

Town of Brookline

2015 Annual Report

Town of Brookline

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2015 Annual Report

TOWN OF BROOKLINE MASSACHUSETTS



310th Annual Report of the
Town Officers of Brookline
for the year ending December 31, 2015

www.brooklinema.gov

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TOWN OFFICERS
For the Municipal Year 2015

ELECTED TOWN OFFICES**MODERATOR**

Edward (Sandy) Gadsby (2017)

TOWN CLERK

Patrick J. Ward (2017)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Neil Wishinsky, Chair (2016)

Nancy A. Daly (2017)

Benjamin Franco (2017)

Nancy Heller (2018)

Bernard Greene (2018)

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Michael A. Burstein, Chair (2016)

Carol Axelrod (2018)

Vivien E. Goldman (2018)

Regina Healy (2018)

Gary Jones (2017)

Karen Livingston (2017)

Carol Troyen Lohe (2018)

Puja P. Mehta (2016)

Jonathan Margolis (2017)

Magdalene M. Moran (2017)

Jennifer Rees (2016)

Judith Vanderkay (2016)

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Susan Wolf Ditkoff, Chair (2016)

Pen-Hau Ben Chang (2018)

Helen Charlupski (2016)

Michael Glover (2017)

Lisa R. Jackson (2017)

David Pollak (2016)

Barbara C. Scotto (2018)

Beth Jackson Stram (2018)

Rebecca Stone, (2017)

BROOKLINE HOUSING AUTHORITY

David Trietsch, Chair (2018)

Michael Jacobs, Vice Chair (2016)

Barbara B. Dugan (2020)

Judith Katz (State Appt) (2016)

Joanne M. Sullivan (2019)

CONSTABLES

Joseph G Figler (2016)

Neil Gordon (2016)

Stanley N. Rabinovitz (2016)

Cheryl Ann Snyder (2016)

Thomas John Vitolo (2016)

APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Sean Lynn-Jones (2016)

Carla Wyman Benka, Vice Chair (2016)

Clifford M. Brown (2016)

Lee Cohen (2018)

John Doggett (2017)

Dennis L. Doughty (2018)

Harry Friedman (2016)

Janet Gelbart (2018)

David-Marc Goldstein (2016)

Neil Gordon (2016)

Kelly A. Hardebeck (2017)

Amy F. Hummel (2018)

Sytske V. Humphrey (2017)

Angela Hyatt (2018)

Alisa G. Jonas (2016)

Janice S. Kahn (2017)

Steven Kanes (2018)

Bobbie M. Knable (2018)

Pamela C. Lodish (2018)

Fred Levitan (2018)

Robert Liao (2018)

Shaari Mittel (2018)

Mariah C. Nobrega (2016)

Michael Sandman (2016)

Lee Selwyn (2017)

Stanley Shuman (2016)

Stanley Spiegel (2016)

Charles Swartz (2017)

Christine M. Westphal (2018)

COMMITTEE ON TOWN ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE

Jean D. Berg, Chair (2017)

Donna Kalikow (2017)

Richard T. Leary (2016)

Michael Robbins (2016)

Martin R. Rosenthal (2018)

Robert I. Sperber (2018)

Robert M. Stein (2016)

COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGNS

James Fleming, Chair (2013)

Frank Farlow (2015)

Gary Jones (2014)

Barbara Pastan (2015)

Joel Shoner (2014)

Sloan Sable (Selectmen's Rep.)

Linda Golburgh (Town Clerk Rep.)

SENIOR MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

Melvin A. Kleckner, Town Administrator
Melissa Goff, Deputy Town Administrator
Austin Faison, Asst Town Administrator

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Daniel Bennett, Commissioner
Charles Simmons, Public Buildings
Director
Tony Guigli, Building Project Administrator

COUNCIL ON AGING

Ruthann Dobek, Director

**DIVERSITY INCLUSION/COMMUNITY
RELATIONS**

Lloyd Gellineau, Director

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Stephen E. Cirillo, Director of Finance/
Treasurer/Collector
David Geanakakis, Chief Procurement
Officer
Michael DiPietro, Comptroller
Gary McCabe, Chief Assessor

FIRE CHIEF

Paul D. Ford

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Dr. Alan Balsam, Director

HUMAN RESOURCES

Sandra DeBow, Director

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Kevin Stokes, Chief Information Officer

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Alison Steinfeld, Director
Joseph Viola, Assistant Director
Polly Selkoe, Chief Planner
Kara Brewton, Economic Development Officer

POLICE CHIEF

Daniel C. O'Leary

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Andrew Pappastergion, Commissioner
Frederick Russell, Water and Sewer Director
Peter Ditto, Engineering/Transportation Director
Erin Chute Gallentine, Parks & Open Space
Director
Kevin Johnson, Highway Director

RECREATION

Lisa Paradis, Director

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

William H. Lupini

TOWN COUNSEL'S OFFICE

Joslin Ham Murphy, Town Counsel
John Buchheit, Assoc. Town Counsel
Patricia Correa, First Asst. Town Counsel
Jonathan Simpson Assoc. Town Counsel

TOWN LIBRARIAN

Sara Slymon, Director

VETERANS SERVICES

William McGroarty, Director

Boards and Commissions Appointed by the Selectmen

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Dr. Anthony Schlaff, Chair (2017)
 Milly Krakow (2018)
 Cheryl Lefman (2016)
 Patricia Maher (2017)
 Nalina Narain (2016)
 Gretchen Soddard (2018)

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Nancy Daly, Chair
 Ben Chang
 Christopher Cox
 Gregory Grobstein
 James Littleton
 Lee Selwyn

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Gary McCabe, Chair (2016)
 Mark J. Mazur (2018)
 Harold Petersen (2017)

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

Barnett Berliner (2017)
 Fred Lebow (2018)
 Vacancy (2016)

BROOKLINE INTERACTIVE GROUP

Leslie Forde (2016)
 Sharon Hogan (2015)
 Karen Katz (2015)
 Albert Davis (2014)
 Raymond Latif (2016)
 Peter Miller (2014)
 Laura Nooney (2014)
 Noah Xu (2015)

COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS

Peter Ames (2016)
 Evelyn Cohen (2017)
 Lea Cohen (2016)
 Amy Emmert (2016)
 Betsy Frauenthal (2016)
 Donna Hollengerg (2018)
 Mori Insinger (2016)
 Rina Jacobson (2016)
 Renana Greenberg-Kehoe (2016)
 Jeremy Kindall (2018)
 Ilana Hirsch Lescohier (2018)

Peter McDonald (2018)
 Courtney McGlynn (2018)
 Giti Saeidian (2016)
 Chris Santos (2016)
 Lauren Wisbeski (2016)
 Kat Zavadskaya (2018)

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Chris Chanyasulkit, Co-Chair (2018)
 Casey Hatchett, Co-Chair (2016)
 Christine Fitzgerald (2017)
 Sonal Jhaveri (2018)
 Rita McNally (2017)
 Dr. Gloria Rudisch (2017)
 Cheryl Ann Snyder (2018)
 Jamie Tober (2017)
 Ginny Vaz (2017)
 Grace Yung Watson (2017)
 Vacancy (2018)
 Vacancy (2016)

BUILDING COMMISSION

Janet Fierman, Chair (2018)
 Karen Bresawski (2017)
 George Cole (2016)
 Kenneth Kaplan (2016)
 Nathan Peck (2018)

COMMISSION FOR THE DISABLED

Eileen Connell Berger, Chair (2015)
 Saralynn Allaire (2016)
 Myra Berloff (2018)
 Selectman Benjamin Franco (2017)
 Robert Heist (2018)
 James Miczek (2014)
 Elaine Ober (2017)
 Sarah Whitman (2015)
 Henry Winkelman (2016)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Marcus Quigley, Chair (2018)
 Gail McClelland Fenton (2016)
 Matthew Garvey (2017)
 Werner Lohe (2017)
 Pallavi Kalia Mande (2018)
 Deborah Myers Michener (2016)
 Roberta Schnoor (2018)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Marian Lazar (2017)
 Pamela Harvey (2016)

COUNCIL ON AGING

Agnes Rogers, Chair (2018)
 Peter Ames (2017)
 Doris Toby Axelrod (2017)
 Deborah Brass (2016)
 Judith Chasin (2018)
 Irvin Finn (2016)
 Philip Fullerton (2018)
 Cilia Lascarides (2016)
 Shirley Radlo (2016)
 Anatoly Rakin (2016)

Yolanda Rodriguez (2016)
Marion Sargon (2018)
Muriel Stark (2018)
William Wong (2017)

Lori G. Cawthorne (2018)
Gerald Raphael (2016)
Dana M. Teague (2017)
Beth Venti (2018)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Phyllis Baum (2017)
Marjorie Diana Harvey (2018)
Harry Johnson (2017)
Alberta Lipson (2018)
Claire Lurie (2017)
John Mulhane (2016)
Jacob Shafran (2016)
Vera Sherma (2018)
Roberta Winitzer (2018)
Jackie Wright (2017)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ernest Frey (2015)
John Gallagher (2016)
Stephanie Leung (2013)
Ariel Soiffer (2013)
Vacancy (2016)

DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Sandy Batchelder, Jr. (2017)
John Malcolm Cawthorne (2016)
Wesley Chin (2017)
Alex Coleman (2018)
Ernest A. Frey (2017)
Brian Myles (2016)
Anthony Naro (2018)
Kelly Race (2017)
Enid Shapiro (2016)
Dwaign Tyndal (2018)
Cornelia Van Der Ziel (2017)
Ginny Vaz (2016)

MARTIN LUTHER KING COMMITTEE

Selectman Bernard Greene, Chair
Joanna Baker
Malcom Cawthorne
Robert Daves
Lynette Glover
Kenneth Goldstein
Betsy Shure Gross
Amy Kamensky
Bobbie Knable

NAMING COMMITTEE

Fred Lebow, Chair (2017)
John Bain (2018)
Carla Benka (2017)
Helen Charlupski (2018)
Wendy Ecker (2018)
Harry Friedman (Alternate) (2017)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

Paul Saner (2017)
Anne Meyers, Co-Chair (2018)
Clifford Brown (2016)
Derrick Choi (2017)
Susan Houston (2018)
Carol Levin (2018)
Kenneth Lewis (2017)
Thomas Nally (2017)
Alden Raine (2018)
Robert I. Sperber, (2016)
Donald A. Warner, AIA (2016)

NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Paul Bell, Chair (2016)
James Batchelor (2017)
Dick Garver (2016)
Deborah Goldberg (2015)
David King (2016)
Robin Koocher (2015)
VACANCY (2017)

HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

Roger Blood, Chair (2018)
William Hardy (2017)
Karen Kepler (2017)
Kathy Spiegleman (2016)
Rita McNally (Tenant Rep.) (2017)
Steven Heiken (Planning Board Rep.)
Michael Jacobs (Housing Authority Rep.)

ALTERNATES

Mark Allen (2016)
Stephen Chiumenti (2015)
Dennis DeWitt (2017)
Joyce Stavis-Zak (2016)

HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD

Edward DeAngelo, Chair (2016)

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

John Bain, Chair (2016)
Clara Batchelor (2017)
Antonia Bellalta (2018)
James K. Carroll (2018)
Daniel Lyons (2017)
Nancy O'Connor (2017)
Jean Stameris (2016)

PLANNING BOARD

Linda Hamlin, Chair (2018)
 Bob Cook (2017)
 Stephen Heikin (2020)
 Blair Hines (2020)
 Sergio Modigliani (2016)
 Matthew Oudens (2019)
 Mark Zarrillo (2017)

PRESERVATION COMMISSION

James Batchelor, Chair (2017)
 Paul Bell (2017)
 Wendy Ecker (2016)
 Elton Elperin (2017)
 Rosemary Battles Foy (2018)
 David King (2016)
 Peter Kleiner (2018)

ALTERNATE MEMBERS:

Kirstin Gamble Bridier (2016)
 David Jack (2018)
 Peter Kleiner (2016)
 Giti Ganjei Saeidian (2017)

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Linda Golburgh (2018)
 Andrew J. McIlwraith (2016)
 Peggy McGuire (2018)
 Patrick J. Ward, Ex Officio

RETIREMENT BOARD

James Riley (2017)
 Gary Altman, Chair (2018)
 Stephen E. Cirillo (2018)
 Robert Ward (2017)
 Michael DiPietro, Ex-Officio

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

John Dempsey, Chair (2017)
 Barbara Field (2016)
 Amie Lindenboim (2017)
 Clint Richmond (2017)
 Susan Rittling (2017)
 Cynthia Snow (2016)
 Vacancy (2016)

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Josh Safer, Chair (2017)
 Chris Dempsey (2018)
 Gustaaf Driessen (2016)
 Scott Englander (2017)
 Ali R. Tali (2018)
 Pamela Zelnick (2016)

TREE PLANTING COMMITTEE

Hugh Mattison, Chair (2018)
 Nadine Gerdt's (2017)

Elizabeth Erdman (2016)

TRUSTEES OF WALNUT HILL CEMETERY

Joslin Ham Murphy (2016)
 Nina Brown (2017)
 Bob Cook (2018)
 Gerard Hayes (2017)
 Richard T. Leary (2018)
 Peggy McGuire (2016)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Jesse Geller (2015)
 Jonathan Book (2016)
 Christopher Hussey (2017)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Avi Liss (2015)
 Kate Poverman (2017)
 Johanna Schneider (2015)
 Mark Zuroff (2017)

MISCELLANEOUS APPOINTMENTS

**AGENT FOR MANAGEMENT OF REAL
ESTATE**

Susan Abdou

CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR

Paul D. Ford

FENCE VIEWER

Peter Ditto

INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Daniella Wodnicki & Patrick Maloney

INSPECTOR OF PETROLEUM

Paul D. Ford

INSPECTOR OF WIRES

Theodore Steverman

KEEPER OF THE LOCK-UP

Daniel C. O'Leary

**LOCAL MOTH SUPERINTENDENT OF
INSECT PEST CONTROL**

Andrew Pappastergion

RIGHT TO KNOW COORDINATOR

Sandra DeBow

MEASURERS OF WOOD AND BARK

William McGroarty & Ray Cunningham

Board of Selectmen



L-R: Nancy Heller, Town Administrator Mel Kleckner, Benjamin J. Franco, Neil Wishinsky (Chairman), Bernard Greene, and Nancy A. Daly

Board Election:

At the annual town election in May, long-time Selectmen Betsy DeWitt and Ken Goldstein stepped down from the Board after deciding not to run for reelection. Both Betsy and Ken served as chair of the Board and were invaluable leaders during periods of change in Brookline. Bernard Greene and Nancy Heller were elected to fill these positions on the Board. Following the election, the Board reorganized and selected Neil Wishinsky to serve as its chairman for the ensuing year.

The Override Election and the Budget:

Also on the town election ballot in May were a Proposition 2½ tax override question and a debt exclusion question. The Override proposal represents only the third time in over 30 years that the Town has sought to increase the annual 2.5% limitation on property tax increases imposed by state law. In this case, the Town has been studying and planning a response to rapidly increasing enrollment in its public schools for a few years, including the establishment of a “blue ribbon” Override Study Committee (OSC). The Board is indebted to the comprehensive analysis and recommendations of the OSC. Their work will provide a blueprint for strategic financial decisions for years to come. Although the OSC was effectively split over the amount of the Override, they provided a useful three-year framework that was universally accepted. After much consideration and public deliberation, the Board of Selectmen ultimately decided to place a question seeking \$7,665,000 in additional property taxes on the ballot. The Board also placed another question on the ballot seeking authorization from the voters to exempt the cost of debt service for the Devotion School project from the Proposition 2½ tax levy limit. Although similar to an Override, a Debt Exclusion will only last as long as the Town is required to pay debt service on the bonds for this project (up to 30 years). We were pleased when both questions passed overwhelmingly at the ballot box.

The Budget was approved using the first year of the three-year Override plan. The Board of Selectmen uses the annual budget process to establish objectives for the coming fiscal year. Below are the objectives the Board adopted for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2015;

1. To continue to observe and implement policies and practices to ensure long-term financial sustainability, including:

- the recommendations of the Override Study Committee, as adopted by Resolution in March, 2008.
 - the recommendations of the Efficiency Initiative Committee and OPEB Task Force, where feasible, and to explore new opportunities for improving productivity and eliminating unnecessary costs.
 - fiscal policies relative to reserves and capital financing as part of the ongoing effort to observe sound financial practices and retain the Aaa credit rating.
 - efforts to enter into PILOT Agreements with institutional non-profits along with an equitable approach for community-based organizations.
 - support of the business community and vibrant commercial districts.
2. To develop and implement a CIP that addresses the school space pressures brought on by the dramatic increase in K-8 enrollment that at the same time preserves other high-priority projects:
 - to work with the MSBA to assure State participation in school projects.
 - to complete major public projects in progress, including the Devotion School, creation of the Fisher Hill Reservoir Park, Newton St. Landfill closure, Municipal Service Center renovations, Water and Sewer infrastructure improvements, and fire station renovations.
 - to complete major public projects in various stages of planning, including Brookline High School, a Major K-8 project, Gateway East/Village Square, the Riverway Park Pedestrian/Bike Path, Emerson Garden playground, Corey Hill park, and the fire training and maintenance facility.
 - to continue to invest in technology and energy efficiency projects that yield long-term operating budget relief.
 - to upgrade the fleet of parking meters.
 3. To continue to work with the School Committee on the development and execution of a comprehensive plan to address the space and enrollment needs in the schools.
 4. To continue the Town/School Partnership as the means of budgetary planning for financial issues that span municipal and school interests.
 5. To integrate diversity and inclusion into the Town's business objective of providing excellent government services.
 6. To continue to provide leadership and support to the Town Administrator, the Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations Office, Boards and Commissions and other community stakeholders in collaborative efforts to implement meaningful diversity and inclusion initiatives.
 7. To work closely with the Town Administrator and the Human Resources Office to establish effective recruitment networks to ensure broad and diverse recruitment pools for highly qualified individuals to serve the Town; while meeting its objective of creating a strategic succession plan, achieving a diverse management and leadership body.
 8. To increase our measurement tools building on the metrics established by the Professional Diversity Network.
 9. To support the Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations Office, and the commissions it supports, to advance, promote and advocate for the human and civil rights of all through education, awareness, outreach and advocacy.

