

## **BrooklineCAN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes September 17, 2025**

Attendees: Marilyn Benson, Carol Caro, Susan Granoff, Yolanda Rodriguez, John Seay, Ruth Seidman, David Trevvett, Matthew Weiss, Emily Williams, Sonia Wong. Staff: Jessica Milley-Gee

### **1. Annual Meeting Thursday, September 18, 2025 5 to 7pm**

#### **[Planning Grid .xlsx](#)**

- a. Final preparations
  - i. Logistically everything is ready.
  - ii. Band is set as is gift (\$125 Village Pizza).
  - iii. Approximately 60 people signed up.
  - iv. Jessica and Julie prepared name tags.
  - v. Tommy Vitolo's aid Tim will attend – give a shoutout.
  - vi. Betsy Pollock will be in attendance.
  - vii. John will bring list of members.
  - viii. Membership table – David and Marilyn.
  - ix. Bar Tender and tables in the Coffee Lounge (1<sup>st</sup> flr)
  - x. Table setup with information about founders but no reps.
  - xi. Move membership from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> flr when session begins.
  - xii. 3<sup>rd</sup> flr will be follow up re membership.
  - xiii. 4:30pm is time for table people to arrive for setup.
  - xiv. Band will come at 4pm.
  - xv. Slides and laptops set.

### **2. Fisher Hill Property / WA13**

- a. Emily summarized the resolution that the Warrant Article (WA13) proposes. [WA-13 Questionnaire.pdf](#)
  - i. Community Center being considered for Fisher Hill would space based on Brookline as an age-friendly community.
- b. Advisory Committee will vote on whether or not to recommend the Town Meeting should vote for WA-13.
- c. Public Safety Advisory Committee will review WA-13 first.
- d. Fisher Hills Uses Committee is proposing various approaches with the idea of a community center (with or without a community pool) being most attractive to us.
  - i. Use as affordable housing is less attractive leaving no room for the Senior Center activities.
  - ii. 1 year planning process.
  - iii. Extensive discussion about need for transportation.
- e. 10/21 Select Board meeting
  - i. 10 minutes to present and support WA-13.

- ii. Allow public comments about the topic and vote at a separate meeting to support (or not).

### **3. Outreach.**

- a. Review of Brookline Day on September 14th
  - i. Following up with those who signed for the newsletter
  - ii. Very well attended and pictures on website.
  - iii. Clearer email addresses as requested.
  - iv. Opportunities for new members to those who signed.
  - v. Separate mailing list for those who signed for follow up.

### **4. Treasurers report (John Seay)**

- a. Reprinted 300 newsletters.
- b. Printed brochures.
- c. Suggest that treasurer from the Foundation attend next month.
- d. Need to clarify Foundation, Town, BrooklineCAN financials.
- e. Approach – Emily, John, Ruth and Foundation treasurer meet.

### **5. Committee Reports**

- a. Membership
  - i. Goal get a committee going next month.
- b. Communications
  - i. Newsletter – to be published as usual.
  - ii. News releases – Need PR person. Need Brookline. News to be aware of non-profit organizations.
  - iii. Website
  - iv. AFC-TV
  - v. Social media
- c. Livable Community Advocacy Committee
  - i. 10/6 Monday is next meeting.
  - ii. Petitioners of WA-8 “Prohibit Excessive Lighting”.
  - iii. Question of reasonableness of solution to lighting issue.

### **6. BrooklineCAN Education Committee update**

- a. Plans to reactivate
  - i. No discussion.

### **7. Old and New Business**

- a. No discussion.

### **8. Review of 2025 Priorities**

- a. Participate in COA Director transition and work with new director
- b. Support more funding for COA as senior population grows and needs increase
- c. Candidates Forum
- d. Annual Meeting September 2025
- e. Participate in offering educational events

- f. Continue efforts to engage and build membership; clarify role of the organization and communicate it
- g. Seek ways to revitalize Age-Friendly Business Program
- h. Begin planning for the coming year

**9. Next Steering Committee meeting: October 15, 2025 at 3 PM**