

July 15, 2020

Attendees:

Frank Caro, John Seay, Ruthann Dobek, Ruth Seidman, Elenore Parker, Matt Weiss, David Trevvett, Susan Granoff, Melissa Trevvett

1. Note Taker Matt Weiss

2. Planning for virtual program on senior housing on September 10

- a. Program content and production – Frank Caro reported.
 - i. 6pm is the time with 90% of the program content in place
 - ii. BIG will stream the program live and distribute it.
 - iii. Matt Weiss has agreed to be the moderator
 - iv. 2Life agreed to participate.
- b. Publicity.
 - i. Melissa Trevvett – Recommended inviting Town Meeting Members and others to the program.
 - ii. Publicity will include BrooklineCAN newsletter and CoA newsletter.
 - iii. Encourage Brookline for Everyone to promote it.
 - iv. Ruthann – Deadline for CoA August newsletter is 7/17.

3. Proposed follow up program on other aspects of senior housing

- a. Some ideas – Age-integrated housing, independent living, owner-occupied housing, supportive services housing.
- b. Planning Committee – Susan Granoff, Elenore Parker, Melissa Trevvett and Frank Caro.
- c. Ruthann – note since COVID-19 many requests have come in for assistance in staying in the home.

4. Feedback and plans “Living with COVID-19” (Frank)

- a. Plans – Another session proposed for 8/2020.
- b. Melissa – Program was a great conversation, real not scripted.
- c. Frank – Comments were great.
- d. Susan – Requested new topics/areas for next session.
- e. Frank – a survey for additional topics for discussion is planned and Ruthann said CoA can assist with data entry.
- f. Marianne Knopf – wrote a great article published in the Newtown Tab and next session perhaps published in the Globe.

5. Proposal for BrooklineCAN to fund Senior Center for COVID-19 emergency expenses (Ruthann)

- a. Plan – Use the money geared for annual meeting.
- b. Ruthann – Propose to fund Beryl Porter activities (Age Friendly Business), custodial help, and scheduling and support.
- c. Point – Money would not be tied to the proposal items alone.
- d. Vote – consensus approved.
- e. Newsletters will inform membership and public.

6. Update on Age-Friendly Business initiative

- a. Elenore and Beryl Porter adding to the promotion effort.

7. Brookline Community Engagement Initiative

- a. Per Ruthann – CDICR has community engagement as part of its purview and CoA reviewed its community engagement activities.
- b. Ruthann – Will report back older adults and C/E strategy.
- c. Issues – People without internet, transportation to meetings, etc.
- d. Frank – Brookline is extraordinary in the amount of community involvement in Town affairs and the BrooklineCAN/CoA cooperation is a remarkable form of community engagement.
- e. Frank – Top down demographic of BrooklineCAN not representative of the older population as diverse involvement is difficult to sustain.

8. Update on Google Groups exploration (Matt)

- a. Topics introduced some but minimal chatter.
- b. Matt – Different groups have different levels of use with BrooklineCAN not yet very active.

9. Publicity for Housing Affordability forum II on July 26 (Elenore)

- a. Elenore – Group now called “Building a Better Brookline” and 350 people signed up for last forum with about 200 attending.
- b. Next forum is July 26th.
- c. Communication coordination needs to be improved.
- d. Frank – Lesson for BrooklineCAN on effective communication.

10. Treasurers report (John Seay)

- a. New fiscal year.
- b. Membership down – JF&CS subsidized memberships expired.
- c. Relatively straightforward and not surprising.

11. Committee reports

- a. Communications
 - i. Newsletter – August newsletter will be distributed 8/1 including September 10 virtual meeting information and an AFC-TV article on Episode 27 with Bob Linscott of LGBT Aging Project. Includes article on mail in voting.

- ii. News releases – Elenore will do a press release based on information to be provided by Frank; another press release re the Housing Affordability Forum; and an Age Friendly Business release with Beryl Porter.
 - iii. Website – John Seay reported that the website has been adapted to phone operation successfully.
 - b. Education (Ruth Seidman and Ruthann Dobek)
 - i. No report since no meeting has taken place.
 - c. Livable Community – Age Friendly Cities committee is inactive but the Livable Community Advocacy Committee is considering a virtual meeting.
- 12. New business**
- a. Next AFC-TV show will be Bob Linscott head of the LGBT Aging Project re COVID-19.
- 13. Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 3pm.**