10. To conduct labor contract negotiations for equitable settlements, in conjunction within the Town's ability to pay as shaped by the objectives noted above, and to negotiate an agreement with the Public Employee Committee to provide quality employee health insurance benefits recognizing the Town's ability to pay and consistent with the practices of similar municipalities.
11. To continue to improve Brookline's status as an "Age-Friendly Community".
12. To continue to expand weekend and evening programs at the Brookline Senior Center.
13. To continue to explore efforts on diversity to ensure all elders are served with particular emphasis on Spanish, Asian and Russian elders.
14. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
15. To provide leadership for the Town's efforts to reduce energy use and its impact on the environment:
 - to explore solar energy generation opportunities on Town-owned properties, including the Transfer Station and Town buildings.
 - to continue improving energy efficiency in all Town and School buildings by using grant, rebate monies and/or CIP funds.
 - to continue energy conservation efforts in all buildings.
 - to complete the Town's LED Streetlight project.
 - to participate in and support the Climate Preparedness Task Force together with other municipalities of the Metropolitan Mayors Coalition.
16. To commence a Community Choice Electrical Aggregation Program and contract for electric supply for Brookline residents and businesses as authorized by M.G.L. 164, Section 134.
17. To increase the use of renewable resources and corresponding decreased use of carbon dioxide emitting sources for the generation of electricity for Brookline participants in the Community Choice Electrical Aggregation Program.
18. To expand technology utilization through the improvement and promotion of the BrooklineMA.gov website, BrookOnLine portal, mobile applications and supporting departmental initiatives such as:
 - using OpenData to increase access to public information and online transactions including public meetings, permitting, inspections and financial data, and Town Meeting Votes.
 - continuing to promote paperless billing options.
 - working toward improving and promoting departmental performance.
19. To ensure Brookline continues to invest in Public Safety related technology including:
 - supporting the Police Department's utilization of data sharing applications and tools to ensure effective and immediate availability of key Public Safety related information.
 - assisting the Fire Department in the utilization of technology to improve firefighter safety, to re-engineer business processes, and improve intra-departmental communication.
 - implementing the findings of the study of the Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

20. To work with the Town Clerk and Preservation Planners to develop a Town policy for records storage; gather historic and archival Town records, documents and materials; organize and catalog them; and establish a suitable storage space in an accessible location.
21. To continue and ultimately expand the Hubway regional bike share system in Brookline by collaborating with Motivate International, Inc. and the Cities of Boston, Cambridge and Somerville as the parties seek to transition the system to a privatized model.
22. To complete the Strategic Asset Plan in order to develop a better understanding of the Town's facilities to respond to current and projected needs for municipal services and programs.
23. To undertake the Major Parcel Study to create a plan for the future of major private parcels as well as underutilized municipal parcels in order to respond to the needs identified in the Strategic Asset Plan.
24. To prioritize the creation and maintenance of affordable housing, while balancing other community needs and concerns.
25. To ensure that historical plaques, street signs and symbols are maintained throughout the town and that deteriorating memorials are reviewed for possible preservation and restoration or replacement.
26. To continue to identify improvements to the Zoning By-law and develop proposed amendments for Town Meeting approval.
27. To provide leadership and coordinate planning efforts to identify and promote appropriate development that expands and strengthens the tax base and preserves the quality of life for Brookline's residents and business community by continuing to:
 - advocate for state funding for the Gateway East project.
 - seek opportunities to improve and increase the Town's affordable housing stock.
 - monitor and comment on development projects in adjacent communities.
 - partner with Children's Hospital relative to its construction of Brookline Place.
 - work with the developers of the former Circle Cinema site and the City of Boston to insure that construction proceeds.
 - to work with a Selectmen-appointed committee to examine a potential rezoning of the Industrial Zone between River Road and Brookline Avenue in Brookline Village.
 - work with a Selectmen-appointed committee to complete a reconfiguration study of the Centre Street East Parking Lot and Harvard Street (Beacon to Stedman) to accommodate all modes of travel while providing opportunities for public space and developing solar infrastructure on municipal property.
 - construct, in partnership with the Parks and Open Space Division of the Department of Public Works, streetscape improvements at Hickey Triangle in Brookline Village.
28. To oversee the New England Treatment Access, Inc. medical marijuana dispensary in Brookline.
29. To implement the adopted town-wide policy on Mosquito Control related to West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis to include integrated pest management, surveillance, education and control. Continue to address the growing concerns related to bed bugs, and continue education projects to counter tick-borne diseases.

30. To provide guidance to the Police Department to ensure an appropriate balance between public safety needs and the rights of individuals and to continue to monitor policy considerations such as Citizen Complaints and the Video Camera Monitoring system.
31. To implement the changes in policies and procedures for the issuance of alcohol and food licenses as recommended by the Licensing Committee.
32. To assure opportunities for continued growth of the restaurant industry in Town by continuing efforts to extend the Town's liquor license quota.
33. To continue to monitor service quality performance of both Comcast and RCN.
34. To work with Town Counsel to work towards a resolution of the pending litigation with National Grid regarding damage to our public shade trees.
35. To work through the Department of Public Works to ensure National Grid documents gas leaks throughout the community, grades them by severity, and undertakes appropriate mitigation and restoration actions.
36. To work with National Grid to ensure they document gas leaks throughout the community, grade them by severity, and undertake appropriate mitigation and restoration actions.
37. To implement an Automated Waste Collection System using wheeled carts for municipal solid waste.
38. To increase healthy summer lunch program participation by 10% in FY17 to address the growing needs of families during the summer months. The program provides healthy eating options for summer campers and learners as they transition from a schoolyear environment to a summer program. 60% of the families that take advantage of the program receive free or reduced meal plans subsidized by the Federal Government.
39. To expand the enrollment in Brookline's Youth Flag Football League to include 4 more teams in FY17 to meet the needs of the community. With over 200 participants, "Friday Night Lights" has become a popular alternative to contact football that introduces the critical elements of the game in a much less physically impactful environment.
40. To continue to explore options to rectify inequities inherent in the Norfolk County structure.
41. To strengthen relationships with Boards and Commissions.

Chapter 40B and Hancock Village:

In one of the more controversial development projects in years, the owners of Hancock Village in south Brookline applied for a major expansion of its facility utilizing the state's Chapter 40B affordable housing process. The Board challenged the status of the project's preliminary eligibility issued by MassDevelopment, but this challenge was denied (as was an appeal). Thus the project was eligible to be applied for. After many months of hearings and process, the Zoning Board of Appeals issued a permit for a smaller development than originally proposed and included up to seventy conditions. Nonetheless, the Board of Selectmen considered the approved development to be inconsistent with Chapter 40B design guidelines and otherwise in conflict with the interests of the Town. In March, the Board authorized an appeal of the ZBA's decision in Land Court, at which time the Board will also raise the threshold issue of MassDevelopment's initial eligibility determination.

In March, the Board weighed in with its opposition to a 40B proposal on Crowninshield Road that would have demolished an historic home and replaced it with a 20-unit residential housing complex. The Board also supported the establishment of a new historic district in this area, which was adopted by Town Meeting in May. The developer and the Town continue to discuss the merits of this 40B proposal.

At the Annual Town Meeting in May, new Selectman Nancy Heller authored a Resolution to address various Chapter 40B issues. One of the outcomes of the Resolution was the use of a Housing Production Plan (HPP) that will help the Town proactively plan its own destiny to comply with 40B developments, including a possible safe harbor while the Town's plans are implemented.

School Planning:

The Board convened jointly with the School Committee on a number of occasions in 2015 to advance plans to site a new (9th) elementary school in Brookline to keep pace with increasing enrollment in our public schools. We retained the firm of Civic Moxie to evaluate dozens of possible sites to construct a public school, some of which would require the Town purchase private land. The challenge of locating a suitable site and funding a new school comes with many complexities. The Board and the School Committee are committed to reaching a final decision in the fall of 2016.

Licensing:

One of the most critical legal functions the Board of Selectmen exercises is licensing of various operations. The Board takes its licensing role very seriously, particularly the sale of alcoholic beverages in hotels, restaurants and in package stores. Thus, when a new state law authorizing the sale of medical marijuana to eligible citizens was passed, the Board proposed to expand its licensing authority to Registered Medical Marijuana Dispensaries (RMD's). Town Meeting passed a new by-law creating such authority and the Board moved quickly to promulgate regulations. The Town received an application for an RMD to be located at the former Brookline Bank building on Washington Street in Brookline Village. Throughout the spring, the Board considered possible conditions for the sale of medical marijuana at this location and in December convened public hearings to consider the NETA application. Ultimately, the Board issued a very exhaustive permit to NETA and it became one of four RMD's licensed to operate in Massachusetts. The Board also entered into a Host Community Agreement with NETA that calls for 3% of gross revenue to be shared between the Town's General Fund and a charitable program managed by the Brookline Community Foundation. The Board will monitor NETA's operation very carefully and will be anxiously following another proposed state law that would authorize the sale of marijuana for recreational purposes that will be decided by referendum in November of 2016.

Town Meeting:

As the Town's legislative body, the Representative Town Meeting meets twice per year to appropriate funds, pass local by-laws and adopt policy resolutions. We thank Sandy Gadsby as the elected Town Moderator for running a fair and efficient meeting, ensuring that all issues get a full hearing and deliberation. There were nearly 40 articles considered during the Town Meetings held in April and November. In addition to passing the Budget, Town Meeting considered a range of proposals this past year including, but not limited to, the regulation of bottled water, the use of leaf blowers, solar energy, aggregation of electricity and controlling the use of land (zoning). The Town Meeting also instructed the Board to oppose the plan for Boston hosting the Olympic Games in 2020.

Snow and More Snow:

The Town experienced the snowiest winter on record, with 110 inches of snow falling over a few weeks in late January and February. The Board was very appreciative of the efforts of the Department of Public Works, who worked around the clock for many days clearing and removing snow in order to facilitate travel throughout Brookline. The cost of the clean-up was extensive, creating a \$3.4 million budget deficit. Despite the state's willingness to allow cities and towns multiple years to address the deficit, the Town was able to fund it within the current fiscal year through a transfer from the Reserve Fund, an appropriation from available reserves in the Overlay account, a FEMA reimbursement and other inter-budget transfers.

As a cruel reminder of the severe winter, Brookline experienced a powerful and freakish hail storm in August, creating damage to several buildings and vehicles.

Management Transitions:

The Board had mixed emotions with the news that Deputy Town Administrator Sean Cronin would be leaving his position in Brookline to assume a senior leadership position in the Baker administration at the State House. While sad to see such a valuable manager leave the Town, the Board was proud of Sean's accomplishments in being offered such an important position for the Commonwealth. Sean Cronin served the Town for 17 years, the last several as the Deputy Town Administrator (and Budget Officer). During the transition between Town Administrators in the summer of 2010, Mr. Cronin stepped up as the Acting Town Administrator. We welcome Assistant Town



Melissa Goff

Administrator Melissa Goff's promotion to Deputy Town Administrator and welcome Austin Faison as the new Assistant Town Administrator.

The Board also acknowledges and thanks Superintendent of Schools Bill Lupini for his service to Brookline as he left the Town for a new superintendent position on the north shore.

Thanks:

The Board is especially thankful for the hundreds of citizens who serve the Town on volunteer boards and commissions. The functioning of Brookline's town government is greatly enhanced by this cadre of concerned and qualified citizens. We also thank Mel Kleckner, the Town Administrator and his group of department heads for their effective and creative management of Town government affairs.

Town Administrator
Melvin A. Kleckner



It is a pleasure once again to report on the major activities and issues facing the Town of Brookline's local government. 2015 was an interesting and challenging year for Brookline.

Budgeting and Financial Management:

At the Annual Town Election on May 5, Brookline voters approved a Proposition 2½ General Tax Override by a 62%-38% margin. This referendum authorized \$7,665,000 in additional taxing capacity in order to support costs associated with increasing enrollment in the school system. The Override was the central part of a three-year financial plan that raised taxes, increased non-tax revenue and reduced expenses. Following the approved Override, the Annual Town Meeting convened in late May to approve a Budget for Fiscal Year 2016 including \$6,200,000 in additional taxes (the balance of \$1,465,000 in additional taxes authorized from the Override will be allocated in FY 2017). A separate but related vote to authorize temporary taxes to reconstruct a new and larger Devotion School was also approved. This project will be partially supported through state funding via the Massachusetts School Building Authority program.

The final budget passed in May totaled \$279.9 million, inclusive of all enterprise and revolving funds.

School Enrollment:

The unrelenting increase in enrollment within Brookline's public schools has demanded action. Over the last several years, the Town has, among other things, accomplished the following;

- Converted and/or consolidated space within all existing schools to create additional classrooms
- Reconstructed the Runkle School into a larger school
- Renovated/enlarged the Heath School
- Relocated early education classrooms from public schools into leased private space
- Created temporary classroom spaces at the Lincoln and Baker Schools

Established overlay buffer zones onto traditional school districts to reallocate students when possible

Plans are now underway to reconstruct the Devotion School into a larger building with additional classrooms. Still, all of these actions are insufficient to meet projected enrollment. The prior “B-Space” process that recommended a “build in place” strategy, including enlarging the Driscoll School, has proven impractical and unpopular. Last year, the Board of Selectmen and School Committee initiated a new planning process and engaged the firm of Civic Moxie to identify sites for a possible ninth elementary school. On December 15th, the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee held a joint meeting on the 9th Elementary School Study. The boards discussed the significant and varied input they have heard from community members over the past two months, including Open Houses, a Public Hearing, hundreds of emails, and meetings with the Advisory Committee, the Preservation Commission, the Parks and Open Space Commission, the Conservation Commission, and numerous neighborhood groups. In 2016 the boards hope to arrive at a final site to consider building a ninth elementary school.

Naturally, all of these elementary school students will make their way to Brookline High School, which has insufficient classroom space to accommodate this anticipated volume. The joint boards are also working cooperatively on this challenge. An initial feasibility study serves as the current level of study on this problem. The Town had assumed that the high school project would be part of the Massachusetts School Building Authority’s (MSBA) school construction program, which would provide up to 30% of its funding. However, on December 18 the Town learned that the MSBA would not commit to funding the project at this time, creating yet another complication in the Town’s school planning efforts.

Affordable Housing:

In February, following many months of hearings and testimony, the Zoning Board of Appeals (the ZBA) voted a preliminary approval pursuant to the state’s 40B affordable housing law to Chestnut Hill Realty for expansion of its Hancock Village housing development in south Brookline. The ZBA’s approval will authorize the construction of 161 apartment units within 12 new buildings. Despite the imposition of nearly 70 conditions to mitigate the impact of this development, the neighborhood and several Town boards were bitterly disappointed with the approval given its scale, design and other impacts on this and nearby property, which is part of a duly approved Neighborhood Conservation District. In March, the Board of Selectmen opined that the approved development was inconsistent with Chapter 40B design guidelines and otherwise in conflict with the interests of the Town and authorized a legal appeal of the permit with the Massachusetts Land Court.

Recognizing that Chapter 40B is highly unpredictable and limits the Town’s regulatory authority, the Town Meeting in May passed a Resolution to explore ways to mitigate its impact. One outcome of this Resolution is the funding of a local Housing Production Plan (HPP). While a HPP does not in itself relieve a community from Chapter 40B’s 10% affordable housing goal, it allows the Town to proactively plan its compliance with Chapter 40B and creates opportunity for a “safe harbor” under certain conditions. Ironically, the Town’s willingness to engage in an HPP, combined with the approval of the Hancock Village project, will likely compel developers to file new 40B development applications to ensure they will be considered before a safe harbor is attained or the 10% goal is reached.

Planning and Development:

The Town of Brookline has seen steady progress on development activity as the region’s economy has fully rebounded. The hotel development on Route 9 outside of Brookline Village is well underway and will begin generating new property taxes in 2016. A hotel also has the added financial benefit to the Town of contributing to the local option room and meals taxes. The Town hopes that this development will spur further economic activity within this corridor. The Town was pleased to support a team of graduate students in Land Use Planning from MIT’s Department of Urban Studies studying the future of Route 9 East. The visioning study is expected to yield a number of recommendations, including the identification of “catalyst sites” as having potential for redevelopment.

One development in Brookline Village that was not necessarily anticipated was the reuse of the former Brookline Bank building as a medical marijuana dispensary. Authorized by statewide referendum, a dispensary to sell cannabis products to citizens with qualifying medical conditions cannot be precluded by local zoning. The Town Meeting passed a zoning by-law to regulate this use and authorized the Board of Selectmen to license the operation of dispensaries. After adopting a comprehensive set of regulations as recommended by its licensing committee, the Board of Selectmen considered the application of New England Treatment Access (NETA) and eventually issued Brookline’s first Medical Marijuana license in late December. Despite the medical benefits that cannabis may

provide, the siting of a medical marijuana dispensary creates uncertainty and anxiety for cities and towns. Possession and sale of marijuana remain illegal under federal law. The new state law authorizing the sale of medical marijuana mandates that companies operating dispensaries be non-profit entities. With this in mind, the Town vigorously pursued a Host Community Agreement that would protect the Town and guarantee certain financial benefits. The Town was successful in reaching an agreement with NETA that eventually sets aside 3% of gross sales for this purpose. I am appreciative of the efforts of Steven Cirillo and Town Counsel Joslin Murphy for their efforts in pursuing a Host Community Agreement and to Howard Kessler and others representing NETA for their cooperation with this lengthy and comprehensive process.

In Cleveland Circle along Chestnut Hill Avenue, the former Circle Cinema site moved forward with permitting a mixed use development. Located in both the Town of Brookline and the City of Boston, this property owned by National Development completed their Special Permit process in August. Demolition and construction is expected to commence in early 2016.

The Children's Hospital project at Brookline Place is the largest and most ambitious development of all. The redevelopment of 1 and 2 Brookline Place along Route 9 and the Brookline Village MBTA stop will create over 300,000 square feet of medical office and related use. Children's spent the bulk of 2015 dealing with permitting and other design details for such a large project. When combined with the Town's Gateway East public works project, this area along Route 9 will become a more inviting, safe and vibrant public space to travel through. As a preliminary step in the Gateway East project, the Town dismantled the inaccessible and deteriorating pedestrian bridge over Route 9 during the long Columbus Day weekend. With a great deal of notification and preparation, this project moved quickly and did not result in extensive public inconvenience. The new unimpeded view looking east and west is remarkable and helps convey the "Gateway" concept that the Town intends to achieve at this location.

Recognizing the length of time it takes to identify and promote economic development projects, the Town included within its Capital Budget in 2015 funding to initiate studies. A Strategic Asset Study and a Large Parcel Study are two such studies that we hope will facilitate future economic development opportunities that the Town relies upon to sustain its financial position and improve the quality of life. In support of this effort, the Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) and staff held a workshop in June to help define criteria for successful long-term redevelopment in Brookline's commercial districts. This community dialogue was a very successful initiative and will continue in the future. It should be noted that the Town's economic development planning capacity is stretched thin given the assignment of Kara Brewton, Economic Development Director, to help lead the long-term planning effort on school enrollment. This is not sustainable in the long term and the Town must allocate resources necessary to advance its economic development priorities.

Development of public projects also proceeded in 2015. The new affordable housing development at 86 Dummer Street owned and managed by the Brookline Housing Authority is an exciting project that neared completion in the winter. This is the first major public housing project in Brookline in over 35 years and is welcome news for those residents waiting for affordable housing. Brookline's newest public park at Fisher Hill has also made great progress and will head toward completion in the fall of 2016. The Fisher Hill Reservoir Park project is an exciting and unique project in which a former MWRA reservoir is being converted into a 10-acre park. Finally, the Town completed two playground renovation projects at Waldstein and Eliot in 2015.

