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## For immediate release, please

## BROOKLINECAN (Brookline Community Aging Network) HOLDS 6TH ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 15 Focus on Housing Options for Seniors

The public is invited to the Brookline Community Aging Network 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on Thursday, September 15, from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Brookline Senior Center, 93 Winchester Ave. The focus of the meeting is Brookline's looming senior housing crisis.

Because aging baby boomers represent the most rapidly growing segment of the population in Brookline, demand for housing suitable for seniors will grow dramatically in the decades ahead. Multiple solutions are needed ranging from construction of new housing developments for seniors to greater creativity on the part of seniors in using available housing.

Keynote speaker Len Fishman, director of the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston's John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, will provide an overview of senior housing needs and solutions.

In addition, the BrooklineCAN Expo will provide information about solutions to housing problems. Expo exhibitors include Brookline Housing Advisory Board and Housing Division of the Planning and Community Development Department, Brookline Board of Assessors, Center Communities/Hebrew Senior Life (HSL), Brookline Council on Aging, Goddard House, Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly (JCHE), Jewish Family & Children's Service (JF&CS), Move Maven, and TRIPPS (Transportation Resources, Information, Planning and Partnership For Seniors In Brookline And Newton)

BrooklineCAN will award Community Service Awards to Roger Blood, a strong leader in all areas of housing issues and for more than 20 years, chair of the Brookline Housing Advisory Board. In addition, BrooklineCAN recognizes the entire Brookline Board of Assessors: Gary McCabe, chair since 2007, Dr. Harold A. Peterson, and Mark J. Mazur for their advocacy for older homeowners.

The Annual meeting also will highlight BrooklineCAN's many achievements this year, which include the Age Friendly BrooklineCAN TV program, a recently-completed pocket park at the corner of Green and John streets, senior-initiated sidewalk repaving, and six educational programs.

The meeting begins at 5:00 with registration, the Expo, and light refreshments. The Awards Ceremony and speakers start at 6:15. This event is free and open to all. RSVP by Thursday, September 10th at info@BrooklineCAN.org or call 617-730-2777

Affiliated with the Brookline Senior Center, BrooklineCAN is an all-volunteer organization that enables older residents to remain independent and fully engaged in the life of the community. The organization advocates on behalf of Brookline's older residents, works with town agencies on behalf of Brookline's seniors, provides ways for members to contribute to the community, and in general acts to make Brookline an even better place to live for people of all ages.

For additional information about Brookline Community Aging Network and to request a copy of BrooklineCAN's informative monthly newsletter, visit http://www.brooklineCAN.org or call 617-730-2777.