

**Brookline Commission for Women  
Community Support Subcommittee  
Meeting Minutes: DRAFT  
Monday, March 8, 2021 – 12:00 PM**

Present: Hadassah Margolis, Carol Caro, Felina Silver Robinson, Homa Sarabi, Aileen Lee

A quorum being present, Commissioner Margolis called the meeting to order at 12:05pm. First, Commissioners voted to approve the minutes of January meeting and reviewed the calendar for next months' meetings through June 2021.

The next virtual meetup is scheduled April 15 at 7:30pm and the second one is June 15 at 7:30pm. Commissioner Sarabi read an email to the subcommittee that we may have the Women of the Year event on April 28 or May 5, plus there will be many candidate forums for the upcoming elections. The subcommittee decided to cancel the April 15 virtual meetup and will discuss June 15 later.

Commissioner Silver Robinson reported that Women Thriving has still not been able to discuss about the virtual meetups, so that continues to be on hold for now.

Commissioner Margolis opened up the discussion to deliberating both virtual events and other ideas for the Community Support subcommittee to focus on. Commissioner Caro said that we may want to connect to Brookline Mental Health or how to make connections with women in public housing. Commissioner Margolis could connect to a BHA contact. Commissioner Sarabi mentioned that there are multiple Warrant Articles related to housing and women that we may want to promote or provide opportunities to bring to the public, especially re: single women and housing. Perhaps BCW can partner with Brookline for Everyone or the Housing Advisory Committee on a forum re: housing. Commissioner Silver Robinson reports someone she knows a woman being evicted and what is her legal recourse, and what can the BCW do for people like her? What eviction supports does Brookline have? What is the Town doing that needs to be publicized?

For preliminary research to find what is out there and whom we can collaborate with/amplify re: housing/eviction support, Commissioner Caro volunteered to reach out to Henry Winkelman at BIC and Roger Blood about what is in place now re: housing supports and eviction. Commissioner Sarabi to reach out to Amanda Zimmerman at Brookline for Everyone. Commissioners to reports back at our next subcommittee meeting. Commissioner Lee and Commissioner Silver Robinson offered to reach out to Sarah Wunsch from the ACLU if they are providing legal services re: eviction.

Commissioner Caro brought up the idea of a BCW newsletter, which the BCW chair is interested in starting in order to reach out to more people and promote the BCW. Discussed questions of a quarterly newsletter, as well as gathering an email list (which needs to be big enough for the endeavor to be worthwhile) and whether we have enough information to create meaty

newsletters. Discussed a CS Subcommittee update corner in the newsletter and a space to highlight women activists/artists. Can we create a structure that wouldn't be a burden to the rest of the BCW and use some time in each monthly general meeting to gather content. But then there's the issue of design. Could we get some interns from the high school? There is the question of who would be in charge. Commissioner Caro to inform the BCW chair about or questions and thoughts.

Meeting adjourned at 1:02pm.