Municipal Operations:

No discussion of the operation of Town government in 2015 would be complete without mentioning the historic snow that fell in Brookline during the winter. The Boston region experienced over 110 inches of snow throughout the winter, which was an all-time record. Several large volume snowstorms took place on consecutive weeks, severely straining the Town's ability to keep roads passable and to restore public spaces for normal travel. This required the Town to remove snow from commercial districts and main roads in an ongoing operation. The acquisition of a major piece of snowfighting equipment that eliminated 6 foot high snow banks within minutes by throwing snow into an adjacent dump truck was a big help in this effort. Watching this operation became a highlight for many in Brookline who were afflicted with "cabin fever" during the winter. The impacts to normal life throughout the region were significant, highlighted by the complete shutdown of the MBTA public transit system for several days. The severe weather highlighted the need for governments in our region to prepare and to invest in the replacement of machinery and equipment. I was extremely appreciative of and in awe of Brookline's public works department during this extraordinary winter season.

The volume and frequency of snow was actually a good opportunity for my task force on sidewalk snow removal. Initiated earlier in 2014, the public education efforts initiated by the task force became especially helpful as the historic snows began to fall in late January. The task force continued to meet throughout the winter of 2015 and was able to see firsthand the challenges of enforcing this by-law. The task force ultimately recommended a series of improvements to the system, including regulatory and legislative changes.

The Town continued to plan for a change in the manner of its curbside solid waste collection. Spurred by budgetary realities and advancements in equipment/technology, the Town combined its desire to introduce a Pay as You Throw (PAYT) system with the use of automated equipment. PAYT is a way to induce solid waste reduction by creating a financial incentive to recycle. And the use of automated equipment will lower labor costs to the Town by reducing the number of persons it takes to operate the vehicle. We hope to introduce the details of this new system in early 2016 for implementation the next fall.

In an effort to make the Town's golf course a more financially sustainable operation and to expand its benefits to more citizens, ground was broken on the construction of a new practice facility (otherwise known as a driving range). The Town was also informed of the desire by The Country Club (TCC) to bring a championship event back to the course. In July, the United States Golf Association (USGA) awarded the 2022 United States Open Championship to TCC. The Town reached a preliminary agreement with the USGA for use of a portion of the Lynch public golf facility for parking and access and other accommodations subject to future negotiations. The return of championship golf to Brookline will be an exciting event for the TCC and the Brookline community.

Several key staffing transitions occurred throughout 2015. In February, trusted Deputy Town Administrator Sean Cronin resigned to assume a leadership position in Governor Baker's new administration. Mr. Cronin served the Town of Brookline for 17 years and was an invaluable leader and resource. Sean was an outstanding budget officer and administrator, and will be remembered for many lasting contributions to the Town's financial management system. He will be heading up the Division of Local Services, the state agency established to regulate and support municipal financial operations of all cities and towns. We thank Sean Cronin for his exemplary service to Brookline and wish him well in his new venture. I was pleased to promote Assistant Town Administrator Melissa Goff to the Deputy role vacated by Mr. Cronin. To fill Ms. Goff's position, I was glad to successfully recruit Austin Faison. Mr. Faison holds a master's degree in public administration and had several years of valuable municipal management experience in the City of Somerville. In the Legal department, Associate Town Counsel Patty Correa was elevated to the newly reorganized position of First Assistant Town Counsel. To fill Ms. Correa's position, the Town hired Attorney Jonathan Simpson. Mr. Simpson is a Brookline resident who has extensive experience in municipal law.



Austin Faison



Patty Correa

In September, Superintendent Bill Lupini announced his resignation from Brookline to assume a similar role in a newly consolidated vocational school district on the north shore, closer to his home. Mr. Lupini made many contributions to improving the quality of public education in Brookline during his tenure. I will be forever indebted to Bill for welcoming me to Brookline and for participating effectively in the budget and other municipal operations that demand Town and School cooperation. The School Committee hired Joseph Connolly to fill the position on a temporary basis while a search process ensues. Mr. Connolly is a former School Superintendent in Stoneham and someone who has supported the Brookline Public Schools in different capacities over recent years.



Jonathan Simpson

Community:

On every weekend of the year in Brookline, there is some community activity or event that contributes to the quality of life our citizens enjoy. Brookline Day, the Farmer's Market, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Bike Parade, Arts Brookline and Climate Action Week are only a few of the events that the Town actively participates in each year. And of course there is the Boston Marathon that runs through Brookline each Patriots Day in April. In September of this year, Hollywood came to Brookline with the screening of the feature film, *Black Mass*, at the Coolidge Corner Theater. The film was the story of the notorious Winter Hill Gang set in the Boston area. Hundreds of curious residents and others lined Harvard Street to get a glimpse of the arriving actors and actresses, including lead star Johnny Depp.

The Town was an active participant in the regional dialogue over the proposal for Boston to host the Olympic Games in 2024. In May, Brookline's Town Meeting passed a Resolution urging the Town to reject support of this initiative given the costs, security risks and other negative aspects of hosting such a large world event. The proposal and process lacked the type of public engagement and transparency necessary to generate support for a major public event, and the proposal was ultimately withdrawn in July.

Finally, the Town lost one of its most beloved residents with the death of Ethel Weiss in December. Mrs. Weiss, who was 101 when she died, ran the Harvard Street toy and candy shop that she and her husband bought in 1939 for more than 76 years. More than a shop owner, Ethel Weiss was a friend and confidant to generations of Brookline children, especially those from the nearby Devotion School. She will be missed.

Professional:

In my capacity as Brookline's Town Administrator, I am occasionally called upon to serve in statewide roles to advance the interests of local government. These opportunities are rewarding professionally but also benefit the Town of Brookline through the contacts I make in state government or with other cities and towns. I currently serve on the Group Insurance Commission (GIC), the state agency that manages the health insurance benefits for employees/retirees of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and dozens of participating municipalities (including the Town of Brookline). In November, I was selected by my peers to serve on the Board of Directors of the



Town Administrator Kleckner with Newton Mayor Setti Warren and North Adams Councillor Lisa Blackmer at a MMA Event

Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) beginning in 2016. In this capacity, I was also appointed by Governor Baker to serve on his Local Government Advisory Committee. In 2017, I will assume the presidency of the MMA. I have also continued my representation of

Brookline on the Metro Mayors Coalition, an initiative of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council that facilitates regional approaches to housing, economic development, transportation and municipal service delivery.

Thank You:

I could not perform my job without the assistance and support of many people. I am particularly thankful for the support and advice of all department heads of the Town. These managers are leaders in their respective fields and are a highly motivated group of people. The staff in the Selectmen's office, consisting of Brenda Costello, Kate MacGillivray, Khaleela Willingham and Karen Pearl is indispensable and appreciated. Finally, I am indebted to the outstanding service and support provided by Assistant to the Town Administrator Patty Parks, Assistant Town Administrator Austin Faison and Deputy Town Administrator Melissa Goff. They are very talented and committed employees of the Town who contribute greatly to the professionalism and effectiveness of Town government in Brookline.

I would also like to acknowledge former Selectmen Betsy DeWitt and Ken Goldstein, who ended their service on the Board with the decision not to seek election in May. Both Betsy and Ken served as chair of the Board, which created an important and meaningful relationship for me as Town Administrator. I thank them for their leadership and support. I welcome Nancy Heller and Bernard Greene to the Board and look forward to their service.

Town Moderator

The art of moderating Town Meeting discussions principally involves the reconciliation of two often competing objectives - efficiency and the maximization of citizen participation. The complete exercise of democracy in a Town Meeting would require allowing everyone who wished to speak to an issue, Town Meeting Members and non-TMMs alike, to speak for as long as they wish. Something like this actually occurs in many Massachusetts Town Meetings, in which there are extended time limits per speaker and a weak tradition of terminating debates, even when all sides of an issue have been thoroughly aired. Our Town Meeting has neither the time nor the patience to endure such a process. To accommodate our TMMs, we have developed a set of rules which are for the most part incorporated in our Town Meeting Handbook, which I edit and update every three years. These rules include the establishment of time limits (usually five minutes per speaker), an expedited process for handling non-controversial agenda items, a procedure that discourages reconsideration of actions already taken, and other rules and traditions designed to increase the efficiency and reduce the length of our Town Meetings without materially interfering with the exercise by our attendees of a right to be heard.

All that said, however, the most important factor in the conduct of reasonably efficient Town Meetings is extensive communications with and pre-meeting education of our TMMs. This is accomplished in two ways. First, we require all Selectmen, Advisory Committee and other party reports on Town Meeting articles to be published to all TMMs from several days to two weeks before the meeting itself; and we require that any motions or other actions proposed to be taken at a Town Meeting be distributed to all TMMs at least 24 hours before the session at which the relevant agenda item will be discussed. Second, the extensive use of the email facility operated under the auspices of the Town Meeting Members Association has become an increasingly important way for TMMs to be educated about the questions that they will be asked to decide at Town Meeting. Prior to each Town Meeting, controversial issues are more or less thoroughly vetted in this forum. And I am able to advise TMMs ahead of time about special procedures that will apply to our debates, an invaluable tool for me. Prior to each Town Meeting I receive and respond to several hundred emails dealing with these procedures and the establishment of coherent speakers' lists for the articles to be considered. Before the advent of email and the TMMA listserv, both of which arrived on the scene about the time I was first elected moderator, in 1994, communications between the moderator and TMMs, individually or as a group, were rare indeed. This development has greatly enhanced the pre-meeting education and involvement of our TMMs.

Here is my brief report on the more important actions of the two 2015 Town Meetings.

The principal business of the Annual Town Meeting in May, as always, consisted of the adoption of the FY 2015 budget, which this year amounted to \$250 million. The meeting also approved the establishment of a new Crowninshield Local Historic District and a Renewable Energy Overlay District off of Newton Street. Finally, in an action that was to prove prescient, Town Meeting decisively disapproved the Boston venue for the 2024 Olympic Games.

At the Fall Town Meeting in November, the most controversial and publicized issue was a proposed ban on the operation of gas-powered leaf blowers. Town Meeting sidestepped a decision on this proposal by referring the matter to a Moderator's Committee. Two more issues, the approach to a complex zoning issue dealing with McMansions and a proposal to study the use of eminent domain in certain areas of Hancock Village, were also referred to, respectively, a Moderator's Committee and a committee appointed by the moderator and the Advisory Committee. Listed below are the members of these committees, all involved citizens of the Town who have generously agreed to take the time to sort through these often difficult issues:

Leaf Blower Committee: John Doggett; Dennis Doughty; Neil Gordon; Benedicte Hallowell; Jonathan Margolis; Faith Michaels; and Maura Toomey.

Committee on Zoning: Richard Benka; Jesse Geller; Linda Hamlin; Marian Lazar; Merelice; and Lee Selwyn.

Eminent Domain Committee: Craig Bolon; Clifford Brown; Catherine Donaher; Thomas Gallitano; Jean Stringham; Leonard Weiss; and Christine Westphal.

Finally, I extend my customary thanks and that of the Town to two of the committees that I appoint, the Committee on Town Organization and Structure and the Advisory Committee, and to their able chairpersons, Jean Berg and Sean

Lynn-Jones. The Advisory Committee in particular devotes prodigious efforts, with very little public recognition, to making our Town Meeting process comprehensible and effective. Special thanks are in order for Harry Bohrs, who retired this year as chair of the Advisory Committee after many years of brilliant stewardship.

Advisory Committee

Sean M. Lynn-Jones, Chair

Organization and Function

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 16 states that “every town whose valuation for the purpose of apportioning state tax exceeds one million dollars shall, and any other town may, by by-law provide for the election or the appointment and duties of appropriation, advisory or finance committees, who shall consider any or all municipal questions....”

The Brookline Advisory Committee, in accordance with Town by-laws, consists of not fewer than 20 nor more than 30 established registered voters of the Town, all appointed by the Town Moderator. At least one elected Town Meeting Member is appointed from each of the sixteen precincts, plus up to eight additional Town Meeting members and up to six members-at-large.

The Advisory Committee functions not only as a Finance Committee, but as an informed citizens’ group that counsels the Town through its recommendations to Town Meeting. It consists of dedicated Brookline residents who are committed to the Town’s fiscal health and good governance. The Advisory Committee’s subcommittees hold public hearings on matters contained in the Warrant for each Town Meeting, and the Committee then votes to make recommendations to Town Meeting. These recommendations are published in the Combined Reports, which are mailed to all Town Meeting Members in advance of Town Meeting and posted on the Town website, and delivered in spoken comments at Town Meeting itself. Throughout the fiscal year, the Advisory Committee exercises its authority to honor or dismiss departmental requests for transfers from the Reserve Fund, which is established to deal with unforeseen or emergency expenditures.

Advisory Committee Subcommittees

The Chair of the Advisory Committee appoints each member to serve on one or more subcommittees and selects a member from each subcommittee to serve as its Chair. There were seven subcommittees in FY2015: Administration and Finance; Capital; Human Services; Personnel; Planning and Regulation; Public Safety; and Schools.

After the 2015 Annual Town Meeting, an eighth subcommittee, (Subcommittee on Long-Term Planning and Policies) was established to consider long-term fiscal challenges facing the Town. This subcommittee is also intended to be a forum for reviewing any of the fiscal policies that are followed by the Town and for discussing the Advisory Committee’s own policies and practices.

Issues in 2015

During the past year, the Advisory Committee met regularly to prepare its recommendations for the May Annual Town Meeting and the November Special Town Meeting. Its subcommittees met scores of times to hold public hearings, which enabled supporters and opponents of various proposals to express their views. Subcommittees also made on-site visits to assess special projects throughout Brookline. As a result, the subcommittees’ reports to the full Advisory Committee allowed the Committee to consider public opinion and pertinent information in its discussions and decision-making process.

The Advisory Committee spent almost three months crafting its versions of two FY2016 operating budgets, one that assumed passage of an operating override, and one that did not. From mid-February through mid-May, the Committee met twice a week or more to discuss recommendations based on information that subcommittees had collected. After analyzing this information, the Committee prepared and submitted to Town Meeting detailed FY2016 budget recommendations for both the operating budget and the Capital Improvements Program.

In preparation for the November and May Town Meetings, the Advisory Committee, through its subcommittees, also conducted public hearings on every Warrant Article and gathered facts and public comments on such issues as the Zoning By-law’s definition of “habitable space,” a second solar photovoltaic installation on Town-owned land, the sale and distribution of bottled

water on Town property and the purchase of bottled water with Town funds, leaf blowers, and requirements for snow and ice removal from public sidewalks. After the hearings and a discussion by the full Advisory Committee, comprehensive reports were presented to Town Meeting.

In addition to serving on the Advisory Committee and its subcommittees, members of the Committee participated on committees appointed by the Selectmen and others, including the Override Study Committee, Devotion School Building Committee, Town Administrator's Task Force on Sidewalk Snow Removal, Noise By-law Review Committee, and Design Advisory Team for 111 Boylston Street. Members also served on several standing Town committees, commissions, and boards, including the Commission for the Arts, Economic Development Advisory Board, Martin Luther King Celebration Committee, Licensing Review Committee, Zoning By-Law Committee, Town/School Partnership, Naming Committee, and Audit Committee.

Membership

During the past year, the Advisory Committee bid farewell to its Chair, Harry Bohrs, who joined the Committee in 1997 and was elected its Chair in 2003. Harry's extraordinarily long tenure as Chair testifies to his dedication and skill. Known and respected for his intellect, patience, political acumen, and sense of humor, he led by example and will be missed by all. On March 17, 2015, Sean Lynn-Jones, a member of the Committee since 2003, was elected to serve as Chair. Carla Benka was re-elected to serve as Vice Chair.

In addition, five other Committee members departed: Sumner Chertok, Bernard Greene, Nancy Heller, Len Weiss, and Karen Wenc. Greene and Heller were elected to the Board of Selectmen, where their wisdom and judgment will continue to benefit Brookline.

The Advisory Committee will continue working diligently on behalf of Town Meeting to carefully consider all matters related to the finances and governance of the Town. It will strive to make recommendations that it considers to be in the best interest of the Town and all of its residents.

Town Meeting

Summary of Actions Taken Annual Town Meeting May 26, 2015

ARTICLE ONE

Appointment of Measurers of Wood and Bark. (Board of Selectmen) A motion of Favorable Action, that the number of measurers of Wood and bark be two to be appointed by the Selectmen, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE TWO

Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreements. (Human Resources) A motion of No Action was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE THREE

Annual Authorization of Compensating Balance Agreements. (Treasurer/Collector) A motion of Favorable Action to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to enter into compensating balance agreements for FY2016, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE FOUR

Report on the Close-out of Special Appropriations/Bond Authorization Rescission. (Board of Selectmen) A motion to reduce and rescind the remaining \$10,442 Bond Authorization for improvements to the John D. Runkle School, authorized under Item #58 of Section 3 of Article 4 of the 32009 Special Town Meeting, and the remaining \$388,366 Bond Authorization for improvements to the Heath School, authorized under Item #68 of Section 13 of Article 9 of the 2011 Annual Town meeting, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE FIVE

Approval of Unpaid Bills of a Prior Fiscal Year. (Board of Selectmen) A motion of No Action was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE SIX

Acceptance of Legislation to Increase Property Tax Exemptions. (Assessors) A motion of Favorable Action to establish an additional property tax exemption for FY 2016, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE SEVEN

FY2015 Budget Amendments (Board of Selectmen) A motion of Favorable Action to fund the Department of Public Work's Snow and Ice Budget by \$1,100,000, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE EIGHT.

Annual (FY16) Appropriations Article. (Advisory Committee) A motion of Favorable Action to approve the FY2016 Budget, with total appropriated expenditures of \$231,696,246, was passed as amended and separately voted, by a Counted Vote of 218 In Favor and 2 Opposed.

ARTICLE NINE

Amendment to Article 2.1.10 of the General By-Laws – Town Meeting Members at Large – extending At-Large Town Meeting Membership to certain elected officials. (Petition of Ernest Frey) A motion No Action was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE TEN

Amendments to Article 4.8 of the General By-Laws – Living Wage - excepting certain temporary and Recreation Department employees from the provisions of the By-Law. (Recreation Department) A motion of Favorable Action was passed by an Electronic Recorded Vote of 141 In Favor, 48 Opposed and 10 Abstentions.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

Amendment to Article 5.6 of the General By-Laws – Preservation Commission and Historic Districts – establishing a Crowninshield Local Historic District . (Preservation Commission) A motion of Favorable Action, to establish a Crowninshield Local Historic District, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE TWELVE

Amendment to Article 7.7 of the General By-Laws – Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks – increasing enforcement and penalty provisions. (Selectmen) A motion of Favorable Action, to increase the enforcement and the penalties of the Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks By-Law, was passed,

as amended, by a Counted Vote of 191 In Favor and 1 Opposed.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN

Amendment to the General By-Laws by adding a new Article 8.34 – Drinking Water Access – requiring indoor common victualler licensees to offer Town tap water to customers, and amending Articles 10.2 and 10.3 – Prosecution and Enforcement - adding such Article to the penalty provisions therein. (Petition of Clint Richmond and Jane Gilman) A motion of Favorable Action, establishing a Drinking Water Access By-Law, with appropriate enforcement and penalties, was passed, by an Electronic Recorded Vote of 125 In Favor, 55 Opposed and 7 Abstentions.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN

Amendment to the General By-Laws adding a new Article 8.35 – Bottled Water – prohibiting the sale or distribution of bottled water on Town property and the purchase of bottled water with Town funds, and amending Articles 10.2 and 10.3 of the Town’s By-laws – Prosecution and Enforcement – adding such Article to the penalty provisions therein. (Petition of Clint Richmond and Jane Gilman) A motion of Favorable Action, establishing a Bottled Water By-law, with appropriate enforcement and penalties, was passed by a Majority Vote.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN

Amendment to the Town’s Zoning By-Law Map extending the Renewal Energy Overlay District (SOL) to include the town-owned parcel of land located at 813, 815 and 817 Newton Street. (Department of Planning and Community Development) A motion of Favorable Action, extending the Renewal Energy Overlay District (SOL), was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN

Authorizing the Board of Selectmen to lease a portion of the Town-owned Transfer Station Site located at

813, 815, and 817 Newton Street for a term of not more than 30 years, for the purpose of hosting ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations. (Selectmen) A motion of Favorable Action, authorizing the Board of Selectmen to lease the Town-owned Transfer Station Site for a period of not more than 30 years, for the purpose of hosting ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN

Resolution in support of Changes to the Affordable Housing Law, Mass. G.L., c. 40B. (Petition of Nancy Heller and John Sherman) A motion to refer the subject matter under Article 17 to the Housing Advisory Board (HAB) and the Planning Board, each to report back to the 2015 Fall Town Meeting, was passed by a Majority Vote..

