

BrooklineCAN Steering Committee

Notes

March 16, 2016

Attendance: Peter Ames, Lisa Berger, Carol Caro, Frank Caro, Lance Chapman, Ruthann Dobek, Karen Fischer, Susan Krinsky, Michelle LaPointe, John Seay, Ruth Seidman, Molly Turlish, and Roberta Winitzer.

Renewed search for Membership Assistant. Ruthann announced that John and Molly had joined her to interview Susan Halpert, who has been offered the part-time position. Ruthann is optimistic that she will accept.

Nominating Committee for 2016. Ruthann, Ruth, and Michelle will meet immediately after the Steering Committee meeting. We will be electing officers and some at-large Steering Committee members.

Update on TRIPPS. The proposal for year two of the project has been submitted. In reading it, Ruthann was impressed with how much has been accomplished in less than six months. The project is featured on the next Age-Friendly TV program on BIG, which will air April 14 at 7 pm, and a link will appear on the BrooklineCAN website.

Copy-editing / design of Age-Friendly progress report. Frank requested \$250 to support editing and design work, if additional work is needed after volunteer editors complete their work. The allocation was approved. The goal is to have attractive formatting and consistent language. The draft report is more than 20 pages.

Print version of guide to rental buildings with elevators. Carol circulated a mock-up of the print version of the information that is available online.

Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee. The Finance Committee met immediately before the Steering Committee meeting and will have a proposed budget for FY2017 ready for Steering Committee review at the April meeting. Again this year, we are projecting a surplus for year's end.

Education. April 11, author Arlene Weintraub will speak on "Selling the Fountain of Youth" at the Main Library; July 11, Lawrence Kotlikoff, "Get What's Yours" on Social Security (place TBA); and (tentative dates) May 17 and June 16, "Giving Up the Car Keys" at the Senior Center with Kerri Ann Tester from TRIPPS.

Communications. The next newsletter will feature TRIPPS, the April 11 speaker, and the large print collection of the public library.

Membership. Today, there are 392 active members, six more than at the time of the February meeting; we also have 219 former members. The mailing in January to 150 former members with

renewal dates of October 2015 and earlier led to 20 renewals (13%), nine of them had 2015 renewal dates, and the other 11 ranged from 2012 to 2014. The committee is working on revising the membership brochure, instituting welcome calls to new and renewed members, drafting a proposal to offer business memberships, and refreshing the elevator speech.

Professional Service Providers Group (PSPG). The group will meet in April.

Repairs and referrals. A possible educational event is being considered. Whether we will reactivate or drop the list will be on the Steering Committee agenda for April.

Livable Community Advocacy Committee / Age-Friendly Cities. The Transportation Board will consider a proposal to establish a standing committee on pedestrian issues at its March 24 meeting. A consulting group working on a “housing production plan,” which is part of Brookline’s effort to reach a threshold of 10% “affordable” housing and thus earn “safe harbor” status and avoid 40b developments has a public session March 28 at Devotion School, 345 Harvard Street. Frank recommended attending and acting in favor of senior housing. . Also March 28, the LCAC meeting will feature the fire department’s home safety initiative (3 pm at the Senior Center). Frank has also been notified that spring weather will bring the renewal of the seating area at John & Green Streets. LCAC has advocated for improvements to this small public open space in a neighborhood with many seniors.

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

Notes prepared by Molly Turlish