

## **BrooklineCAN Steering Committee**

### *Notes*

April 20, 2016

**Attendance:** Peter Ames, Lisa Berger, Carol Caro, Frank Caro, Ruthann Dobek, Karen Fischer, Marsha Frankel, Michelle LaPointe, John Seay, Molly Turlish, Matt Weiss, and Roberta Winitzer.

**Proposal to suspend Repair and Referral Committee.** Due to a lack of volunteers, the resource list on the website is increasingly out of date. It was decided to add a statement that the list is not maintained and potential volunteers should call (617) 730-XXXX. The Education Committee plans to offer a program periodically devoted to consumer issues.

**Nominating Committee Report.** Michelle presented the report of the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee. The slate includes the following

- Officers: Co-Chairs – Ruthann Dobek and Frank Caro (terms expire 2018); Vice Chair / Secretary – Molly Turlish (term expires 2018); Treasurer – John Seay (term expires 2018)
- Founding Partner representatives: Council on Aging – Roberta Winitzer (term expires 2018); Senior Center Board – vacant for now; Center Communities of Brookline – vacant for now; Goddard House – Lance Chapman (term expires 2017); Jewish Family & Children’s Services – Marsha Frankel (term expires 2018)
- Committee representatives: Communications – Elenore Parker (term expires 2018); Education – Susan Krinsky (term expires 2017); Livable Community Advocacy – Susan Granoff [new] (term expires 2017); Membership – Karen Fischer (term expires 2017); Professional Service Providers Group – Michelle LaPointe (term expires 2018)
- At large: Matt Weiss (term expires 2018); Lisa Berger (term expires 2017); Ruth Seidman (term expires 2017)

The slate, perhaps with additions, will be voted on at the May 18 meeting.

**Report from committee for BrooklineCAN 2016 (annual meeting).** The event on Thursday, September 15, 5-7 p.m. will include an expo from 5-6 and a speaking program beginning around 6. Len Fishman, head of UMass Boston gerontology program and Brookline resident, will keynote the housing theme. Questions have arisen about seeking sponsors for the event (no, because of potential conflicts with fundraising for the Senior Center annual fundraiser in October),

**Annual report v. list of highlights.** We agreed that we will have a statement about our major accomplishments in the program booklet as we did last year. We will add a mission statement and an invitation to membership. We will NOT include a financial statement. We will NOT issue a separate annual report.

**Dissemination of Age-Friendly progress report.** The report – copies of which were distributed – will be featured in our newsletter. Placing copies in Town Hall and the libraries was discussed.

**Proposal to collaborate with Chamber of Commerce.** At the recommendation of Lance Chapman, Frank met with the Chamber the morning after the Steering Committee meeting to begin exploring possible collaboration on an age-friendly business initiative.

**Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee.** John presented the financial status: positive \$22,747 since inception, negative \$2,092 for the year (thanks to paying two major annual bills – salary for membership assistant and fiscal management fee – in April). He also presented the budget estimates for FY 2017 (begins 7/1/16) that will be voted on May 18. The total expense - \$17,903 – exceeds the income average of FY2012 to FY 2015 by nearly \$5,000, pointing to a need to look at revenue generation.

**Education.** At the April 11 program on “Selling the Fountain of Youth,” nine Active members, two Former members, one new member, and 28 never members signed in; Lisa and members of the Membership Committee are calling the “nevers” to follow-up and invite them to join BrooklineCAN. Planned sessions – all at the Senior Center – are May 17 and June 16, “Giving Up the Car Keys” and July 11, “Social Security: Get What’s Yours.” October 19, a film “Reel in the Closet” will be shown at the Coolidge Corner Theatre.

**Communications.** The next newsletter nears completion. Lisa and Carol will be preparing a proposal to present to her firm for sponsoring the print version of our guide to residential buildings with elevators. A committee member is redesigning the award certificates presented at the annual meeting.

**Membership.** Today, there are 389 active members, three fewer than at the time of the March meeting. The committee recently adopted a framework for an elevator speech for BrooklineCAN; copies were distributed and feedback from using it was requested. Updated membership brochures are at the printer.

**Professional Service Providers Group (PSPG).** A planning meeting April 14, included discussion of a June 9 meeting which will feature a consultant on Veterans benefits.

**Livable Community Advocacy Committee / Age-Friendly Cities.** The Transportation Board reacted favorably to a proposal to establish a standing committee on pedestrian issues, and it will almost certainly become reality. Criteria for adding affordable housing as part of a housing production plan will be the focus of a hearing April 25, 6:30 pm at Pierce School. The April 25, 3 pm meeting of LCAC will feature Bill McGroarty, director of Veteran’s Affairs for Brookline.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, May 18, at 3:00 PM. Future meetings (all third Wednesdays at 3) are June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 21.

Notes prepared by Molly Turkish