ARTICLE EIGHTEEN

Resolution requesting the Board of Selectmen to study and consider use of Eminent Domain for two green space buffer zones along Russett and Beverly Roads. (Petition of Regina Frawley) It was resolved by a Majority Vote with 7 Abstentions, to ask the Board of Selectmen to study, and consider in good faith, the taking under the powers of Eminent Domain the two buffer zones presently zoned S-7 within the Hancock Village property, abutting Russett and Beverly Roads.

ARTICLE NINETEEN

Resolution opposing the Boston 2024’s Olympics bid as a Misguided Civic Priority. (Petition of Lee Biernbaum) It was resolved, by an Electronic Recorded Vote of 112 in Favor, 46 Opposed and 6 Abstentions, that the Brookline Town Meeting opposes Boston 2024’s Olympics bid and that it urges the Town’s elected officials, state representatives and state senator to actively do so.

ARTICLE TWENTY

Reports of Town Officers and Committees. A report from the Selectmen’s Climate Action Committee was presented to the Annual Town Meeting.

**Summary of Actions Taken
Special Town Meeting
November 18, 2015**

ARTICLE ONE

Approval of unpaid bills - (Board of Selectmen). A motion of No Action was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE TWO

Approval of collective bargaining agreements - (Human Resources Director). A motion of No Action was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE THREE

FY2016 Budget Amendments (Board of Selectmen). A motion of Favorable Action for various amendments to the FY2016 Budget, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE FOUR

Approval of an increase to the amount of the Senior-Work-Off Exemption for eligible taxpayers. (Assessors/Council on Aging) A motion of Favorable Action, to increase the amount of the exemption for FY2016 from \$1,000 to \$1,125 based on the current state minimum wage of \$9.00 per hour, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE FIVE

Accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 59, Section 5 Clause Fifth C – Tax Exemptions – Veterans organizations. (Petition of Neil Gordon) A motion of Favorable Action, to accept Clause Fifth C of MGL Chapter 59, section 5, increasing the property tax exemption for the VFW/American Legion property at 386 Washington Street from \$750,000 to \$1,500,000, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE SIX

Authorize the filing and acceptance of grants with and from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for the Communities Grant Program for Improvements to Larz Anderson Park and dedicate a portion of said Park for park purposes. (Park and Recreation Commission). A motion of No Action was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE SEVEN

Accept the provisions of Section 148C of Chapter 149 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Earned Sick Time Law, (Petition of Patricia Connors and Cornelia van der Ziel) A motion of Favorable Action, to accept the Earned Sick Time Law, was defeated by an Electronic Recorded Vote of 64 In Favor, 142 Opposed and 5 Abstentions.

ARTICLE EIGHT

Amendment to Article 2.1 of the General By-Laws by adding Section 2.1.14 – Mandatory Educational Training for Town Meeting Members. (Petition of Janice Kahn) A motion of Favorable Action, requiring Town Meeting Members to complete the on-line Conflict of Interest Law training provided by the State Ethics Commission, was passed by a Counted Vote of 190 In Favor and 7 Opposed.

ARTICLE NINE

Amendment to Article 3.17 of the General By-Laws by adding Section 3.17.2 – Public Works Department Organization – Procedure for Fixing Water and Sewer Rates. (Petition of David Lescohier and Ernest Frey) A motion of Favorable action, requiring a public hearing and notice provisions for the setting of the Water and Sewer rates for the coming fiscal year, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE TEN

Amendment to Article 8.15 of the General By-Laws – Noise By-Law – and Article 8.31 – Leaf Blowers – banning the use of leaf blowers. (Petition of Richard Nangle and Irene Scharf) A motion to refer the subject matter under Article Ten to a Moderator's Committee, with a preliminary report to be presented to the Spring 2016 Town Meeting, was passed by a Counted Vote of 143 In Favor, 57 opposed and 5 Abstentions.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

Amendment to Article 8.31 of the Town's General By-Laws – Leaf Blowers – enlarging the use of Leaf Blowers. (Petition of Faith Michaels and Peter Gately) A motion of Favorable Action, granting authority to the Commissioner of Public Works to temporarily waive the limitations on the use of leaf blowers set forth in this by-law, was passed by a Majority Vote;.

ARTICLE TWELVE

Amendment to Article II, Section 2.08, Par. 1 of the Town's Zoning By-Laws – Definition of Habitable Space. (Petition of Lee Selwyn) A motion of Favorable Action, to refer the subject matter under Article 12 to a Moderator's Committee, with a preliminary report to be presented to the Spring 2016 Annual Town Meeting, was passed by a Counted Vote of 188 In Favor and 2 Opposed.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN

Authorize the Board of Selectmen to Commence a Community Choice Electrical Aggregation Program. (Selectmen) A motion of Favorable Action, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to commence a Community Choice Electrical Aggregation Program and contract for electric supply for Brookline residents and businesses, was passed by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN

Resolution urging the Selectmen to increase the Use of Electricity from Renewable Sources of Energy Using a Community Choice Aggregation Plan.(Petition of Thomas Vitolo and Carol Oldham) It was resolved, that the Town Meeting urge the Board of Selectmen to initiate a process to develop a Community Choice Aggregation Plan that has specific minimum requirements, by a Unanimous Vote.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN

Resolution concerning the Exercise of Eminent Domain in Hancock Village. (Petition of Regina Frawley) It was resolved by an Electronic Recorded Vote of 139 In Favor, 42 Opposed, and 11 abstentions, that the Town Meeting request the Town Moderator and the Advisory Committee to appoint an ad hoc Blue Ribbon Committee to study the possibility of taking by Eminent Domain the two buffer strips behind Russett and Beverly Roads.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN

Resolution calling for a Moratorium on High-Stakes Standardized Testing in Public Schools (Petition of the Hon. Frank I. Smizik and Lisa Guisbond, et al) It was resolved, by an Electronic Recorded Vote of 120 In Favor, 70 Opposed, and 7 Abstentions, that the Town Meeting call on state and federal officials to immediately adopt a three year moratorium on all high-stakes use of standardized tests.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN

Resolution Concerning Natural Gas Pipelines. (Petition of Craig Bolon) It was resolved, by a Majority Vote, that the Town Meeting call on federal and state agencies to deny permits for the Northeast Direct natural gas pipeline proposal and the Access Northeast natural gas pipeline proposal and also asks them to reject investments in the Access Northeast project proposed by Eversource and National Grid and to deny their consideration for setting electricity rates.

ARTICLE EIGHTEEN

Resolution on Increasing Diversity in the Town's Workforce. (Petition of M K Merelice and Ruthann Sneider) It was resolved, by an Electronic Recorded Vote of 155 In Favor, 3 Opposed, and 6 Abstentions, that the Town of Brookline is committed to seeking a diverse pool of available workers as it moves toward the goal of having all Town Departments at all employment grade levels, reasonably reflect the racial diversity of Metro Boston.

ARTICLE NINETEEN

Reports of Town Officers and Committees. (Board of Selectmen). A report on the Selectmen's Study of a Proposed Eminent Domain, Taking of the "Buffer" within Hancock Village and the final report of the Selectmen's Noise Bylaw Committee, were presented to the Town Meeting.

2015 TOWN MEETING ATTENDANCE							
Precinct	Name	Eligible	Attended	Precinct	Name	Eligible	Attended
16	Allaire, Saralyn J.	4	4	05	DeWitt, Dennis J.	4	2
05	Allen, Richard E.	4	4	11	Ditkoff, Joseph M.	4	4
16	Allen, Robert L.	4	4	13	Doggett, John	4	4
15	Ames, Mariela	4	2	03	Doughty, Dennis L.	4	4
10	Ananian, Clifford Scott	4	4	07	Duclos, Keith A.	4	4
06	Anderson, Catherine C.	4	3	12	Ellis, Chad S.	4	2
03	Aronson, David M.	4	4	07	Ellis, Susan P.	4	2
04	Axelrod, Sarah T.	4	4	01	Ercolino, Elijah	4	4
13	Baker, Joanna	4	4	04	Farlow, Frank W.	4	4
07	Ball, Ellen B.	4	3	04	Farlow, Martha A.	4	4
16	Basile, Beverly A.	4	4	13	Fine, Jonathan S.	4	4
16	Basile, John R.	4	4	13	Fischer, Andrew	4	4
14	Basile, Robert W.	4	4	11	Fischer, Shira A.	4	2
06	Becker, Jocina	2	2	14	Fishman, Gill	4	4
06	Bassett, John	4	3	15	Flanagan, Jane M.	4	4
11	Benedon, Carrie	4	4	AL	Franco, Benjamin	4	4
13	Benka, Carla Wyman	4	4	01	Franco, James F.	4	4
15	Berger, Eileen Connell	4	4	16	Frawley, Regina M.	4	4
15	Berger, Michael	4	3	13	Freeman, John W.	4	4
04	Berke, Eric D.	4	4	07	Frey, Ernest A.	4	4
08	Bernard, Laura Sara	4	4	08	Friedman, Franklin D.	4	4
13	Blood, Roger F.	4	2	12	Friedman, Harry K.	4	4
04	Boehs, Srah T.	4	4	14	Friedman, Paula K.	4	4
03	Bohrs, Harry K.	4	4	AL	Gadsby, Edward (Sandy)	4	4
08	Bolon, Craig	4	4	10	Gaehde, Stephan A.	4	4
09	Brooks, Liza	4	4	16	Gallitano, Thomas J.	4	3
14	Brown, Clifford M.	4	4	01	Garver, Richard Pery	4	4
12	Burstein, Michael A.	4	4	09	Geller, Joseph T.	4	3
10	Caro, Carol B.	4	4	04	Gerds, Nadine	4	3
10	Caro, Francis G.	4	4	07	Giller, Phyllis D.	4	4
01	Cavell, Cathleen C.	4	4	03	Gilman, Jane C.	4	4
13	Chanyasukit, Chris	4	2	11	Giora-Gorfajn, Shanna Tally	4	4
10	Chertok, Sumner J.	4	0	16	Gladstone, Scott C.	4	4
16	Chiumenti, Stephen	4	2	11	Goldsmith, Jennifer	4	4
04	Christ, Alan	4	4	08	Goldstein, David-Marc	4	4
15	Coffin, Abby R.	4	1	14	Goldstein, Kenneth M.	4	4
12	Cohen, Bruce	2	1	01	Gordon, Neil R.	4	4
07	Cohen, Susan F.	4	4	12	Grand, Jonathan H.	4	4
03	Connors, Patricia A.	4	4	07	Granoff, Susan	4	4
04	Cooper, Ingrid	2	2	07	Gray, Mark A.	4	3
12	Cooke-Childs, Lee	4	4	11	Gray, Martha E.	4	4
04	Covert, Anne S.	4	4	AL	Greene, Bernard W.	4	4
08	Cox, Abigail Schoenbaum	4	4	12	Greenfield, Stefanie A.	4	4
08	Crandell, Gina	4	2	05	Gross, Betsy Shure	4	4
01	Cutler, Jonathan D.	4	3	05	Gunnuscio, Michael B.	4	4
AL	Daly, Nancy A.	4	4	15	Hall, John L.	4	4
05	Daves, Robert S.	4	4	15	Hallowell, Benedicte J.	4	4
10	Davis, Jonathan H.	4	4	03	Hamilton, Heather Ann	4	4
10	Davis, Linda M.	4	3	07	Hardebeck, Kelly A.	4	4
10	Deak, Holly L.	4	3	08	Harris, John	4	4
06	Dempsey, Christopher	4	3	09	Harris, Paul E.	4	4
03	Dewart, Mary D.	4	4	12	Hatchett, Casey A.	4	4
03	Dewart, Murray	4	4	AL	Heller, Nancy S.	4	4

Precinct	Name	Eligible	Attended	Precinct	Name	Eligible	Attended
01	Herman, Helen Y.	4	3	11	Moran, Maryellen	4	3
01	Hillman, Carol B.	4	2	04	Mulhane, John T.	4	4
09	Hinchey, Nathaniel J.	4	4	15	Nangle, Richard	4	4
06	Hochleutner, Brian	4	4	01	Neuefeind, Bettina	4	3
13	Hoy, Francis Charlton	4	2	04	Nobrega, Mariah C.	4	2
12	Hummel, Amy	4	4	07	Oates, Christopher M.	4	4
06	Humphrey, Systke V.	4	4	02	O'Brien, Barbara A.	4	4
05	Hyatt, Angela	4	4	14	O'Connell, Kathleen M.	4	4
08	Johnson, Anita L.	4	4	11	Oldham, Carol F.	4	3
16	Jonas, Alisa G.	4	4	05	O'Leary, Phyllis R.	4	2
03	Jones, Gary D.	4	4	05	Olins, Andrew M.	4	4
09	Jozwicki, Barr A.	4	3	02	Ossenfort, Gwen Ellen	4	2
09	Jozwicki, Joyce	4	4	15	Pearlman, David Arenas	4	4
15	Kahn, Janice S.	4	4	02	Pehlke, Linda Olson	4	2
13	Kaplan, Ruth L.	4	1	06	Polumbaum, Ian	2	2
12	Karon, Jonathan A.	4	4	07	Provost, Stacey Zelbow	4	4
09	Katz, Pamela C.	4	4	16	Pu, William	4	4
02	Kidd, Judith H.	4	4	09	Rabinovitz, Stanley N.	4	2
12	Klafter, David B.	4	4	05	Reyelt, William E.	4	4
11	Knable, Bobbie M.	4	4	14	Rich, Benjamin E.	4	1
05	Knight, David Joseph	4	3	06	Richmond, Clinton Q.	4	4
03	Koff, Laurence Kragen	4	3	02	Roberts, Susan M.	4	4
15	Krepchin, Ira P.	4	4	04	Robinson, Joseph E.	4	3
14	Kushner, Jeffrey Robert	4	4	06	Roffman, Ian D.	4	3
10	La, Daniel	4	3	14	Roseman, Lynda E.	4	4
06	LaPlante, Virginia W.	4	4	09	Rosenstein, Harriet	4	3
16	Leichtner, Judith	4	3	09	Rosenthal, Martin R.	4	4
03	Leka, Donald Gene	4	4	12	Ross, A. Joseph	2	2
11	Lescohier, David C.	4	4	15	Rourke, James C., Jr.	4	0
09	Levine, Julius B.	4	0	15	Sadeghi-Nejad, Ab	4	3
14	Levitan, Fred	4	4	16	Safer, Joshua D.	4	4
07	Lewis, Jonathan	4	3	06	Saltzman, Daniel	4	4
11	Lewis, Kenneth G.	4	4	10	Sandalow, Sharon A.	4	2
15	Liao, Robert	4	4	13	Saner, Paul A.	4	3
10	Lipson, Paul	4	4	03	Scanlon, Kathleen M.	4	4
14	Lipson, Roger R.	4	4	02	Schachter-Kahl, Livia	4	4
02	Liss, Lisa E.	4	4	16	Scharf, Irene	4	4
14	Lodish, Pamela C.	4	4	14	Schoffman, Sharon R.	4	4
08	Loechler, Edward L.	4	4	10	Scholnick, Theodore	4	4
13	Lohe, Werner	4	4	01	Schram, Robert L.	4	4
11	Lowe, David J.	4	4	08	Scotto, Barbara C.	4	3
12	Lowenstein, Mark J.	4	4	08	Sears, Lisamarie J.	4	2
01	Lynn-Jones, Sean M.	4	4	14	Segel, Jennifer E.	4	4
07	Margolis, Jonathan J.	4	4	13	Selwyn, Lee L.	4	4
05	Mattison, Hugh	4	4	13	Senecal, Barbara M.	4	4
11	Mautner, Rebecca Plaut	4	2	04	Shaw, Jeremy Michael	2	2
02	McNally, Rita K.	4	2	11	Sheehan, Brian D.	4	4
05	Mehta, Puja P.	4	4	07	Shon-Baker, Rita	4	4
05	Meiklejohn, Randolph	4	4	10	Shuman, Stanley	4	4
06	Merelice, M. K.	4	4	04	Siegal, Marjorie	4	4
01	Metral, Alexandra E.	4	2	01	Silbaugh, Katherine B.	4	3
12	Meyers, Judy	4	4	07	Slayton, James M.	4	2
08	Miller, Robert M.	4	4	01	Sloane, Robert	4	4
02	Mitchell, Adam A.	4	2	12	Slotnick, William E.	4	3
14	Mittel, Shaari S.	4	4	06	Smith, Kim	4	4
01	Moghtader, Paul F.	4	3	04	Smith, Virginia A.	4	3

Precinct	Name	Eligible	Attended
AL	Smizik, Hon. Frank Israel	4	3
16	Sneider, Arthur	4	4
06	Sneider, Ruthann	4	4
06	Sperber, Robert I.	4	2
02	Spiegel, Diana Lees	4	4
02	Spiegel, Stanley L.	4	2
10	Spingarn, Alexandra (Sandy)	4	4
05	Stampfer, Claire B.	4	4
16	Stavis-Zak, Joyce E.	4	3
03	Steinfeld, Frank R.	4	4
08	Stock, Sara	4	1
03	Stone, Rebecca E.	4	4
03	Stringham, Jean	4	4
09	Swartz, Charles	4	4
10	Sweitzer, Naomi	4	4
08	Toomey, Maura	4	4
09	Tyndal, Dwain	4	3
15	van der Ziel, Cornelia H. J.	4	4
09	Vanderkay, Judith A.	4	4
13	VanScoyoc, John R.	4	4
06	Vitolo, Thomas John	4	4
04	Volk, Robert	4	4
05	von Krusenstiern, Lenore K.	4	4
AL	Ward, Patrick J.	4	4
12	Weitzman, Donald C.	4	4
11	Wenc, Karen	4	4
02	White, Eunice S.	4	2
09	White, George Abbott	4	4
AL	Wishinsky, Neil A.	4	4
02	Wolff, Bruce	4	2
02	Wynne, Ana Vera Macedo	4	2
02	Wynne, Richard Charles	4	3

RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN 2015

1. A Resolution to Urge the Board of Selectmen to Increase the Use of Electricity from Renewable Sources of Energy Using a Community Choice Aggregation Plan.(Petition of Carol Oldham and Thomas Vitolo)

WHEREAS, the Earth is facing a climate crisis and, to avoid the worst impacts of this crisis, 97 percent of climate scientists have determined that the burning of fossil fuel must be dramatically curtailed;

WHEREAS, Brookline has shown significant awareness about the severity of the climate crisis, has shown an ongoing commitment to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, and is committed to leading in the curtailment of greenhouse gas emissions in the future;

WHEREAS, approximately 21 percent of Brookline citizen’s climate change-causing emissions come from generating electricity, and changing the source of our electric generation is a single step that allows for an immediate and substantial decrease in emissions;

WHEREAS, in 1997 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts enacted a public policy called “Community Choice Aggregation” (CCA) enabling cities and towns to aggregate the buying power of individual electricity customers;

WHEREAS, 39 Massachusetts’ cities and towns have already implemented CCA plans, and many more are in the process of passing CCA plans with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, Community Choice Aggregation also provides a layer of consumer protection both because plans are reviewed by the Massachusetts Attorney General’s office and the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, and because any electric customer can opt out of the CCA plan at any time and at no cost.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Town Meeting urges the Board of Selectmen to initiate a process to develop a Community Choice Aggregation plan that has, at a minimum, the below stated requirements of this resolution.

