

BrooklineCAN Steering Committee

Notes

August 19, 2015

Attendance: Peter Ames, Lisa Berger, Kathy Burns, Carol Caro, Frank Caro, Ruthann Dobek, Karen Fischer, Susan Krinsky, Michelle LaPointe, Elenore Parker, John Seay, and Matt Weiss

Introduction of new members. Lisa Berger from the Professional Committee was introduced. Frank reported that Lance Chapman, the Goddard House representative, has indicated that he hopes to begin attending in October.

Annual Meeting. The program booklet for the Annual Meeting is almost finished. It will be sent to the Communication Committee in early September for review. Frank reported that Roberta Winitzer suggested that Age Friendly City be added to the program booklet. We decided that since the age-friendly city initiative is a Town program it would not be featured in the booklet. However, we will have table space for the Age Friendly City initiative during the expo portion of the meeting.

Ruthann reported that RSVPs have been coming in. There will be 3 tables for BrooklineCAN committees. The Communication Committee has offered to share a table with the Repair & Referral Committee.

Brookline Day. It was decided that BrooklineCAN would pursue the Bocce demo idea. Frank will contact Melissa in the Recreation Department to see if the Bocce will be allowed. Frank will supply the bocce equipment. Frank asked for more volunteers to be at the table. John Seay and Karen Fischer agreed to help at the table.

Volunteer Data Base. Alberta Lipson has been compiling a data base of volunteer opportunities. She is ready for it to go "live." John Seay has met with Alberta and is not sure it should be put on the WebSite. He will send members of the committee a copy of Alberta's work and we will discuss it at a future meeting.

Treasurer's report. John distributed a report listing income, expenses, and the net balance. As of August 8, 2015 there is a balance of \$21,920.09. In the first month of FY16 income was \$2,125 and expenses were \$956.50.

Update on STRAITS project. The Senior Transportation Resources, Advice, Information, Training, and Support project (STRAITS) has been awarded federal funding. Funding is expected to arrive in mid September. The staff position for the project has been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Recruiting is underway. We can advertise and recruit but not hire until the town receives the money.

Shirley Selhub has written an information document about the project. The document will be sent to the Communication Committee for review.

There will be a meeting of the Advisory Group for the project in September.

Professional Service Providers Group (PSPG). On hiatus for the summer next meeting will be in September

Repairs & Referrals. On hiatus looking for volunteers. Hope to recruit some at the Annual Meeting.

Education. September 30th the Education Committee will sponsor a program on memory loss – “Making Connections around Memory Loss in the Brookline Community”. A panel of local dementia experts will discuss the topic.

In October Ann Webster, a health psychologist, will present a program on coping with stress. A date has not been established.

Committee is also interested in program senior memories that would connect with younger people. They are also interested in walking programs.

Membership. As of today there are 386 members. The goal for the year is 400. Of the 176 former members who were contacted 31 have renewed their membership. Eight people from the ReServe pedestrian safety project have taken advantage of the free membership offer. Seven joined and one existing member asked for an additional year.

It was suggested that the Brookline Interfaith organization be contacted to have announcements about BrooklineCAN be included in their newsletter.

Communications. Mary Dexter was unable to meet with the Communication Committee to discuss her suggestions for marketing the data base.

The PR subcommittee has had a number of articles in the Brookline TAB newspaper and in the online edition.

Livable Community Advocacy Committee. Frank spoke of the need for more benches along Beacon St from St. Marys to Cleveland Circle. He has spoken with Peter Ditto of the Transportation Dept. Peter Ditto will have plan for benches along Beacon in October.

Also mentioned was the need for benches in parks away from all the youth orientated activities.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 30th at 3:00 PM.

Notes prepared by Carol Caro