

**July 21, 2021**

Attendees:

Jessica Milley-Gee, Sonia Wong, David Trevvett, John Seay, Ruth Seidman, Ruthann Dobek, Melissa Trevvett, Elenore Parker, Matt Weiss, Yolanda Rodriguez, Susan Granoff, Judith Kidd.

**1. Welcome and introduction to new members**

- a. At-large – Carol Seibert June 30, 2023)
- b. At-large – Sonia Wong (June 30, 2023)
- c. At-large – Judith Kidd (June 30, 2023)

**2. AARP Age-Friendly initiative**

- a. <https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/>
- b. Brookline Livability Index Scores:  
<https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/search#Brookline+MA+USA>  
Categories: housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity
- c. ReiMAGine Aging Year Two Progress Report:  
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/reimagine-aging-2021-progress-report/download>
- d. <https://www.boston.gov/departments/age-strong-commission/age-friendly-boston>
- e. Ruthann recommended that the members explore the link on 2.d. above which was recommended by the new Age Friendly Cities liaison John VanScoyoc re Boston's age friendly initiative.
- f. David Trevvett and others questioned the ratings given Brookline in the AARP Livability Index.
- g. Certification of occupancy of affordable housing is needed to be recognized by various ratings

**3. Update on Senior Center reopening for public – Ruthann Dobek**

- a. More and more programs are opening but remaining cautious.
- b. Masks required for transportation and recommended for unvaccinated.
- c. Winchester Street paving is complete.

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

- a. New fiscal year.
- b. 28 new free members as a result of visits to 100 Centre Street and JF&CS.
- c. \$5,000 donation in memory of Frank Caro is for health of BrooklineCAN rather than specifically for a memorial.

**5. Next meeting** – discussion of summer schedule & Sept. meetings due to holiday. Continue on Zoom or return to in person

- a. Zoom discussion
  - i. Physical meeting space in Senior Center available for next meetings but not permanent, so consider ongoing Zoom.
  - ii. John Seay working on using hybrid meeting technology and will keep people informed of the status but no changes yet.
- b. September meeting
  - i. Consider 9/1 meeting covering August and September to avoid the Jewish holidays.
  - ii. Agreed to meet September 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm.

**6. Committee reports**

- a. Membership – Great work on the part of the committee.
  - i. Melissa – October 4<sup>th</sup> event tentative due to Delta.
  - ii. Plans for the 10/4 event include a small event with 4 panelists already set to talk about their retirements.
  - iii. \$30-40 per person budget for 10/4 and standard publicity from BrooklineCAN and Senior Center.
  - iv. If cancelled there will be a plan re actions and information dissemination.
  - v. Marsha Frankel and Ellen Bick visited CCB and Brown House to recruit 1<sup>st</sup> year free members.
  - vi. New members want to become active as volunteers.
  - vii. Suggested tasks related to: newsletter, web site validation, Age Friendly Businesses revisiting, sidewalks, snow, street lighting for pedestrians, perhaps identify members who will provide closer links to the Town Advisory committees.
  - viii. Each of future meetings have a short session on ideas for contributions by volunteers.
  - ix. Train people in use of BrookOnline reporting and research and inform them of the facility through the newsletter.
- b. Communications
  - i. Newsletter – Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> week in August for summer issue. (Ruth)
  - ii. News Releases – 12<sup>th</sup> AFB release was The Abbey but need to extend AFB identifications and participation. Releases in Patch, BIG, BrooklineCAN website, Brookline Chamber of Commerce. Future releases will stress BrooklineCAN role in identifying AFBs. (Elenore)
  - iii. Website – Banners expanded to all pages of the website. (John)

- iv. AFC-TV – Next show is Episode 33 with new liaison to the CoA and the Age Friendly Cities committee. BIG puts out a senior programming guide for the following week on Thursdays which is available on the BrooklineCAN website on the upcoming events page.(Matt)
- c. Livable Communities – Hiatus until September with speakers planned but not announced. Send email to Susan with any suggestions for the coming year. Key item is the Pedestrian Lighting Report. (Susan)
- d. Education
  - i. Review of Paula Span talk on grandparenting- June 29th at 3PM via Zoom
  - ii. Potential future program from the MIT AgeLab: Re-imagining Life in the Post COVID-19 Longevity Economy
  - iii. Potential future program: Models of Homecare- Kendall, Lifecare Advocates, etc.
  - iv. Movie premier at the Coolidge Corner theater- “All the Lonely People” –tentative date December 29th at 1PM
  - v. Re-invite Harry Margolis- “Getting Your Ducks in Order”
  - vi. Paula Span session included groups on Zoom in a form of hybrid model.

## **7. Old & new business**

- a. Bridle path plans to be discussed at the Transportation Board meeting Monday night and discussion will relate to pedestrians, greenspace and bicycles. Clearly a subject that needs attention from BrooklineCAN. (Ruthann)
- b. Recovery money appears to include at least \$4 million for Brookline and Senior Center/CoA has needs and BrooklineCAN/LCAC may want to pay attention and take positions: (Ruthann)
  - i. Food insecurity
  - ii. Infrastructure (IT)
  - iii. Employees
  - iv. Older adults
- c. Town government discussions re eliminating Human Services Advisory subcommittee and having one subcommittee for all budgets. (Susan)
- d. Work being done on warrant article to control hedges that block sidewalks. (David)