

February 16, 2022

Attendees: Katherine Burnes, 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 draft report attached
 - i. Discussion followed.
 - ii. This document would be used to apply to AARP for age-friendly designation for Brookline.
- b. Send final comments, edits, additions to Matt by Monday 2/21
 - i. Correct version was sent to all during the meeting.

2. American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)

- a. Verbal report given but written report not yet delivered.
 - i. Very little for older adults in verbal recommendations.
 - ii. Focus was low income (includes older adults), children, businesses.
- b. Deliver ARPA funds in tranches starting with \$20M.
 - i. Budget is now online on the Town website.
 - ii. Needs to be spent by FY2026.

3. BrooklineCAN Age-Friendly Business (AFB) Program

- a. Discussion regarding future of the program.
- b. Collaboration/follow up re Town's brochure re accessibility.
- c. Grant progress from JF&CS
 - i. Ruth Seidman reported Kayla Atkins and 2 people working.
 - ii. Goal is to contact the AFBs and update the list.
 - iii. John Seay requested that changes/additions to the list be sent to him for entry as they are completed.
 - iv. Elenore Parker will share what she has learned from interviews with AFBs.
 - v. John and Elenore will separately contact Kayla who works part time at the Senior Center.
- d. Please reference the Age-Friendly Business material found on our website:

https://www.brooklinecan.org/age_friendly_business.html

4. COVID Pandemic Continues

- a. Ruthann – BrooklineCAN meetings not governed by open meeting laws and can continue to meet on remote basis.
- b. Senior Center is open but question of activities and meetings remote versus hybrid.

- c. Senior Center, synagogues and churches to get test kits for distribution.
- d. Senior Center distributed 900 kits in the last cycle.

5. Candidates Afternoon

- a. Questions up for discussion are should we have a Candidates Forum at all and if so should it be remote.
- b. Susan Granoff pointed out that there were no Town-wide seats up for competitive races and no Questions on the ballot.
- c. There are many precincts that do not have enough candidates to fill the slots while some precincts are very competitive.
- d. Susan pointed out only 6 candidates for 15 slots in precinct 2.
- e. Papers can be filed up until March 14th.
- f. BIG committed for April 12th with Bea Mikulecky as moderator, Matt as time keeper.
- g. Planned as a hybrid or completely virtual.
- h. Consider Library Trustee and School Committee candidates.
- i. Save the date email should go out March 12th.

6. Treasurers report (John Seay)

- a. 13 payments of dues submitted last month.
- b. Only significant expense was payment to the Town for Sandy.

7. Committee reports

- a. Membership – Jude Kidd reported.
 - i. Planning an annual meeting between 9/6 and 9/24.
 - ii. Membership affirmation and recruitment.
 - iii. Contact Jude if you want to work on the planning.
 - iv. Possible theme is tenth anniversary of founding in 2011.
- b. Communications – Ruth Seidman
 - i. Newsletter – March newsletter, *****
 - ii. News Releases – Candidates Forum.
 - iii. Website – No changes.
 - iv. AFC-TV – Next show is Episode 35 with new Town Clerk Ben Kaufman re new precincts and TMM openings.
- c. Livable Communities – Susan reported.
 - i. Sara Slymon agreed to speak at May 9th LCAC meeting.
 - ii. New Director of Parks and Open Spaces will be presenting at April LCAC meeting.
 - iii. Last meeting included a presentation and Q&A with Bernard Greene which was published on BIG and is available on BrooklineCAN and BIG websites.

- iv. Advisory Committee meetings re budgets for Health and Human Services related to CoA and Susan will let us know when those meetings take place.
- v. Next LCAC meeting is March 7th.
- 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.
 - vi. April/May will see a new author to be reported.
 - vii. UMass Boston Gerontology program on older adults with older parents.

8. Old & new business

- a. Consider project with BU students through Metrobridge re age-friendly Brookline.
 - i. Kathy Burnes suggested possible ideas for use of AARP grants including researching past grants and purposes.
 - ii. Matt explore possibility of working with BU.
 - iii. Yolanda Rodriguez suggested project to explore methods of communicating with non-tech older adults.
- b. David Trevvett reminded committee to press for pedestrian street lighting funds.
- c. Susan reminded committee we need older adult TMMs.
- d. John Seay will distribute Steering Committee contact information to the members per committee request.

9. Next meeting: March 16th at 3:00 PM