

BrooklineCAN Steering Committee

Notes

October 19, 2016

Attendance: Lisa Berger, Frank Caro, Ruthann Dobek, Marsha Frankel, Susan Granoff, John Seay, Ruth Seidman, Molly Turlish, Matt Weiss, Roberta Winitzer; guest: Peter Ames

Feedback, Green-John Street pocket park celebration. The celebration in late September was well attended, including by the Lee family that had donated benches. A photo and press release are posted on www.BrooklineCAN.org. The park is a great example of successful collaboration in this case with the Town's Parks and Open Space Division of the Department of Public Works.

Treasurer's Report. As of October 18, fiscal year 2017 is on budget. For the fiscal year, we show a loss of \$4,392, due to the largest expenses (annual meeting and brochure) being paid before many membership donations come in. We have \$15,657 in reserves.

Committee reports

Repairs and Referrals. The committee has a new chair, Renny Harrigan, and two new members. They are simplifying the process and updating the lists. They will be requesting referrals from members.

Member volunteering. The database needs some updating, and the technical part of it is ready to go live. An information session is scheduled for Monday October 24, at 2 p.m. A connection has been made to Generations, Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to intergenerational volunteering. Generations, Inc. is recruiting volunteers to read to children in Brighton elementary schools.

Membership. Today, there are 365 active members, up slightly from September. The Membership Committee is planning two initiatives and will have more to report next month. Molly circulated a list of former members, asking for follow-up to ask them to renew their memberships. Matt, John, Frank, and Ruthann will be sent the list by email. Return address labels purchased in 2011 are running low and Molly has not yet found a printer who can print similar labels; she asked for any leads.

Communications. The November issue of the newsletter is in the works. Technical difficulties have been resolved with the help of Michael Oates. John distributed business cards that include the web address and Info@brooklinecan.org. An individual using the cards can add their phone and name.

Education. The opening program of the fall is tonight with the showing of "Reel in the Closet" at the Coolidge Corner Theater, preceded by a reception with the director at the Senior Center. November 9th, "Falling Short: the Coming Retirement Crisis and What to do About It" will be presented at Goddard House, 6-8, featuring Andrew D. Eschtruth of Boston College.

Professional Service Providers Group (PSPG). The group plans to meet in November.

Livable community advocacy / Age friendly city. (1) The sidewalk lighting project has begun again with a total of 10 people surveying, including four people who volunteered during the annual meeting in September. Susan Granoff and others are following up on some of the 52 locations found to be problematic a year ago and have found numerous improvements. (2) The two Town Meeting warrant articles (senior housing above a town-owned parking lot and a proposal to study ways to include more seniors in property tax reduction programs) are moving forward and have received positive responses. (3) The campaign to prevent the Stop 'N Shop store site from being taken over for the ninth elementary school is relieved that another site (Baldwin school) has been selected. Baldwin is not yet a "done deal" but is the preferred site going forward.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 16, at 3:00 PM. Future meetings (third Wednesdays at 3) are December 21, January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, and June 21.

Notes prepared by Molly Turlish