

Minutes of the Age Friendly Cities Committee

January 8, 2019

Present: Frank Caro, Nancy Heller, Ruthann Dobek, Roberta Winitzer, Henry Winkelman, Anne Reed, Saralynn Allaire, Saul Feldman, John Seay, Matt Weiss; Guests: Andrew Pappastergion, Kevin Johnson, David Trevvett

1. Note Taker: The committee selected Matt Weiss as Note Taker for the meeting.
2. Review of Minutes: December 4, 2018 Minutes was approved.
3. Guest, Commissioner of Public Works Andrew Pappastergion and Kevin Johnson
 - a. Mr. Pappastergion introduced Kevin Johnson, Director of Highways/Sanitation.
 - b. Tom Brady was identified as the person in DPW responsible for trees.
 - c. Peter Ditto was identified as the person in DPW responsible for Engineering.
 - d. Erin Chute Gallentine is responsible for Parks.
 - e. Mr. Pappastergion discussed LED street lighting which are not color adjustable, but can be converted to color adjustable – requires EverSource bid to change to an “actual usage” charging basis rather than a fixed charge.
 - f. Non-LED lights produced at a level of 2700 Kelvin lighting, while the LEDs are at 4000 Kelvin or 5000Kelvin when whiter.
 - g. Result of LEDs was a drop of \$250,000 in electricity charges and rebates of \$360,000.
 - h. BrookOnline was discussed and Mr. Pappastergion indicated Brookline IT was exploring a replacement that would be more interactive with the public.
 - i. Mr. Pappastergion indicated that triage in responding to BrookOnline requests was required to make best use of available resources.
 - j. Mr. Pappastergion describes how hedges impinging from private property onto sidewalks were handled by the department.
 - k. Mr. Pappastergion indicated questions related to new development and impact on sidewalks need to be addressed to the Planning Board. Utilities are by DPW.
 - l. Benches were discussed and Mr. Pappastergion indicated they were part of the “Complete Streets” checkoffs. He requested that Age Friendly Cities Committee and BrooklineCAN identify locations and possible solutions if available and send an email with that information to Mr. Pappastergion.
4. Drafting of progress report – Frank Caro requested committee members provide information for a report re 2018 planned and accomplished and plans for 2019 prior to the next meeting.
 - a. Information Dissemination – Matt Weiss
 - b. Housing – Henry Winkelman and Saul Feldman
 - c. Health – Dr. Swannie Jett
 - d. Library – Anne Reed
 - e. TRIPPS and Subsidized Transportation – Ruthann Dobek
 - f. Council on Aging – Roberta Winitzer and Ruthann Dobek
 - g. Parks – Erin Chute Gallentine
 - h. Diversity/Inclusion – Saralynn Allaire and Sarah Kaplan
5. Information Dissemination – Matt Weiss Reported
 - a. Producer of the AFC-TV show is Michael Allen, Senior Center Social Worker.
 - b. Episode 20 airs January 16, 2018 with guests Chief of Police Andrew Lipson and Elder Affairs Officer Michael Disario.

- c. Matt Weiss reminded the members of the committee to visit the BrooklineCAN web site.
- 6. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Housing
 - i. Kent/Station Street Proposal – Henry Winkelman reported Select Board approval needed for the RFP and is expected.
 - b. Health – No report.
 - c. Library – Anne Reed Reported
 - i. 2019 Reading Challenge – includes 15 categories.
 - ii. Friends of the Library – supported Chair Yoga at Putterham and Gentle Mat Yoga at Brookline Village.
 - iii. Library events: South Brookline Meetup
 - d. Council on Aging – No Report.
 - e. Transportation
 - i. TRIPPS update – No report.
 - ii. Proposal for benches on Beacon Street. See 3. Guests above.
 - iii. Proposal for spring warrant article on pedestrian-friendly street lighting – Frank Caro with Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (Meg Robertson) and Beacon and Harvard Association (Caitlin Haynes)
- 7. Commission on Disabilities update – Saralynn Allaire reported.
 - a. Assisted Listening – To be provided at the Town Meeting.
 - b. Disposable Ear Buds – To be provided at the Town Meeting.
 - c. Visual Aids – at Town Meeting are often not ADA compliant.
 - d. Caitlin Haynes – Acquired potential grant money for four studies.
- 8. Theme for January meeting – Frank Caro led the discussion.
 - a. Progress report.
 - b. Future ideas – Inclusionary zoning and age friendly zoning.
- 9. Recruitment of new members – No report.
- 10. Miscellaneous – No report.
- 11. New business – No report.
- 12. Next Meeting – February 12, 2019 at 2pm in Town Hall.