to consider developing an affordable senior housing development above a Town-owned parking lot in Brookline Village.

--The Committee’s inspection of adequacy of street lighting for pedestrians was extended to cover most of North Brookline. We are advocating for a pilot project on Winchester Street to test secondary lower lights over sidewalks.

--The Committee sponsored a well-attended candidates’ forum prior to the annual Town election.

--The Transportation Board’s new Pedestrian Advisory Committee has been appointed and begun to develop an agenda.

--The MBTA added a stop on the Route 51 bus line at the Dudley Triangle. It provides improved access to the Brookline Reservoir Park, a major attraction for those who walk for exercise.

**Keynote Speaker**

 **Judith G. Gonyea, PhD** is Professor and Associate Dean of Research at the Boston University School of Social Work. She received her MSW and PhD degrees from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA.

The author of more than 100 publications, much of her research focuses on the cumulative impacts of social, health and economic disparities on individuals in later life. She has written and spoken extensively on the changing nature of intergenerational family relations, family caregiving, and the interface of work and family in contemporary society as well the intersection of health and housing in later life and need for the creation of age friendly communities.

Much of her research involves working in partnership with local communities and organizations. Examples of her funded research include, “Circulo de Cuidado (Circle of Care): A Cognitive Behavioral Group Intervention for Latino Families Coping with Alzheimer’s Disease,” “Falling through the Cracks: Policy and Program Gaps Experienced by Older Homeless Women,” “Growing Old in Urban Subsidized Housing: The Relationship between Perceived Neighborhood and Residents’ Mental Health,” “The Challenges of Housing Formerly Homeless Elders: Evaluation of the HEARTH Model,” and “Aging Well at Home: Evaluation of a Neighborhood-based Pilot Project to “Put Connection back into Community.”

Dr. Gonyea is an elected member of the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI) and a Fellow in the Gerontological Society of America (GSA). She currently serves on the editorial boards of *Families in Society*, *Public Policy and Aging Report*, *and Journal of Gerontological Social Work*.

**2017 Community Service Awards**

Thanks to Brookline Interactive Group (BIG) for informing, engaging and facilitating dialogue within the Brookline community. Through education and training BIG provides people of all ages the opportunity to learn about multimedia and to develop and run programs like Age-Friendly Cities. These programs connect viewers to issues and activities in Brookline. BIG also partners with nonprofit organizations, education, business and government to document local life in Brookline in order to encourage informed participation by all who live and work in the town.



We are grateful to the League of Women Voters of Brookline for the leadership it has shown in encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It’s advocacy around education, housing, pensions, land use, town government/elections and parking has involved the engagement and dedication of Brookline volunteers.

 We extend our appreciation to TRIPPS (Transportation Resources, Information, Planning and Partnership for Seniors) for its work in helping the community stay connected, engaged and involved without a car.

TRIPPS program offers a Transportation Resources and Information Guide to local travel options in Greater Boston, as well as individual, personalized support to residents of Brookline and Newton aged 60 or older. TRIPPS involves a strong contingent of volunteers who provide peer mentoring to seniors who are looking for their transportation options.

**Thank You to Our Exhibitors**

*Brookline Adult Education*

*Brookline Interactive Group*

*ENCORE Boston Network*

*Brookline Public Libraries*

*Brookline Recreation Department*

*Brookline Board of Selectmen*

*BrooklineCAN*

*Brookline Senior Center*

*ENCORE Boston Network*

*League of Women Voters of Brookline*

**Thank You**

**to Our Members and Sponsoring Donors**  Membership donations make possible BrooklineCAN’s outreach and advocacy programs. Sponsoring members have a special role in our collaborations and innovations – thank you.

***Platinum:*** Frank and Carol Caro

***Gold:*** Marilyn Kudisch

***Silver:*** John Seay, Aaron and Ruth Kertzer Seidman, Lewis and Molly Turlish, Ellen and Matthew Weiss

***Bronze****:* Betsy and Dennis DeWitt, Gov. Michael & Kitty Dukakis, Marsha Frankel, Rhonda Glyman, Neil and Dale Golden, Anonymous, Betsy Munzer, Lucy and Dick Robb, Robert Sprague, Anonymous, Roberta Winitzer

Your additional donation of $10-$250 or more makes

 possible information, advocacy, and outreach on

 behalf of Brookline older adults – please donate today!

BrooklineCAN

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www.BrooklineCan.org

617-730-2777