1. The Community Choice Aggregation plan shall include as a goal the increased use of renewable resources and corresponding decreased use of carbon dioxide emitting sources for the generation of electricity for Brookline participants.
2. The Community Choice Aggregation plan shall increase participants’ use of renewable sources of electricity by an estimated 25 percent of retail sales, at an incremental cost to the average participating household of approximately \$7.00 per month based on individual household consumption. Further, the Community Choice Aggregation plan shall include, if feasible and appropriate, provisions that entitle participants to charitable deductions on their income tax filings to give consumers the additional benefit of potential tax savings.
3. The Community Choice Aggregation plan shall include clear and easily executed steps allowing consumers to opt out of, or later to opt in to the Aggregation program corresponding to the Community Choice Aggregation plan, with no penalty or other cost, and at any time.
4. That, in addition to all other requirements for notice in Massachusetts General Laws or regulations of the Department of Public Utilities, the Town of Brookline will communicate directly with citizens about Community Choice Aggregation and the opt-out provision.

2. A Resolution concerning the exercise of Eminent Domain in Hancock Village. (Petition of Regina Frawley)

RESOLUTION: Request the Town Moderator and Advisory Committee appoint a Good Faith “Blue Ribbon Committee” comprised of Town citizens, defined below, to study, consider and make recommendations concerning the use of Eminent Domain for two green space buffer belts along Russett and Beverly Roads, to be used as a publicly accessible park and recreation space(s)

WHEREAS, Town Meeting, along with several Town Committees, voted in May to approve Article 18, a “Good Faith” study to consider the use of Eminent Domain for two green buffers along Russett and Beverly Roads, for the purposes of creating publicly-accessible recreation and park space(s), and

WHEREAS, The Board of Selectmen and some staff are currently engaged in two law cases against the property owner, Hancock Village, and are at risk of charges of Conflict of Interest on any other matter regarding the property which Article 18 referenced, which could impact their own cases, and

WHEREAS, Article 18 had requested the Board of Selectmen to study the matter, and had assumed a "citizens' committee" would be appointed for that purpose, though the presentations and not the language referenced a "citizens' committee", however

WHEREAS, all such studies historically were conducted by a citizens' committee, whether appointed or elected, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen voted not to create a citizens' committee to study the possibility of using the green space(s) for public use as stated in Art. 18, and instead use staff, Selectmen and consultants reporting only to the Selectmen, using "citizen input" for factual information, thereby potentially exposing a "Good Faith" study of Eminent Domain for the two parcels to charges of "bad faith" due to the fact the Selectmen and some staff are parties or resources to the two existing legal cases, and

WHEREAS, consideration of a "taking" by Eminent Domain is amongst the most serious use of municipal "police powers", and thus consideration to use such powers must rest in a committee of the highest order or integrity, free and independent of any political, personal or economic influence, possessing various skills (including research capabilities), and/or recognition for public service of Good Faith and integrity,

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved That Town Meeting ask the Town Moderator and the Advisory Committee to appoint expeditiously an ad hoc "Blue Ribbon Committee" comprised of Town citizens, to study the possible taking by Eminent Domain of the two buffer strips behind Russett and Beverly Roads for use as "publicly-accessible recreation and park space(s)", and that the following definition and conditions of appointment be observed: That the committee be an ad hoc committee of seven (7), four (4) to be appointed by the Moderator and three (3) to be appointed by the Advisory Committee, either by subcommittee or plenum, and that the definition of "Blue Ribbon Committee" include reputation(s) for integrity, political, economic/financial knowledge, and personal, economic and political independence, is*sue-oriented, unbiased mind and character, who may have skills in law, real estate, bond issuance, etc., relative to land use and acquisition, but who may have skills in research and judgement and be a reputable citizen of Brookline, and who will be tasked to study the possible Eminent Domain use on the two green strips, and make good faith recommendations for both the procedure of study, the hiring of consultants as needed in the opinion of the Committee, and report its findings and recommendations for May, 2016 Town Meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee will have access to all documents and resources that might assist their work, whether in Executive Session of Open Meeting, and that consultants as needed on an hourly basis (if paid rather than volunteer) will be economically supported by the Town, but whose responsibilities to and advice for will be solely for the Committee, and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that if any Committee appointment appears to lack independence, or if there is the perception of use of such a committee by any entity might be a means of "dodging responsibility", a standard used in many Blue Ribbon Committee creations across the country, *that appointee will be "subject to dispute", to be filed with both appointing authorities, that is, the Town Moderator and the Advisory Committee who will consider the nature of the complaint(s).

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the original arguments supported by Town Meeting in Article 18 sustain and incorporated by reference, save for the role of the Board of Selectmen and any affected conflicted staff, as noted above and below,

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that no Selectmen, staff (except to provide factual reports or information, as requested) or any officials involved in any role in any legal actions involving Hancock Village participate in the work of the ad hoc Blue Ribbon Committee, and, in any case, no sitting Selectmen, whether party to the aforesaid legal actions or not, be engaged in the work of the Committee, in order for the Committee to conduct business, both publicly and in Executive Session, with the independence and integrity appropriate for such a serious undertaking as a possible taking by eminent Domain, and further, that the possible perception of "cross-contamination", of one issue

influencing the other, cannot be argued persuasively legally, should the Committee recommend the Eminent Domain taking of the two buffers (or any part thereof) and should the owner(s) bring the matter to court.

3. A Resolution calling for a Moratorium on High-Stakes Standardized Tests in Public Schools. (Petition Of Frank I. Smizik and Lisa Guisbond, et al)

WHEREAS, our future well-being relies on a high-quality public education system that prepares all students for college, careers, citizenship and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, our school systems in Massachusetts and across the country have been spending increasing amounts of time, money and energy on high-stakes use of tests and other assessments in which student performance on standardized assessments is used to make major decisions affecting individual students, educators, schools and districts; and

WHEREAS, the overreliance on high-stakes assessment in state and federal accountability systems is undermining educational quality and equity in U.S. public schools by hampering educators' efforts to focus on the broad range of learning experiences that promote the innovation, creativity, problem-solving, collaboration, communication, critical thinking and deep subject matter knowledge that will allow students to thrive in a democracy and an increasingly global society; and

WHEREAS, it is widely recognized that standardized testing or other standardized assessment is an inadequate and often unreliable measure of both student learning and educator effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, the overemphasis on standardized testing has caused considerable collateral damage in too many schools, including narrowing the curriculum, teaching to the test, reducing a love of learning, pushing students out of school, driving excellent teachers out of the profession, and undermining school climate; and

WHEREAS, high-stakes standardized testing has negative effects on students from all backgrounds, and especially for low-income students, English language learners, children of color, and those with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Brookline supports locally developed, authentic assessments written by educators or tailored by them to meet the needs of individual students, and more time for educators to teach and students to learn;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Brookline calls on state and federal officials to immediately adopt a moratorium on all high-stakes use of standardized tests so that educators, parents and other members of our communities can work together to develop assessment systems that support positive teaching practices and better prepare students for lifelong learning; House Bill 340, before the Massachusetts General Court, would impose such a moratorium on high-stakes use of standardized tests in Massachusetts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Brookline expresses its support for a moratorium as stated by transmitting a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, US Secretary of Education, Massachusetts Congressional delegation, Governor of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Secretary of Education, members of the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, President of the Massachusetts Senate, Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, members of the Joint Committee on Education and the Brookline delegation to the Massachusetts General Court.

4. A Resolution concerning Natural Gas Pipelines.(Petition of Craig Bolon)

WHEREAS, the Northeast Direct pipeline proposal from Tennessee Gas Pipeline, a division of Kinder Morgan, presents unacceptable financial and environmental risks to Massachusetts, and

WHEREAS, the Access Northeast pipeline proposal from Algonquin Gas Pipeline, a division of Spectra Energy, presents unacceptable financial and environmental risks to Massachusetts, and

WHEREAS, investments in the Access Northeast project proposed by Eversource and National Grid encounter gross conflicts of interest and present unacceptable demands on Massachusetts utility customers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Town of Brookline calls on federal and Massachusetts agencies to deny permits for the Northeast Direct natural gas pipeline proposal and the Access Northeast natural gas pipeline proposal and calls on federal and Massachusetts agencies to reject investments in the Access Northeast project proposed by Eversource and National Grid and to deny their consideration for setting electricity rates, and

The Brookline town meeting asks the Brookline town administration to send copies of this resolution with the explanation of the article and federal docket numbers as available to Governor Charles Baker, to Attorney General Maura Healey, to Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Matthew Beaton, to Commissioners of Public Utilities Angela O'Connor, Jollette Westbrook and Robert Hayden, to Secretary of the Department of Public Utilities Mark Marini, to Energy Facilities Siting Board Director Andrew Greene, to state Senator Cynthia Creem, to state Representatives Edward Coppinger, Michael Moran, Jeffrey Sanchez and Frank Smizik, to President Barack Obama, to Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, to Federal Energy Regulatory Commissioners Norman Bay, Tony Clark, Colette Honorable, Cheryl LaFleur and Philip Moeller, to Secretary of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Kimberly Bose, to U.S. Senators Edward Markey and Elizabeth Warren and to U.S. Representative Joseph Kennedy, III.

5. A Resolution on increasing diversity in the Town's workforce. (Petition of MK Merelice, TMM6 and Ruthann Sneider, TMM6)

WHEREAS, the town is working to provide an environment that welcomes, develops, and retains workers with rich, diverse backgrounds, notably Blacks, Latinos, Asians, and other people of color;

WHEREAS, among town residents, there is growing scrutiny by and interest in the town's progress toward having and hiring a more diverse workforce, notably Blacks, Latinos, Asians, and other people of color in management/supervisory level positions;

WHEREAS, evidence shows that diversity in the workforce contributes to better solutions to problems and more creative approaches to procedures and issues;

WHEREAS, the Diversity, Inclusion, and Human Relations Commission has been tasked with studying the town's employment practices as they relate to achieving and maintaining diversity in the workforce;

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department is proceeding to revise its blueprint for increasing diversity in the town's workforce;

WHEREAS, the town is working to provide meaningful and clear historical data about the level of diversity in its workplace;

WHEREAS, there are case studies about business and public practices that indicate what steps are most successful toward developing diversity in the workplace;

WHEREAS, the town is not an isolated island within a larger, more diverse region that has an impact on the town's future well-being;

WHEREAS, the Brookline Community Foundation reports that 23% of town residents are Black, Latino, Asian, and other people of color;

WHEREAS, defining a goal is an essential step in developing a program and helps us keep our "Eyes on the Prize";
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Town of Brookline is committed to achieving the goal of having all school and town departments at all grade levels reflect the 23% of Brookline residents who are Black, Latino, Asian, and other people of color (as reported by the Brookline Community Foundation's study);

RESOLVED: that the Town of Brookline will continue to improve annual data reports so that detailed and accurate reports enable us to determine and evaluate steady and significant progress toward this goal.

Resolution In Support of Changes to The Affordable Housing Law, Mass G.L. c.40B

6. A Resolution in Support of Changes to the Affordable Housing Law, Mass G.L.c. 40B. (Petition of Nancy Heller)

WHEREAS, the Affordable Housing Law, Mass G.L. c. 40B, was enacted in 1969 by the legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to address the shortage of affordable housing statewide by reducing barriers created by local municipal building permit approval processes, local zoning, and other restrictions with the stated goal to encourage the production of affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, the stated goal of the Affordable Housing Law is laudable and many seniors and those of reduced means will benefit in many areas of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Brookline now has a population of more than 59,000 and has a high residential density; and

WHEREAS, the result of the application of Mass G.L. c. 40B in Brookline is to increase residential density even more at a time when public schools and municipal services are already stretched beyond capacity; and

WHEREAS, the further effect of the application of Mass G.L. c. 40B in Brookline is to reduce precious green and/or open space in a community that has set as a goal the increase of such space; and

WHEREAS, developers of residential housing are not currently obligated to use environmentally friendly building practices or materials, while our Town values the use of environmentally friendly building practices or materials in efforts to ameliorate the threat of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Brookline has, independent of Mass G.L. c. 40B, taken significant and meaningful steps to increase affordable housing in the town and has plans in place to continue to promote such housing;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Town Meeting urges the Town's state representatives and state senator to propose and vote in favor of an amendment to Mass G.L. c. 40B, authorizing local elected officials, in communities that have taken steps to promote affordable housing at a local level, to make binding recommendations regarding density, required parking, effect on green and open spaces, and other project characteristics (including but not limited to requirements for affordable housing for seniors, for environmentally efficient building materials and practices, and for preservation of historic structures) in order to protect existing neighborhoods and businesses from negative impacts on infrastructure and public services, to the local board of appeals when such board of appeals is deciding whether to approve an application for a comprehensive permit to build affordable housing in that locality under Mass. G.L. c 40B, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen/Town Clerk shall convey this Resolution Article to the Town's state representatives and state senator within two weeks of its adoption.

7. A Resolution requesting the Board of Selectmen to study and consider use of Eminent Domain for two green space buffer zones along Russett and Beverly Road. (Petition of Regina Frawley)

WHEREAS, Precinct 16 lacks **any** publicly-accessible Open Space for active recreation within its boundaries, outside of the Baker School which is reserved for school use, and not publicly-accessible when in use by Baker School, and,

WHEREAS, Residents of both Russett Road and Beverly Road were promised by the original owners of Hancock Village that these “buffer zones” zoned as S-7, would be perpetually “green” and undeveloped, and thus most purchased homes with that specific consideration, and,

WHEREAS, **no other** Open Space within the precinct can be used for publicly accessible recreational purposes and playground, including the Walnut Hill Cemetery (inappropriate use for recreation), conservation land Hoar Sanctuary, the small open land at Putterham Library (too small for varied typical recreational use) and the Putterham Circle rotary which is unsafe to access, although publicly accessible open space, are not deemed suitable for recreational purposes involving playgrounds or equipment, and,

WHEREAS, these open spaces are deemed by the Town for “passive” use only, rather than “active” and/or are otherwise restricted for conservation purposes, for example, and,

WHEREAS, The Open Space “**walkability**” as a valuable function of accessing active recreational space, the Town acknowledges that Precinct 16 appears to be the **only precinct without walkability** to such space within its boundaries, or even within any reasonable or safe walking distance, the nearest space being approximately 1½ miles from the majority of its precinct residents, and regarded as dangerous to access by foot as it crosses major vehicular arteries in all directions, and,

WHEREAS, **no other property is available for this active use anywhere in Precinct 16, or will ever be again if this property is not preserved as publicly-accessible recreational Open Space**, and thus Precinct 16 will never again have any opportunity to expect such recreational space without restriction, and,

WHEREAS, it is historically used as publicly-accessible Open Space including cross-country skiing this winter, and,

WHEREAS, in the interests of **equity and fairness**, two principles highly valued by Brookline, to Precinct 16 residents who cannot enjoy reasonable, safe, walkable access to active recreational space as other precincts can and do, and,

WHEREAS, there are indications that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts may assist in the costs of acquisition, if the Town supports the taking, and which possibility should be actively pursued through South Brookline’s State Representative, among others,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Town Meeting asks the Board of Selectmen to study, and consider in good faith the taking under the powers of Eminent Domain the two buffer zones presently zoned S-7 within the Hancock Village property, abutting Russett and Beverly Roads for a permanently publicly-accessible active recreational space, and report its findings and recommendations and any possible decision at least two weeks prior to the filing deadline for November 2015 Town Meeting, so as to allow time for a citizen Warrant Article to be filed. Be it further resolved, that the Selectmen will consult with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for possible funding sources.

8. A Resolution opposing Boston 2024’s Olympic bid as a Misguided Civic Priority (Petition of Lee Biernbaum)

WHEREAS: the Town of Brookline, surrounded on three sides and about 85% of its borders by Boston, was never consulted about hosting the 2024 Olympics before Boston2024’s private bid was placed, proposing at least two events within our town;

WHEREAS: the International Olympic Committee’s standard contract language requires host governments to provide a financial guarantee for the Games, regardless of overruns; the Olympics have overrun their initial projected costs in every Olympics from 1960 to 2012, and in any event, the now-projected \$9.1 billion cost should be invested far more productively in our Commonwealth’s pressing needs, e.g. education, healthcare, affordable housing, public safety, transportation, etc.; and, besides, preparations for the Olympics will distract public and political attention away from addressing those needs;

WHEREAS: civic and business leaders' Olympics generosity so far is commendable; but local charities worry about diversion of donations away from their causes; instead, those contributions should more reasonably go -- on an ongoing basis -- to either charities or state and local governments for sorely tax-underfunded services;

WHEREAS: multiple academic studies show the Olympics and other mega-events do not lead to long-term economic benefits for host communities;

WHEREAS: Boston 2024's plan does not include any public transit improvements not already planned for by the Commonwealth and would do nothing to fix a system desperately in need of attention and funding;

WHEREAS: Olympics security requirements put onerous burdens on local residents, and in prior Olympics included measures like anti-aircraft missiles on roofs of apartment buildings; and

WHEREAS: the Olympics' proposed marathon route through Brookline will likely result in a security cordon cutting residents off from jobs, schools, recreation, etc.; and the overall impact of the Olympics on us would be immeasurable, causing Town Administrator Mel Kleckner to reply when asked by a reporter what would be affected in Brookline if Boston won the bid, "Everything"-- such as traffic, public safety, and housing -- [and] "It's not possible to envision an Olympics without a regional impact."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Brookline's (representative) Town Meeting opposes Boston2024's Olympics bid; and
2. Urges our town wide elected officials, state representatives, and state senator to actively do so.

**SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY TOWN MEETING
REQUIRING ACTION BY THE SELECTMEN OR DEPARTMENTS**

TOWN MTG.	ART #	RESOLUTION SUMMARY	ACTIONS TAKEN
May '01 Annual	20	Calls on the Great and General Court to support statewide legislation banning the use of cellular telephones while operating a motor vehicle.	The Resolution was sent to the Court, Governor, Attorney General, Executive Office of Public Safety, Boards of Selectmen, and Mayors.
May '01 Annual	23	Supports the abolition of the death penalty and the passage of the Innocence Protection Act.	The Resolution was sent to death penalty abolition leaders, the Governor, the Town's legislative delegation, and President of the U.S.
Nov. '01 Special	16	Calls on the General Court to adopt legislation requiring all school buses to be fitted with three-point lap and shoulder restraints by July, 2003. Also, calls upon the Town's representatives in such matters to research and arrange compliance.	Copies of the Resolution were sent to each member of Brookline's legislative delegation asking that it be brought to the attention of the Ways and Means Committee and other appropriate legislative bodies and officials.
May '02 Annual	13	Calls on the Town's Zoning By-Law Commission to conduct an investigation into "Mansionization".	Referred to the Zoning By-Law Commission for Review.
Nov. '02 Special	1	Supports the opposition of any U.S. attack on Iraq and requests that the Board of Selectmen transmit this resolution to our congressional delegation.	Copies of the resolution were sent to the Town's legislative delegation and Federal representatives.
May '03 Annual	17	Seeks the revocation and elimination of provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act, the Homeland Security Act, and other Executive Orders that are deemed to diminish civil liberties.	Resolution was posted in public places and sent to the Norfolk County D.A., State Police, Town's legislative delegation, State Attorney General, Governor, local U.S. Attorney, the U.S. Attorney General, and President of the U.S.
May '05 Annual	25	Calls for children's welfare organizations to be informed and for Town groups to explore raising awareness about corporal punishment of children.	The resolution was widely publicized.
Nov. '05 Special	29	Supports the construction and implementation of a plan to withdraw troops from Iraq.	Copies of the resolution were sent to the Town's legislative delegation and Federal representatives.
May '06 Annual	30	Supports the improvement of the Gateway East Area.	The Town continues to support the Village Square Project (formerly called Gateway East). Design plans have been submitted to the state, and construction is planned for approximately 2016.
Nov. '06 Special	26	Reaffirms the Town's commitment as a Sanctuary Town, endorses the platform of the Keep Our Families Together Campaign, calls upon the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to issue a moratorium on immigration raids until Congress comes to an agreement on comprehensive immigration reform and urges the U.S. Senate to defeat HR 4437 and urges the President to veto any such legislation.	A copy of this resolution was sent to the Massachusetts Congressional delegation and to the President of the U.S.
Nov. '06 Special	28	Urges that at least 50% of Town committee meetings should be held in the evening.	Notification of the resolution was sent to all Boards and Commissions.
Nov. '07 Special	22	Urges support for Support Tax Exemptions and Incentives Legislation for Certain Property Owners Using Wind and Solar Power.	Copies of the Resolution were sent to each member of Brookline's legislative delegation.
Nov. '07 Special	23	Support Statewide Legislation to Encourage the Purchase of Fuel-Efficient Vehicles.	Representative Frank Smizik filed legislation at the state level.
May '08 Annual	30	Urges the Town and the unions to proceed with good faith negotiations for joining the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) and resolve further that future consideration of appropriations for labor agreements take into account the status of efforts to opt into the GIC.	The Town and the union Public Employee Committee reached an agreement to switch to the state Group Insurance Commission effective July 1, 2010.

TOWN MTG.	ART #	RESOLUTION SUMMARY	ACTIONS TAKEN
May '08 Annual	32	Calls on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Federal Government, and Governments of the World to cap greenhouse gas emissions and reduce emissions by 20% by 2020 and 80% by 2050.	The resolution was widely publicized.
Nov. '08 Special	12	Resolution Seeking the Use of Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Products	The Town and School Departments continue to purchase only Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Products for use in Town and School Buildings. These products are purchased from companies under MA State contracts for such products, and are continually reviewed for both usage and cost effectiveness.
Nov. '08 Special	27	Urges the Selectmen to establish a unified snow removal enforcement/warning program, establish and maintain a credible, well-publicized, fair, and readily available program, to help residents who cannot clear their own abutting sidewalks; and review at a public hearing each November the various departments' plans for public education, enforcement, and assistance for residents who need help.	The Department of Public Works (DPW) continues to provide public education and enforcement of Town Bylaw Article 7.7, "Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks." In November, the Public Works Informational Guide is mailed to every household throughout the Town to provide notification regarding the provisions of the Bylaw and the enforcement penalties. Information is also provided for the Town's "Shovel Our Snow" program that offers residents the ability to hire students to help clear the snow from their sidewalk.
Nov. '08 Special	28	Recognizes the efforts of the Parks Department and the Conservation Commission to control invasive species on public property and encourages the Town to continue to provide information to the public on invasive species and how to control those species on private property.	The Parks and Open Space Division's website includes an overview of invasive plants and a Plant Management Guide which will be updated with descriptions of several additional plant species. The Division also has a comprehensive management program for invasive and nuisance plants on Town-owned lands and all other open spaces.
May '09 Annual	16	Encourages food service establishments to provide when feasible calorie and other general nutritional information to consumers at point of sale.	The resolution was widely publicized.
May '09 Annual	23	Urges the Board of Selectmen to revise its citizen complaint procedures so that at least three selectmen must vote to grant a full appeal hearing for complaints of all classes and to reconsider three measures reviewed but not recommended by the Citizen Complaint Review Committee.	Effective July 28, 2009, the Board of Selectmen and Chief of Police adopted a revised complaint review and disciplinary procedure which included many of the recommendations urged in the Town Meeting resolution.
May '09 Annual	25	Urges the Board of Selectmen to immediately terminate the trial period and order the removal of the general police surveillance cameras funded by the Department of Homeland Security.	The Chief of Police offered a compromise plan, closing the cameras except for the hours of 10 PM to 6 AM, the time period of highest crime and minimal impact on citizens; the Selectman voted to adopt the compromise plan. This plan is in effect as of January 25, 2010.
May '09 Annual	27	Urges the Legislature to enact legislation that will lead to implementation of Massachusetts as a single payer health care program.	Through this resolution the Town expressed its support for the Massachusetts Health Care Trust Bill HB 2127.

TOWN MTG.	ART #	RESOLUTION SUMMARY	ACTIONS TAKEN
May '09 Annual	28	Recognizes the tenth anniversary of the Brookline-Xi'an China Exchange Program.	Through this resolution, the Town of Brookline acknowledged the valued friendship between the people of Xi'an and the people of Brookline.
Nov. '09 Special	5	Asks the Board of Selectmen and other Town officials to work diligently with appropriate State officials in order that the reconstruction of the Carlton Street Footbridge includes suitable handicap-accessible features.	The Carlton Street Footbridge Rehabilitation project is formally included on the Commonwealth's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for project funding starting in Federal Fiscal Year 2016.
Nov. '09 Special	15	Encourages the Town to gradually increase the Selectmen's stipend and encourages the Advisory Committee to review the stipends and make recommendations for adjustments.	The Selectmen's stipends for FY16 reflect the FY11 increase voted on at the May, 2010 Annual Town Meeting.
Nov. '09 Special	16	Urges the Advisory Committee and Board of Selectmen to give serious consideration to the other funding and cost containment recommendations of the OPEB Task Force for managing and controlling the Town's retiree health care costs.	The FY16 Financial Plan increased funding from the General Fund to \$3.2M and includes \$281K from assessments of grants and special revenue funds.
Nov. '09 Special	17	Calls on the U. S. Conference of Mayors and President of the United States to commence negotiations for a verifiable treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons, and calls on the Selectman to send a message of support for these negotiations to the President of the United States, and to our members of Congress.	Through this resolution the Town expressed support for the work of President Obama and the over 3,000 mayors worldwide who have committed their cities to the effort to abolish nuclear weapons.
May '10 Annual	17	Urges the Selectmen to establish an annual town-wide commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and to report annually on progress toward realizing the vision of Dr. King.	The MLK Celebration Committee planned another successful event. The Human Resources Director presented the third annual Diversity report to the Board in April 2013.
May '10 Annual	18	Urges the Selectmen to establish a committee tasked to examine the suitability of a bicycle sharing program for Brookline.	The summer of 2014 was Brookline's third year as a member of the Hubway regional bike system.
May '10 Annual	19	Encourages the consideration of birds when designing building projects and when lighting buildings at night.	The Parks and Open Space Division web site contains links to resources promoting bird-safe building designs in support of this Resolution.
Nov. '10 Special	19	Intended to poll Town meeting on their preference for the current Town Meeting schedule or to hold Town Meeting on two non-consecutive evenings per week.	The schedule for the May, 2011 Town Meeting was determined when the Moderator took a motion to adjourn on the first night.
Nov. '10 Special	20	Asks the Transportation Board to adopt standards regarding a right turn on red and report their progress to Town Meeting as expeditiously as possible.	The Transportation Board has completed a review of all known "no turn on red" restrictions under town jurisdiction. Reports and a summary of action table are available in the No Turn On Red folder in the Transportation files located at www.brooklinema.gov/transportation . Work orders for all approved sign removals and installations are being processed by the DPW.
Nov. '10 Special	21	Requests the suspension of the sale and/or serving of veal products to the public within the Town of Brookline.	The resolution was widely publicized.
May '11 Annual	18	Urges the Town to honor Governor and Mrs. Dukakis with recognition appropriate to their accomplishments and urges the Selectmen to appoint a committee to make a recommendation to be brought to the 2012 Annual Town Meeting.	The Dukakis Recognition Committee submitted a report with their recommendations to the November, 2012 Special Town Meeting.

TOWN MTG.	ART #	RESOLUTION SUMMARY	ACTIONS TAKEN
May '11 Annual	19	Urges the Transportation Board to assess and evaluate its current Traffic Calming Policy and Procedures	At their July, 2012 meeting the Transportation Board adopted a new Traffic Calming Policy & Procedures.
May '11 Annual	21	Urges the Selectmen to coordinate with other Norfolk County communities to seek a remedy to the inequities in the current county structure, petition the delegation to study the issue and report on progress before September 15, 2011.	The Interim Report on the Norfolk County was discussed and accepted by the Board in September, 2011. The County Commissioners have proposed legislation which would change the way the county is funded. The Board continues to discuss this issue with the County Manager, State Representatives and various other municipal and county officials.
Nov. '11 Special	14	Urges the Town to modify, relocate or retrofit the new multi-space meters.	The Town Administrator formed a Parking Meter Task Force that was charged with evaluating the new multi-space meters installed in various commercial areas of the Town. A series of changes have been made to improve the system, including the replacement of the curbside multi-space meters with single-space meters that accept credit cards. In addition, the multi-space meters remain in the parking lots but were converted to a "pay by space", thereby eliminating the need to return to your vehicle to place the receipt on the dashboard.
Nov. '11 Special	15	Urges the Health Department and Park and Recreation Commission to continue the coordination and monitoring of use of playgrounds by day care centers to address any systemic problems that are observed.	Town agencies are formally monitoring park use this spring and summer and will report results back to the Park and Rec Commission.
Nov. '11 Special	16	Intended to poll Town meeting on their preference for the current Town Meeting schedule or to hold Town Meeting on two non-consecutive evenings per week for the Annual Town Meeting schedule only.	The schedule for the May, 2015 Annual Town Meeting calls for two non-consecutive evening meetings (Tuesday / Thursday).
May '12 Annual	27	Acknowledges with profound regret the enslavement of Native-Americans and African-Americans and the exploitation of slave labor by this Town, within this Town, and amongst the citizens of this Town.	The Town Clerk distributed copies of this resolution to the public libraries and schools in Town and posted this resolution on the Town's website.
May '12 Annual	28	Requests the Board to direct the Town Administrator to create a Task Force on Clean Construction examining the desirability and possibility of the Town enacting clean construction and compliance standards. Asks the Committee to submit a report to the 2013 Annual Town Meeting.	The Task Force submitted a report with their recommendations to the May, 2013 Annual Town Meeting.
May '12 Annual	29	Calls for the United States Congress to pass a constitutional amendment to overturn the United States Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission	The Town Clerk sent copies of the resolution to the President of the United States, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Brookline's congressional and state legislative delegations, The Boston Globe and the TAB.
Nov. '12 Special	7	Asks the Town to support the concept of state-wide pre-foreclosure mortgage mediation under appropriate circumstances.	Through this resolution the Town expressed support for state-wide pre-foreclosure mortgage mediation.

TOWN MTG.	ART #	RESOLUTION SUMMARY	ACTIONS TAKEN
Nov. '12 Special	15	Asks the Selectmen to work with the Building Commission to establish a committee, the purpose of which is to study the potential costs and benefits, including non-financial costs, of making Town-owned roofs "solar-ready"	The Solar Roof Study Committee presented a Solar PV Check List which was adopted by both the Building Commission and Board of Selectmen to be used to assure that all potentially relevant capital projects include a solar assessment as part of their design process.
Nov. '12 Special	16	Calls on our US Senators and Representatives to oppose further funding of the war in Afghanistan except as needed to bring our troops safely home, reduce overall military spending and support federal funding for Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans.	Copies of the resolution were sent to the President, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of State, Governor Patrick, all U.S. senators and representatives from Massachusetts, and the Brookline TAB and major Boston-area newspapers, television stations and radio stations.
May '13 Annual	22	Asks the that funds be included in the FY 15 budget that would support a professional engineering study of the costs and benefits of upgrading Town-owned traffic signals, controllers, and associated equipment along Beacon St. (the C line) to allow for the prioritization of MBTA trolleys.	Funding for a consultant to study Transit Signal Prioritization was included in the proposed FY2015-FY2020 CIP and is currently under review by the Advisory Committee.
May '13 Annual	23	Asks Town Meeting to adopt a resolution in opposition to transportation fueled by high impact fuels such as those from refineries using feed stocks from Canadian Tar Sands.	A copy of this resolution was sent to the President of the United States, US Secretary of Energy, Massachusetts State Congressional delegation, Governors of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont, CEO of Portland Pipeline Corporation, CEO of Montreal Pipeline Limited, CEO of Enbridge Incorporated, Prime Minister of Canada, and the Provincial Premiers of Canada.
Nov. '13 Special	16	Calls for the Board of Selectmen to make appointments to the Human Relations-Youth Resources Commission (HR/YRC).	The Selectmen made appointments in January, 2014 and the May, 2014 Annual Town Meeting warrant includes a proposed reorganization of the Commission.
Nov. '13 Special	17	Opposes unilateral United States intervention in the Syrian conflict.	A copy of the resolution was sent to President Obama and to Brookline's congressional delegation.
Nov. '13 Special	18	Urges the Board of Selectmen not to increase beyond current levels the hours of operation of the general police surveillance cameras funded by the Department of Homeland Security.	The hours set in the Board of Selectmen's vote from January, 2010 remain in effect.
May '14 Annual	27	Asks the Board of Selectmen to honor the memory of deceased veterans who were residents of Brookline	The Director of Veterans Services set up the honor flag program. The first ceremony honoring deceased veteran William McCarthy will be held on April 6, 2015. There is a second request to honor a WWII Battle of the Bulge veteran.
May '14 Annual	28	Calls for the deployment of enforcement officers in business districts beginning in the fourth daylight hour after snowfalls to enforce the Town's snow removal by-law. The specific portion of that by-law is Section 7.7.1, which requires owners of commercial property make sidewalks non-slippery suitable for pedestrian travel within the first three hours between sunrise and sunset after the snow and ice has come upon such sidewalk.	The Town Administrator assembled a taskforce to analyze and resolve some of the important issues of keeping sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Due to their diligence, the taskforce was able to propose several changes to the Bylaw that would increase penalties, provide for the posting and notification of each compliance period, and allow for delays in enforcement due to extreme circumstances.

TOWN MTG.	ART #	RESOLUTION SUMMARY	ACTIONS TAKEN
May '14 Annual	30	Raises the issue of obstetric fistula, a medical condition that occurs from a prolonged obstructed labor where the baby gets stuck in the birth canal, compressing the tissue so no blood gets to it, causing it to die.	Town Clerk submitted this resolution to Congressmen Keating and Kennedy and Senators Edward Markey and Elizabeth Warren.
May '14 Annual	31	Calls on the Town to affirm its support for the prohibition of discrimination or harassment on the basis of gender identity and gender expression in employment, housing, public accommodations, credit and lending, and public education.	The general By-laws were amended to reflect the goal of the Resolution an offered at the 2014 Special Town Meeting.
May '14 Annual	32	Asks the Town to urge the Massachusetts Legislature to enact Senate Bill (SB) 1225, An Act Relative to Public Investment in Fossil Fuels, or a successor bill with substantially the same content. SB1225 would require the Commonwealth's Pension Reserves Investment Management (PRIM) Board to fully divest its direct holdings in fossil fuel companies over a five-year period.	The Town has divested for fossil fuels of all Town scholarship and special revenue funds.
Nov '14 Special	16	Recommends that the transportation board and any other boards or committees reconsider changes to the taxi license regulations and the expected revenue for the Town from the sale of medallions.	The Transportation Board is considering new regulations to improve the closed license system that currently exists.
Nov '14 Special	17	Relates to the Town's project to convert all street lighting to LEDs in order to lower costs and to decrease the carbon footprint of the Town	The Engineering Division continues to move forward with its LED lighting replacement program.
Nov '14 Special	18	Seeks support for the Massachusetts Domestic Worker's Bill of Rights that was enacted this past summer.	Through this Resolution the Town expressed support of the Massachusetts Domestic Worker's Bill of Rights.
Nov '14 Special	19	Calls for the Town to oppose the Northeast Energy Direct Project of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline and all similar projects that may be later proposed. It also asks for an affirmation that there is a need for public policy at the local, state and federal levels to encourage renewable energy and combat climate change and to support legislation to ban or impose a long-term moratorium on hydraulic fracturing.	The Town Clerk sent a copy of this resolution to the Town's state and federal legislative representatives, the Governor, Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The issue is being debated.
May '15 Annual	17	Urges the Selectmen to Support Changes to the Affordable Housing Law Mass G.L. c. 40B.	The Town's Housing Production Plan is now underway.
May '15 Annual	18	Request the Board of Selectmen study and consider use of Eminent Domain for two green space buffer zones along Russett and Beverly Road	The Selectmen formed a Committee and submitted a report to the Fall Town Meeting.
May '15 Annual	19	Urges town-wide elected officials, state representatives and state senator to actively oppose Boston 2024's Olympics bid.	Town Clerk notified elected officials of this Resolution.

