

## **BrooklineCAN Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

### **November 19, 2025**

Attendees: Marilyn Benson, Carol Caro, Susan Granoff, Yolanda Rodriguez, John Seay, Ruth Seidman, David Trevett, Matthew Weiss, Emily Williams, Sonia Wong. Staff: Jessica Milley-Gee

#### **1. Fisher Hill Property / WA-13**

- a. Status
  - i. 2<sup>nd</sup> on Town Meeting agenda for 11/19.
  - ii. Advisory Subcommittee (Public Safety), Advisory Committee, BCoD, CDEICR, BC0W.
  - iii. Select Board is tonight.
  - iv. Raised consciousness of people on the committees re older adults needs and age-friendly aspects/needs in Brookline.
- b. Emily – Anne Turner pool advocate was very supportive.
  - i. Need to make a pool age-friendly.
  - ii. Wonderful WA-13 project – all participated.
- c. Note transportation issue how are people to get to Fisher Hill.
- d. Tonight – Fran Perler speak first then Ruth.

#### **2. Outreach.**

- a. Beacon ad re Age-Friendly Business project help.
  - i. Ellen? Volunteered to work on this and started making calls.
  - ii. Carol contacted someone who worked on the project before to train new people.

#### **3. Treasurers report (John Seay)**

- a. Expenses
  - i. Regular \$600 charge for printing of the newsletters.
- b. Contributions
  - i. Returning member with generous contribution.
  - ii. 12 payments \$35-\$500 avg. \$96 \$1,550.00 total.
  - iii. Carol Caro responsible for return.
  - iv. \$500 contribution gets handwritten note from Ruth/Emily?

#### **4. Committee Reports – Status of Committees and Projects**

- a. Membership
  - i. Marilyn Benson is the Chair of the Committee.
  - ii. Need a Co-Chair
  - iii. No committee members yet.
  - iv. People involved in CoA strategic study might be interested in BrooklineCAN Education and Membership Committees.
  - v. Letter prepared to people has not been sent.
  - vi. Marilyn, Emily and John will work on solution with Sandy.
- b. Communications

- i. Newsletter – Consider container in Senior Center to distribute and make visible.
- ii. News releases – No report.
- iii. Website – No report.
- iv. AFC-TV – No report.
- v. Social media – No report.
- c. Livable Community Advocacy Committee
  - i. Carol recommended Terry Kwan as next leader.

## 5. Education

- a. Plans to reactivate
  - i. Important to attract new members of BrooklineCAN.
  - ii. Marilyn will be a member not Chair.
  - iii. Suggestion – Membership/Education Committee?
  - iv. Senior Center Staff – 1 person.
  - v. Need professional in field of aging.

## 6. Old and New Business

- a. Senior Center items – Emily
  - i. Newsletter.
  - ii. One restriction added to medical transportation rides.
  - iii. Extending time based on available funds.
  - iv. Holiday events approaching.
  - v. Isolation/loneliness increases with winter and holidays.
  - vi. Applied for MASSDOT grant again.
  - vii. Applying for Brookline Community Foundation grant today.
  - viii. Susan Granoff interview in Brookline.News re Senior Center.
  - ix. Interview very well-received.
- b. Medical transportation and support
  - i. Note – Susan mentioned Senior Center medical escort program – Katie McClean is lead. (Carol will do article re service in the newsletter)
  - ii. Consider presentation re medical support sponsored by BrooklineCAN and the Senior Center
- c. Discussion of The Newbury.
- d. Committee needs/plans
  - i. Steering Committee need for at-large members.
  - ii. Communications Committee needs Publicity/PR person.
  - iii. LCAC Note Taker – Consider using transcription from recording for note taking.
  - iv. LCAC Co-Chair – 6 or 7 meetings per year.
  - v. LCAC – Susan will send out list of attendees to LCAC.

- e. Discussion of assessment to be performed by the CoA re needs of older adults and forming a strategic plan.
  - i. Includes a survey online and in print, focus groups, and individual key stakeholder interviews.
  - ii. Timeline – Data by May, surveys in late January.
  - iii. Extensive discussion re Health Department strategic plan.
  - iv. Extensive discussion re CoA strategic plan.
  - v. Susan – Consider approach by Health re CHA and CHIP

## **7. Review of 2025 Priorities**

- a. Participate in COA Director transition and work with new director
- b. Support more funding for COA as senior population grows and needs increase
- c. Candidates Forum
- d. Annual Meeting September 2025
- e. Participate in offering educational events
- f. Continue efforts to engage and build membership; clarify role of the organization and communicate it
- g. Seek ways to revitalize Age-Friendly Business Program
- h. Begin planning for the coming year.

## **8. Next Steering Committee meeting: December 17, 2025 at 3 PM**