

## **BrooklineCAN Steering Committee Minutes October 17, 2018**

Attendees: Frank Caro, Ruthann Dobek, Elenore Parker, John Seay, Matt Weiss, Ruth Seidman, Roberta Winitzer, David Trevvett, Susan Granoff.

### **1. Volunteer opportunities**

- a. Ruthann Dobek reported that 5 tax workoff positions were arranged with Brookline schools.
- b. Frank Caro reported on the composting (food recycling) program at the High School.
- c. Ruthann Dobek suggested that an article on the “success story” might be appropriate. Tax workoff positions today with a hope of adding pure volunteers in the future.

### **2. Establishing the benefits of business memberships**

- a. Frank Caro reported that Provident House, our neighbor in Brighton, wants to become a business sponsor.
- b. 2Life (previously known as JCHE) should be a business sponsor considering its plans for Coolidge Corner near the Senior Center.
- c. David Trevvett noted that 50% of the annual meeting attendees were non-members.

### **3. Encouraging age-friendly businesses to become BrooklineCAN business members**

- a. Frank Caro agreed to develop a letter to Age-Friendly Businesses offering membership with no quid pro quo intended
- b. Next meeting will continue to discuss the subject before a letter is sent.
- c. Matt Weiss, David Trevvett and Ruthann Dobek will put material together for discussion at the next meeting.
- d. Frank Caro and David Trevvett suggested a packet be produced for new businesses that the Planning Department could distribute.

### **4. Other Age-Friendly Business activity**

- a. Frank Caro indicated the first phase of the age-friendly business campaign was complete, but interest in following up with more activity has been expressed by members.
- b. Frank Caro will create a Survey Monkey survey re age-friendly business features.
- c. Frank Caro suggested the committee think through the possibility for the Institute for Human Centered Design and grant money used to assist businesses in developing age-friendly features.

## **5. TRIPPS, Video conferencing & Tom Mottl**

- a. John Seay reported a video kit was loaned to us from Tom Mottl and returned.
- b. John Seay described the activity as a “solution in search of a problem” and suggested we wait and see where it goes.

## **6. Treasurer’s Report**

- a. John Seay reported that BrooklineCAN is solvent and in the black.
- b. BrooklineCAN has 396 members.

## **7. Committee Reports**

- a. Finance – See Treasurer’s report.
- b. Communications – Report by Ruth Seidman
  - i. Two potential new members of the committee attended the latest meeting and one offered to work on projects.
  - ii. Working on November newsletter.
  - iii. Matt Weiss reported November AFC-TV guests are Tax Assessor Gary McCabe, Assistant Assessor Karen Keaney and Deidre Waxman of the Senior Center. Subject is tax deferrals and exemptions.
  - iv. Elenore Parker is working on news releases.
  - v. John Seay will monitor requests to link to the BrooklineCAN website and report back to the Steering Committee.
- c. Membership – BrooklineCAN now has 400 members, approximately 45 were not members at the Annual Meeting.
  - i. “Honorary/emeritus” status – these are non-paid complementary memberships.
  - ii. Volunteer recruiting flyer – Katherine Burnes created the flyer and Ruthann Dobek will polish the flyer for future use.
  - iii. Inspo:Expo, Monday, January 21, 2019 (12-2pm) – David Trevvett will take the lead re table size and approach.
- d. Education
  - i. Olivia Hoblitzelle – if joining or renewing membership one received a free copy of her book. Approach worked!
  - ii. 11/1/2018 – Claire Willis Program, Creating A Legacy (5-7:30pm) at Brookline Senior Center.
  - iii. 11/7/2018 – Dr. Susanne Hanser, The Healing Power of Music Therapy (6:30-7:30pm) at Goddard House.
  - iv. 11/14/2018 – Nancy Donovan, New Ways of Thinking About (6-7:30pm) at Goddard House.
- e. Livable Community Advocacy Committee & Age-Friendly City
  - i. Winchester Street lighting – tree pruning did not work.

- ii. Police Chief Lipson to appear at Age-Friendly City meeting.
- iii. Friendship Works, Brookline Commission for the Arts, & benches – Friendship Works sought Frank Caro’s assistance with a project to place artistically painted benches on streets in Brookline. LCAC has been advocating for more street benches. Asked BrooklineCAN to align with the group. No new funds are currently available for the project. Artistic painting of benches may be controversial. LCAC will not be pursuing the proposed collaboration.
- iv. Kent-Station Street senior affordable housing public meeting October 29, Townhall, 6<sup>th</sup> floor.
- v. LCAC voted to support Article 23 to study a proposal to restore a “Bridal Path” for bicycles on Beacon Street.
- f. Member volunteering – No report.
- g. Repair and referrals – No report.

**8. New business**

- a. Frank Caro was honored in LeadingAge “Words from the Wise” initiative in Philadelphia, PA.
- b. “Public Ageism” exhibit, nominated by Ruthann Dobek and Katherine Burnes.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 2 pm.**