Nov '15 Special	14	Selectmen to increase the Use of Electricity from Renewable Sources of Energy Using a Community Choice Aggregation Plan	Town is working to regulate power through procurement with Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (MAPC) with a completion date of January 2017.
Nov '15 Special	15	Concerns the exercise of Eminent Domain in Hancock Village.	The Selectmen formed a Committee and reported to the Fall Town Meeting.
Nov '15 Special	16	Urges that Brookline to express its support for a moratorium on all high-stakes use of standardized test and call on state and federal officials to immediately adopt said moratorium	The Town Clerk sent a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Massachusetts Congressional Delegation, Governor, Secretary of Education, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives members of the Joint Committee on education and the Brookline delegation to the General Court.
Nov '15 Special	17	Urges the Town of Brookline to call on federal and Massachusetts agencies to deny permits for the Northeast Direct natural gas pipeline proposal and the Access Northeast natural gas pipeline proposal and call on federal and Massachusetts agencies to reject investment in the Access Northeast project proposed by Eversource and National Grid and to deny their consideration for setting electricity rates.	The Board of Selectmen sent a copy of the Resolution with the explanation of the Article and Federal Docket numbers to Governor Baker, Attorney General Healy Secretary of the Energy and Environmental Affairs Matthew Beacon, Commissioners of Public Utilities, Secretary of the Department of Public Utilities, Energy Facilities Board of Director Andrew Greene, Senator Cynthia Creem; the Brookline delegation to the General Court; President Obama; Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, to Federal Energy Regulatory Commissioners; and the Brookline Congressional delegation.
Nov '15 Special	18	Urges the Town to commit to achieving the goal of having all school and town departments at all grade levels reflect the 23% of Brookline residents who are Black, Latino, Asian and other people of color.	Following the passage of the resolution in November 2015, the Diversity Inclusion and Community Relations Commission (DICRC) has been working in collaboration with the Office of Diversity Inclusion, Community Relations Office Human Resources to provide better analytics for employee and applicant demographics and to consider ways to work with the Town and School departments to reflect the our Brookline residents who are Black, Latino, Asian and other people of color.

General Government

Town Clerk
Patrick Joseph Ward

On Tuesday, May 5, 2015, the Annual Town Election was held. Polling Places were open from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. A total of 10,473 of the 35,118 eligible registered voters in the Town, or 29.82%, participated in the Annual Town Election.

On Tuesday, May 26, 2015, at 7:00 P.M., Town Meeting Members convened for the Annual Town Meeting, held at Brookline High School's Roberts-Dubbs Auditorium, and dissolved it on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 11:19 P.M. in order to complete the business of the twenty article Warrant. Significant actions taken at the Annual Meeting included the approval of the FY2016 budget with total appropriated expenditures of \$231,696,246 for the Town of Brookline, including, but not limited to, the following special appropriations:

- \$270,000 for the enhancement of Town-wide hardware and software;
- \$200,000 for data room upgrades;
- 25,000 for town furniture upgrades;
- \$125,000 for the maintenance of Town garage floors;
- \$75,000 for a strategic asset plan focusing on public facilities;
- \$100,000 for the development of a conceptual study for the Centre Street East Parking Lot and surrounding area;
- \$75,000 for the public safety computer aided dispatch (CAD) system;
- \$300,000 for the rehabilitation of Fire department apparatus;
- \$31,000 for traffic calming studies and improvements;
- \$105,000 for bicycle access improvements;
- \$1,590,000 for the rehabilitation of streets;
- \$297,000 for the rehabilitation of sidewalks;
- \$220,000 for the conversion of Town-owned streetlights to LED's;
- \$650,000 for renovations to the Municipal Service Center (MSC);
- \$890,000 for the renovation of Brookline Avenue Playground;
- \$40,000 for the design of the renovation of Corey Hill Playground;
- \$60,000 for the design of the renovation of Emerson Garden Playground;
- \$250,000 for the restoration of the Brookline Reservoir Gatehouse Roof;
- \$230,000 for the rehabilitation of tennis courts and basketball courts;
- \$300,000 for the renovation of playground equipment, fields and fencing;
- \$90,000 for the rehabilitation of Town and School Grounds;
- \$225,000 for the removal and placement of trees;
- \$50,000 for the rehabilitation of the roadways within Walnut Hills Cemetery;
- \$675,000 for pool repointing and locker room renovations at the Evelyn Kirrane Aquatics Center;
- \$70,000 for school furniture upgrades;
- \$80,000 for costs associated with mobile carts in the Brookline Public Schools;
- \$70,000 for ADA renovations to Town and School Buildings;
- \$275,000 for improvements to elevators in Town and School facilities;
- \$165,000 for energy conservation projects in Town and School buildings;
- \$185,000 for upgrades to energy management systems in Town and School facilities;
- \$195,000 for improvements to life safety systems and building security in Town and School facilities;
- \$2,250,000 for the expansion of classroom capacity in various schools;
- \$980,000 for the renovation of Pierce Playground;
- \$3,000,000 for wastewater system improvements;
- \$1,000,000 for golf course improvements;
- \$1,550,000 for building envelope/fenestration repairs to Town and School buildings;

- \$1,200,000 for roof repairs and replacements in Town and School facilities;
- \$1,000,000 for remodeling, reconstructing, or making extraordinary repairs to the Old Lincoln School; and
- \$118,400,000 for the renovation of and the construction of additions to the Edward Devotion School.

Other actions taken at the Annual Meeting included:

- established that the number of Measurers of Wood and Bark be two and to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen;
- authorized the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to enter into Compensating Balance Agreements for FY2016;
- reduced and rescinded the remaining \$10,442 Bond Authorization for improvements to the John D. Runkle School, authorized under Item #58 of Section 3 of Article 4 of the 2009 Special Town Meeting;
- reduced and rescinded the remaining \$388,366 Bond Authorization for improvements to the Heath School, authorized under Item #68 of Section 13 of Article 9 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting;
- established an additional property tax exemption for FY2016;
- appropriated an additional \$1,100,000 for the DPW's Snow and Ice Budget;
- exempted certain temporary and Recreation Department employees from the provisions of the Living Wage By-law;
- established a Crowninshield Local Historic District;
- increased the enforcement and penalty provisions for the Removal of Snow and ice from Sidewalks By-law;
- adopted a Drinking Water Access By-law, requiring indoor common victualler licensees to offer Town tap water to customers;
- adopted a Bottled Water By-law, prohibiting the sale or distribution of bottled water on Town property and the purchase of bottled water with Town funds;
- amended the Zoning Map by extending the Renewable Energy Overlay District (SOL);
- authorization to lease a certain portion of the Town-owned Transfer Station Site for a term of not more than thirty years for the purpose of hosting ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations;
- resolved that the Board of Selectmen to study and consider use of Eminent Domain for two green space buffer zones along Russett and Beverly Roads;
- resolved that Brookline Town Meeting opposes Boston 2024's Olympic bid;

At the Annual Town Meeting Moderator Edward N. Gadsby, Jr. asked for a moment of silence while Town Clerk Patrick Joseph Ward read the last roll call for Town Meeting Members who had died since the previous Annual Meeting:

HONOR ROLL

Anthony Andreadis
2005 - 2013

Constance Austin
1980 - 2000

Carol Gelb
1976 – 1969; 1981 - 1984

Maria Rosenthal
1988 - 1990

Samuel Parkman Shaw
1997 - 2005

~Requiescat in Pace~

On Tuesday, November 17, 2015, at 7:06 P.M., Town Meeting Members convened for a Special Town Meeting held at Brookline High School's Roberts-Dubbs Auditorium. The Special Meeting was dissolved on Wednesday, November 19, 2015 at 10:06 P.M. in order to complete the business of the nineteen-article Warrant. Significant actions taken at the Special Meeting included:

- amended the FY2016 budget;
- increased the amount of the Senior Work-off Exemption for eligible taxpayers for FY2016;
- accepted clause Fifth C of MGL, Chapter 59, section 5, to increase the property tax exemption applicable to the VFW/American legion property located at 386 Washington Street;
- adopted a Mandatory Educational Training for Town Meeting Members By-law;
- amended the Public Works Department By-law, requiring a Public Hearing for the annual review of the Water and Sewer Rates;
- amended the Leaf Blower By-law, allowing the Commissioner of Public Works to temporarily waive the limitations on the use of leaf blowers;
- authorized the Board of Selectmen to commence a Community Choice Electrical Aggregation Program and contract for electric supply for Brookline residents and businesses;
- resolved that the Board of Selectmen initiate a process to develop a Community Choice Electrical Aggregation Program with specific minimum requirements;
- resolved that the Town Moderator and the Advisory Committee appoint a Good Faith Blue Ribbon Committee to study, consider and make recommendations concerning the use of Eminent Domain for two green space buffer belts along Russett and Beverly Roads;
- resolved that the Town of Brookline calls on state and federal officials to immediately adopt a three-year moratorium on all high-stakes use of standardized tests;
- resolved that the Town of Brookline call on federal and state agencies to deny permits for the Northeast Direct natural gas pipeline proposal and the Access Northeast natural gas pipeline proposal and call on federal and state agencies reject investments in the Access Northeast project proposed by Eversource and National Grid and to deny their consideration for setting electricity rates; and
- resolved that the Town of Brookline is committed to seeking a diverse pool of available workers as it moves toward the goal of having all Town Departments, at all employment grade levels, reasonably reflect the racial diversity of Metro Boston.

The Office of the Town Clerk recorded 600 births in the Town for 2015, pending final returns from other communities, a decrease of 31 births from the previous year. The office also recorded 352 deaths, pending final returns from other communities, with 13 amendments, a decrease of 29 deaths from the previous year. There were 413 marriage intentions filed and 396 marriages recorded with the Office of the Town Clerk, with 24 amendments, an increase of 29 marriage intentions and 14 marriages from the previous year. The office posted 1,274 public meeting notices, in accordance with the Open Meeting Law, an increase of 125 from the previous year. There were 3,017 dogs licensed in 2015, an increase of 426 from the previous year. Of the 3,017 dogs licensed in 2015, 1,464 were also licensed in the Green Dog Program, an increase of 86 dogs from the previous year. There were 176 non-resident licensees who participated in the Green Dog Program, an increase of 38 from the previous year. There were also two Resident Commercial Dog Walkers, 12 Two-Day Guest Passes and 10 Weekly Passes issued for the Green Dog Program during 2015.

Total 2015 revenues collected by the Office of the Town Clerk were \$151,557 in 2015, a decrease of \$800 from 2014 revenues.

Registrars of Voters



L-R: Andrew J. McIlwraith, Margaret C. Maguire,
Assistant Town Clerk Linda Golburgh, and Town Clerk
Patrick Joseph Ward

The Board of Registrars of Voters is a four member board whose responsibilities include registering voters, making a local listing of residents, certifying nomination papers and petitions, processing absentee voter applications and administering elections and any necessary recounts or challenges. The Town Clerk serves as an Ex Officio member of the Board of Registrars of Voters. The Democratic Registrars are Town Clerk Patrick Joseph Ward and Assistant Town Clerk Linda G. Golburgh, who serves as Chair. The Republican Registrars are Andrew J. McIlwraith and Margaret C. Maguire. In 2015 the Board of Registrars of Voters administered and supervised the May 5, 2015 Annual Town Election. The Board of Registrars of Voters registered 2,960 new active registered voters, a decrease of 182 from 2014; processed 3,791 inactive registered voters, a decrease of 882 from 2014; and amended 23,569 affidavits of voter registration for changes of status, party and address, including deletes, an increase of 5,714 from 2014. The Board mailed 6,784 Confirmation Notices, a decrease of 1,792 from 2014, and Inactivated 3,791 Active Registered Voters, a decrease of 2,722 from 2014. The Board also processed 1,031 absentee ballot applications for 2015, a decrease of 1,406 from 2014 and certified 1,168 signatures for nominations, a decrease of 1,220 from 2014. The Board of Registrars of Voters published the 2015 Street List of Persons Seventeen Years of Age and Older and established a total population of 47,609, a decrease of 731 from 2014. Of this population, 36,285 were registered voters, of which 27,700 were Active and 8,585 were Inactive.

Political Parties and Designations

Democrat	17,514
Republican	2,464
Green Rainbow	39
Unenrolled	17,313
United Independent Party	78
American Independent	11
Green Party USA	9
Libertarian	36
MA Independent Party	3
Socialist	5
Interdependent 3 rd Party	4
Working Families	1
Constitution Party	1
We the People	1

Town Counsel
Joslin Ham Murphy

The Office of Town Counsel functions as a full-service municipal law firm representing all of the Town Departments, including the School Department. The Office provides legal advice to elected and appointed Town officials and employees, often on complex matters and issues requiring prompt attention. The vast majority of the Town's legal affairs are handled in-house by the Office of Town Counsel, and include matters pertaining to municipal finance, legislation, contracts, employment, and zoning and land use.

Throughout the year, the Town's counsel represents the Town before an array of state agencies, as well as the Trial Courts, ranging from the District and Superior Court Departments, the Appeals Court, Supreme Judicial Court, the United States District Court, the Land Court, and the First Circuit Court of Appeals. The Town's counsel actively participate in the Town's legislative duties by reviewing and assisting in the preparation of warrant articles and by attending Special and Annual Town Meetings.

The Town's legal team consists of Town Counsel Joslin H. Murphy, First Assistant Town Counsel Patricia Correa, Associate Town Counsel John Buchheit, and Associate Town Counsel Jonathan Simpson. The paraprofessional staff members, comprised of Senior Paralegal Kerry Fleming, Paralegal Tracey Michienzi, and Senior Clerk Jane Tavolieri, handle all aspects of the administrative and legal support functions within the office, and administratively manage the large volume of claims that are filed against the Town each year pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapters 84 and 258. These staff members often act as insurance adjusters in resolving property damage claims, and when warranted, negotiating certain threshold settlements on behalf of the Town. They also pursue actions against tax-delinquent properties by filing and pursuing tax foreclosure proceedings at the Land Court; as well as filing Proof of Claims at the Bankruptcy Court to ensure that any outstanding debts owed to the Town are protected. The Office is also supported by Senior Volunteer Fay Wilgoren, whose assistance has been invaluable.

The Office of Town Counsel has seen a substantial increase in the level of activity during the past year. A selection of the areas of law and types of matters the Office has been involved in during FY 2015 is as follows:

- Concluded the Superior Court and Appeals Court litigation in the Hancock Village Chapter 40B Project, and filed an appeal of the Comprehensive Permit that was issued in the Land Court.
- Participated in the drafting and negotiation of several leases enabling the School Department to address overcrowded conditions in the Town's school system.
- Drafted an easement over the MBTA ROW for the Carlton Street footbridge.
- Assisted in the negotiation and drafting of a Host Community Agreement with NETA, a newly licensed Medical Marijuana Dispensary.
- Successfully recovered \$1,213,488.40 in Tax Lien Foreclosures, outstanding Personal Property Taxes, and Chapter 13 Bankruptcy payments.
- Negotiated solar panel contracts for Town buildings in connection with the Town's efforts to increase energy conservation.
- Assisted in drafting Public Schools of Brookline policy, including an amended disciplinary policy in response to related legislation.
- Obtained dismissal(s)/summary judgment in civil matters brought against the Town, and negotiated settlements in such matters on terms favorable to the Town.
- Assisted the Planning and Community Development Department Housing Division in closing loans to create affordable housing units.

- Drafted, reviewed and approved numerous contracts and other legal documents related to real estate transactions, environmental issues; and substantial project developments.
- Initiated a review and collection of acquisition related records of Town owned land parcels.
- Continued to coordinate and provide training to Town officials, employees, and Board and Commission members in laws and regulations pertaining to Public Records, Open Meeting and Conflicts of Interest.

Human Resources

Sandra DeBow-Huang, Director

The mandate of the Human Resources Office is to develop and administer fair and equitable Human Resources polices for the Town and its employees and to provide a system of Human Resources administration that is uniform, fair, efficient and represents the mutual interest of the Town and its employees. Our duties fall into three broad categories, Personnel Administration for Town personnel, Benefit Administration for Town and Public School employees and Labor Relations. In 2015, the Human Resources Office worked diligently in these areas, publishing a new Classification and Pay Plan for non-union employees, expanding new sick leave benefits to non-benefit employees, continued efforts to improve and maintain labor relations and to develop and expand diversity and inclusion initiatives.

The Town of Brookline's workplace rules and processes that underlie its personnel administration system are multi-layered and complex. The Town partners with seven unions and two sizeable non-union groups, its middle management and Department Heads, to develop rules and procedures to manage its personnel. Within these groups are several non-union groups including, seasonal, temporary and part-time employees. The HR Office finalized a multi-year project to revise the Classification and Pay Plan for non-union employees. The revisions were necessary to remove outdated civil service requirements, to clarify the differences between the union and non-union work rules and to ensure consistency and parity among the union and non-union, and part-time and full-time groups; all this with an eye toward greater transparency and efficiencies across all groups. The Board of Selectmen adopted the Classification and Pay Plan in 2015 and is working on a similar document that addresses the same terms and conditions of employment for Department Heads.

Another major initiative contained within the new Class and Pay Plan was the Town's new provision to provide sick leave benefits for employees who work less than part-time or who work on a temporary or fluctuating basis. This new provision, adopted by the Human Resources Board and the Board of Selectmen in September 2015, carefully combined the rights, policies and procedures of the state's new sick leave law, MGL, ch. 149, sec. 148 C, and aligned them with the work rules common to all the Town's collective bargaining agreements. This new benefit allows employees, who formerly did not receive any sick leave, to accrue up to 40 hours of sick leave, including 8 hours of personal time. The addition of personal time greatly expands the benefits and exceeds the state law requirements, but also ensures parity with our other union groups. No other municipality has adopted a similar benefit following the establishment of the state's sick leave law.

Implementing and promoting diversity and inclusion initiatives continue to expand throughout all aspects the Town's personnel administration by the Human Resources Office in 2015. The Office continues to scrutinize its recruitment and hiring techniques following the 2010 removal from the state's civil service laws, which limited the Town's recruitment practices. These efforts are timely as the Town of Brookline, like employers across the nation, is experiencing an aging of the workforce. During the next five to ten years, the Town will lose a number of senior managers. Increasing succession planning efforts is a major priority for the Town's executive team with a dedicated eye to diversity and inclusion.

As the Human Resources office continues to expand our recruitment, training and retention networks, the expansion effectively ensures an increase in the vitality and breadth of our recruitment pools. In 2015, the Town Human Resources Department hired the Professional Diversity Network which has a multi-phased approach to recruitment of diverse professionals.

The Human Resources Office continues to work closely with the new Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations Office, providing Human Resources advice and support to organize its staffing and other personnel administration needs, as well as to partner with new Diversity and Inclusion efforts.

The Human Resources Office also continues to partner with the Payroll Division of the Finance Department and its new payroll system to provide better data and better HR/Payroll administration processes. This is particularly important to address the Article 18 Resolution passed by the November 2105 Town Meeting, to “determine an achievable goal for the town’s efforts, based on data gained from the Brookline Community Foundation’s research on Brookline.” Personnel administration spans all personnel actions from hiring to retirement and everything in between. Tracking such as recruitment, promotions, transfers, accrual banks, training, leave administration and workers’ compensation in a manner that allows us to analyze the data is challenging but the HR Office is dedicated to developing performance metrics that we can measure to ensure we are meeting our objective to expand the diversity of the workforce.

Regarding personnel efficiencies and efforts to control personnel costs, the Human Resources Office continues to work closely with Departments to address their staffing needs in hiring, and assisting in the reclassification of key positions or the re-organization of job duties to better accomplish Department objectives without expanding staffing needs, and working with Departments in their efforts to control sick and injured leave issues.

