

Brookline Community Aging Network

Livable Community Advocacy Committee

Notes

September 24, 2018

Attending: Susan Granoff, Susan Cohen, Vera Sharma, Asaya Zimbov, Matt Weiss, Lydia Kaufman, Frank Caro, and Hugh Mattison (guest)

Motorized Scooters. Hugh Mattison spoke about his interest in electric scooters as a potential resource for those taking short trips. For seniors, he is interested in a 3-wheel scooter that will provide more stability than a 2-wheel scooter. Hugh anticipates widespread use of scooters that people will rent. His expectation is that scooters will operate in bicycle lanes on streets. Frank offered to contact John Harris to see if he can arrange for a demonstration at the Senior Center similar to what John arranged a year ago involving adult tricycles and electric bicycles.

We generally agreed that electric scooters should not be operated on the sidewalks because they pose risks to pedestrians. (Electric scooters can operate at speeds up to 15 miles per hour.) Frank spoke about his effort to take up the issue with the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. He expects the committee to propose that operation of electric scooters be prohibited on sidewalks throughout the Town.

Warrant article 23: Proposal for restoration of Beacon Street bridle path. The proposal is of interest as a potential 2-way path for bicycles that would replace the current bicycle accommodations. The warrant article calls for a study of the feasibility of the proposal. If successful, the path would separate cyclists from pedestrians and automobiles. Safety would be approved both for cyclists and pedestrians. We agreed to support the warrant article.

Street lighting on Winchester Street. The pilot work on street lighting that we negotiated with DPW has not been done. DPW decided to address the problem through tree pruning. Arborist Tom Brady recently acknowledged that the pruning has not been done. Frank will send an email message to Andy Papastergion with copies to Mel Kleckner and others asking for immediate action. We will also submit a warrant article in the spring asking the Town to establish a program to develop a pedestrian-friendly street lighting program in North Brookline.

Darkness on Brookline Paths. A Senior Center constituent has complained about a dark path on Aspenwall Hill. We agreed that we would undertake walks of various Brookline paths to determine the extent that they are lit after dark. We will do this in early October.

Age-Friendly Brookline Parks. Frank distributed the age-friendly parks brochure prepared as part of the age-friendly city initiative.

Age-Friendly business campaign. We noted the progress made by the age-friendly business campaign. More than 40 businesses have applied. LCAC members who are doing nearly all of the field work are Jerry Feuer, Melissa Trevvett, Matt Weiss, and Carol Seibert. Renny Harrigan (not on the committee) has also done substantial work.

Other agenda items will be taken up at a future meeting.

Next meeting October 29