A critical component of controlling personnel costs is to control our health care costs through controlling costs for workers’ compensation as well as our health care insurance costs. Our partnership with New England Baptist’s Occupational Health Department is critical and allows us to focus on case management and to ensure our employees receive a high level of care and treatment. By partnering with an external Occ Health department, we ensure employees get better more quickly and are able return to work sooner. This proactive approach also includes actively challenging claims that we find have no merit. This approach has have effectively kept workers compensation and injury claims relatively flat, despite greatly increased medical costs.

The HR Office also continues to manage its health care costs by educating its employees on the importance of wellness but also in helping them navigate the complex medical systems. Continued education on our health care tools, i.e., use of HRAs and FSA and more efficient use of our health insurance plans, we strive to educate our employees on how to reduce their health care costs, as well as the Town’s. In April 2015, as part of the Town’s Open Enrollment period, the Human Resources Office held its annual Wellness Fair featuring vendors from the Town’s Employee Assistance Program, (EAP), dental provider, cafeteria plan providers (Flexible Spending Account) and local area gyms. Town departments such as the Police Department, Recreation Department, and the Public Health Department also participated in the Wellness Fair. Human Resources and Retirement/Social Security personnel are also available to counsel individuals on all aspects of the Town’s personnel benefits, including information on the often underutilized flexible spending accounts.

Human Resources Board

In 2015, the Human Resources Board was fully staffed following the retirement of several of our longstanding board members, Attorney Kenneth Kurnos and Ms. Jackie Young. Led by attorney Edward DeAngelo the HR Board is comprised of experienced HR professional who bring expertise from diverse areas, including private sector, public sector, academic, union and non-unionized settings. Ms. Dana Teague is our newest member who currently works in HR for Eversource, a unionized utility company. Ms. Teague’s experience is a great addition as she has worked her way up through the company and has the perspective as both a former union member and now as a manager. She is a strong policy background and has been an excellent addition to the Human Resources Board.



L-R: Beth Venti, Ed DeAngelo, Lori Cawthorne, Dana Teague

The Human Resources Board has continued to support the Human Resources Department in its efforts to develop and

administer fair and equitable policies for the Town. The Human Resources Board regular monthly meetings throughout 2015 dealt with a wide span of issues, and it did so judiciously and promptly. The Board continues to be a valuable asset to the Board of Selectmen as well as the Human Resources office allowing that Office to meet its mandate of providing a system of Human Resources administration that is uniform, fair, and efficient and represents the mutual interest of the Town and employees of the Town. In 2015, the HR Board received refresher training on labor law and principles from the Town's outside labor counsel. The training allowed the Board to discuss and review the nuances of the Town's various collective bargaining agreements and the issues that come before them.

During 2015, the Human Resources Board heard and ruled on a number of reclassifications of positions brought by the Human Resources Office with the respective Department Heads. This work continues to revise antiquated civil service titles, such as Parks Garage Clerk or Senior Clerk Typists, an important step in moving from the Civil Services constraints in expanding recruitment as the outdated civil service titles hampered efforts to obtain a highly qualified applicant pool as the old titles did not reflect the current duties of the clerical positions, particularly as regards the technological changes over the last few decades.

The HR Board also heard grievance regarding workplace disputes that arose during 2014 and 2015. The Board reviewed each grievance on its own merits, either rendering a decision or recommending that the parties work more diligently to resolve the matter or to come to some settlement. The careful consideration of the grievances that come before the Board has an important effect in maintaining harmonious labor relations between the Town's management and its unionized employees.

The HR Board also established a new Policy subcommittee with a goal of focusing on updating policies and working toward a simple mechanism for employees, both union and unionized, to easily obtain the policies, contracts and rules that establish their rights and responsibilities, as well as training and advancement opportunities in the Town of Brookline.

Public Safety

Police Department

Daniel O'Leary, Chief of Police



Throughout 2015, the Brookline Police Department continued to provide a wide continuum of public services in an effort to reduce crime, increase safety and enhance the quality of life in Brookline. Through proactive policing, intelligent deployment, Department-wide problem solving efforts, advanced training for our officers, increased engagement with the community and the use of innovative technology, we continue to see great successes in the prevention and resolution of crime and disorder problems in the community. As you will see highlighted throughout this report, the Brookline Police Department is taking great strides to prepare for the wide range of emergencies and threats that could face our community. Between evolving national trends and local demands, modern police officers are being asked to continually respond to a more diverse array of situations. Brookline Police Department is ready and able to face the challenges that lie ahead.

During these challenging times in Law Enforcement the Brookline Police Department is committed to achieving the goals we have set forth as an agency in order to better serve our community.



Left to right, Sgt. Andrew Amendola, Sgt. Russell O'Neil, Lt. Kevin Mealy, Deputy Superintendent Andrew Lipson, Sgt. Brian Sutherland

On, May 6, 2015, the Police Department promoted Lieutenant Andrew Lipson to the rank of Deputy Superintendent, Sergeant Kevin Mealy was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and Officers' Brian Sutherland, Russell O'Neill and Andrew Amendola to the rank of Sergeant.

Furthermore, the Department has begun the hiring process of twelve new officers off the 2015 Civil Service list. The academy is set to begin in May 2016.

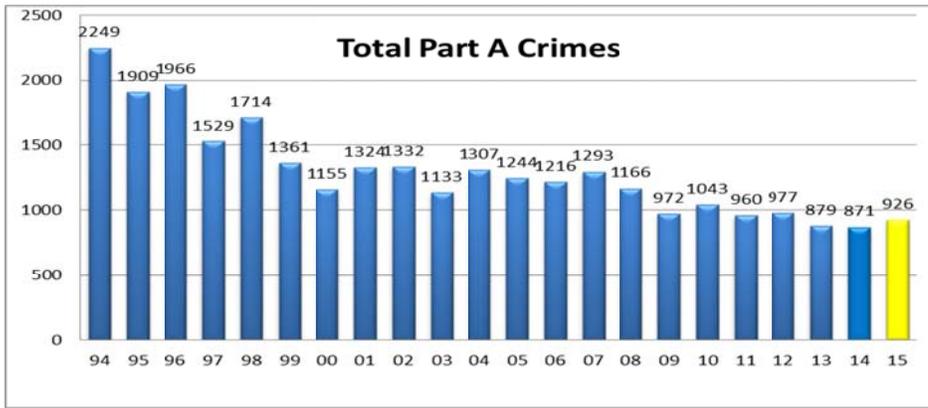
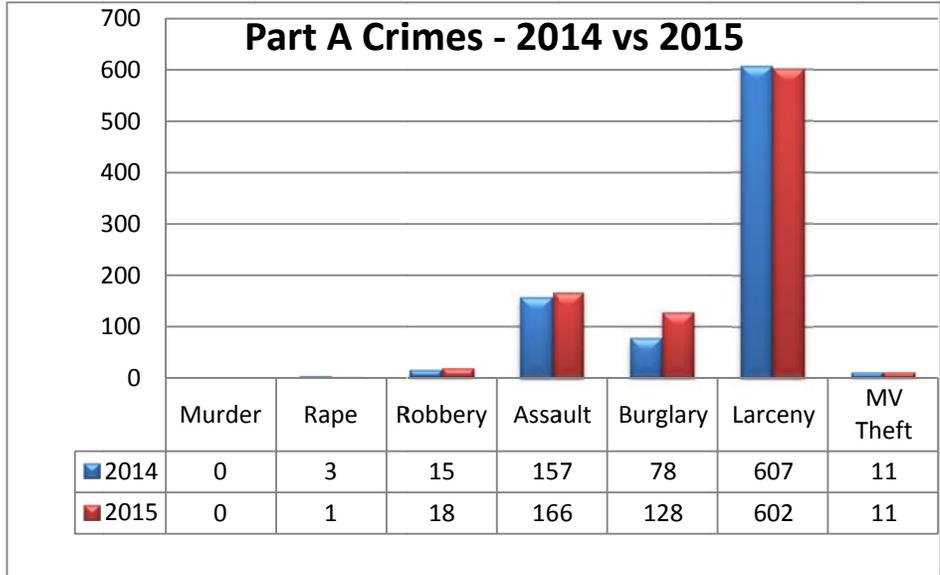
YEAR END REVIEW OF 2015 PART A CRIMES

The following is a summary of Part A Crimes in Brookline during 2015. Part A crimes include: murder, rape, robbery, assault and battery, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft. During 2015, there were a total of **926 Part A crimes** in Brookline, **up 6%** from the 871 Part A crimes in 2014. Of the 926 crimes reported in 2015,

there were 177 cases cleared by arrest, 135 cleared by court action, 56 cleared exceptionally, 20 cleared other means (completed service, in-active, referral), resulting in a **42% clearance** of crimes for the year.

In 2015, there were reductions in rapes (down 2, or 66%) and larcenies (down 1, or less than 1%) from 2014. There were no murders in 2015. This year, there was an increase in robberies (up 3, or 20%), assaults (up 9, or 6%) and burglaries (up 50, or 64%).

For 2015, violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery and assault) are **up 6%** with 185 this year versus 174 in 2014 and property crimes (burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft) are **up 7%** with 741 this year versus 692 in 2014.



In 2015, crime was down 59% from where it was 20 years ago in 1994. The following graphs show the year-to-year comparisons for each crime category for 2015 and 2014 and the decline in crime over the last 20 years.

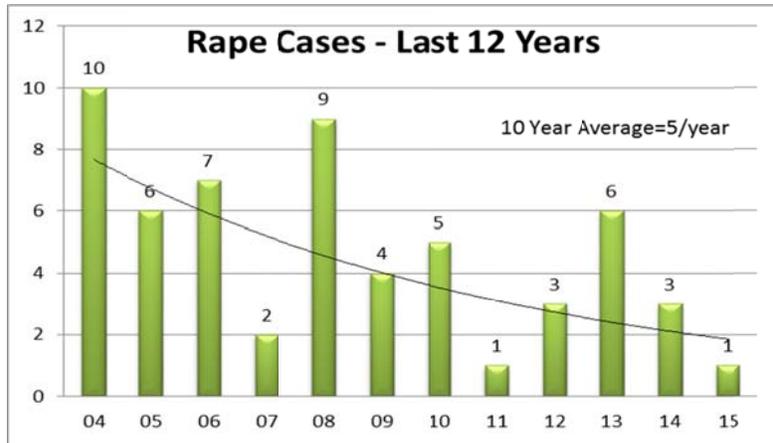
THE FOLLOWING IS A BREAKDOWN OF EACH PART A CRIME FOR 2015:

MURDER

There were no murders in 2015. There have been no murders in Brookline since 2007.

RAPE – DOWN 66%

During 2015, there was one rape reported, down from the three reported in 2014. The rape was cleared through an arrest. The parties were known to each other in this case. As the chart shows, the ten year average of rape cases reported is five per year.



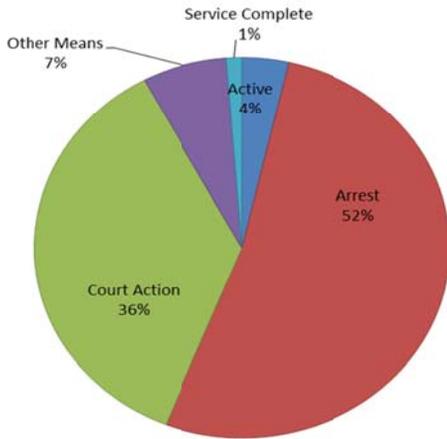
ROBBERY – UP 20%

There were 18 robberies in 2015, which is up 20% from the 15 robberies reported during 2014. Of these 18 robberies, 6 resulted in an arrest, 2 in court action and 10 remain active.

Of the 18 robberies, 3 involved a firearm, 3 involved a knife and 12 were unarmed/strong-arm robberies. These robberies occurred at banks (1), at a commercial institution (10) and on the street (7).

ASSAULTS – UP 6%

2015 Assaults by Case Status



There were a total of 166 assaults reported in 2015, up from the 157 that occurred in 2014. Of these 166 assaults, 42% (71) were domestic violence related and 5% (9) were assaults on police officers. Of the 71 domestic assaults, 60 resulted in an arrest and 11 in court action. Additionally, 13% (22) of our assaults occurred at one of the two mental health hospitals in Town. Of the 166 assault cases, 87 (52%) resulted in arrests, 60 (36%) resulted in court action, 2 (1%) were cleared as completed service, 11 (6%) were cleared by other means and 6 (4%) remain active.

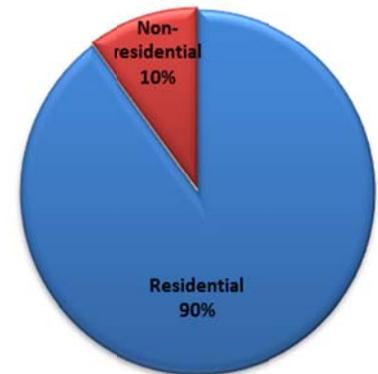
In 2015, there were also five indecent assaults, five indecent exposures and three open and gross cases.

BURGLARIES – UP 64%

There were a total of 128 burglaries in 2015. This is up 64% from the 78 burglaries in 2014. Of the total 128 burglaries, 115 (90%) were of residential properties and 13 (10%) were of nonresidential buildings, including offices, schools, religious and commercial establishments.

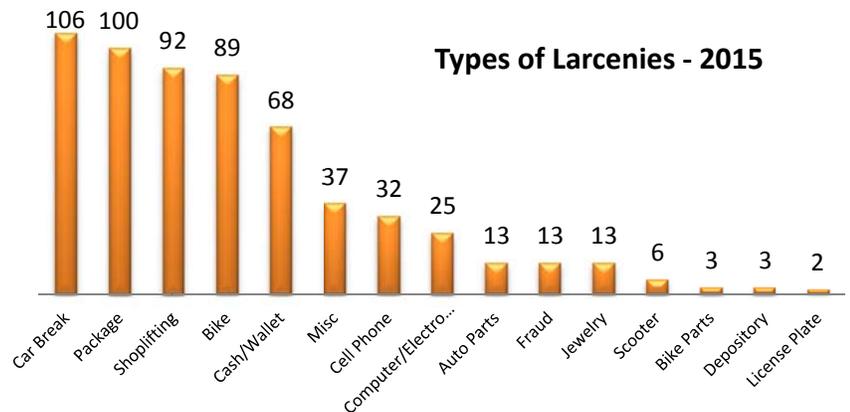
Of the total 128 burglaries, 94 (73%) cases remain active, 14 (11%) resulted in an arrest, 5 (4%) resulted in court action and 15 (12%) were cleared exceptionally. In addition to the 128 burglaries, there were 13 attempts.

Type of Property Burglarized



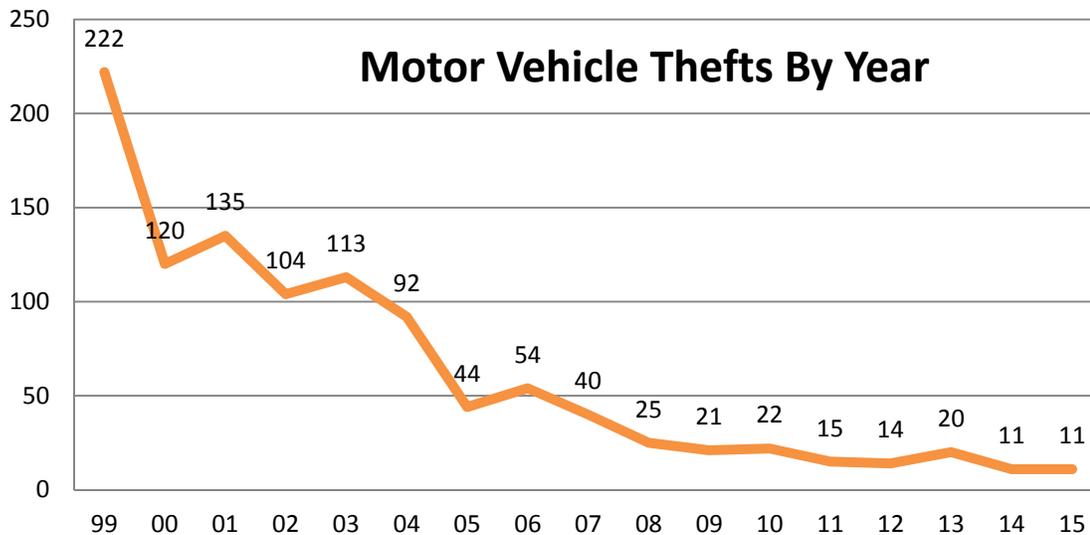
LARCENY – DOWN 1%

There were a total of 602 larcenies in 2015, down 1 % from the 607 larcenies that occurred in 2014. Of the 602 larcenies, 421 cases remain active, 67 resulted in arrests, 66 were cleared by court action, 41 were cleared exceptionally, 2 were cleared by referral and 5 were closed through completed service. Of the total 602 larcenies, car breaks were the most prevalent larceny with 106 (18% of total larceny category), followed by package thefts with 100 (17%) and shoplifting with 92 (15%). In addition to the 602 larcenies, there were 45 attempted larcenies.



MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT – UNCHANGED

There were 11 motor vehicles reported stolen in 2015, which is unchanged from the 11 reported in 2014. Seven cases remain active, two resulted in arrest and two were cleared by court action. Two of the stolen motor vehicles were motorcycles.



POLICE ACTIVITY

- **Arrests** – During 2015, there were **635** arrests, down 16% from the 756 arrests made in 2014. 32 of the arrestees were juveniles. There were also 13 people taken into protective custody and 3 sex offenders registered.
- **Field Interviews** – Commencing with the beginning of 2015, the Department began to breakdown what we had previously classified as Field Interviews into two subsets: Field Contacts & Field Interrogations. Field Contacts cover those individuals who the police encounter during the normal course of conducting routine police services that we need to identify. Field Interrogations are individuals stopped by the police whom the police or citizens believe to be acting suspiciously and rise to the level of suspicion that they have, are or are about to commit a criminal offense. During 2015, there were a total of 76 field interrogations conducted.
- **Moving Violations** – During 2015, there were **19,481** moving violations issued, down 10% from 2014 when there were 21,714 moving violations issued. In 2015, there were two non-inventory motor vehicle searches conducted, representing less than 1% of the total stops where moving violations were issued.
- **Parking Tickets** – During 2015, there were **131,470** parking violations issued for a total of \$4.2 million in fines and penalties. This number is up 1.5% from the 129,415 parking violations issued during 2014, for \$4.2 M in fines and penalties.
- **Calls for Service** – During 2015, there were **93,553** police calls entered into the CAD system. This number includes activities such as service calls, 911 responses, self-initiated police activity, traffic enforcement and posts, prisoner processes, services of papers/warrants, admin/report writing, town building checks and community policing activities and excludes activities such as out of services and reporting on/off duty. For 2015, calls for service are down 2% from the 95,891 calls in 2014.
- **Citizen Complaints** – During 2015, there were **14** citizens who lodged complaints against 19 Brookline Police Officers and one unidentified employee for discourtesy/rudeness, improper procedure, conspiracy, retaliation, racial profiling, general misconduct, and excessive force, up from the seven citizens who lodged complaints in

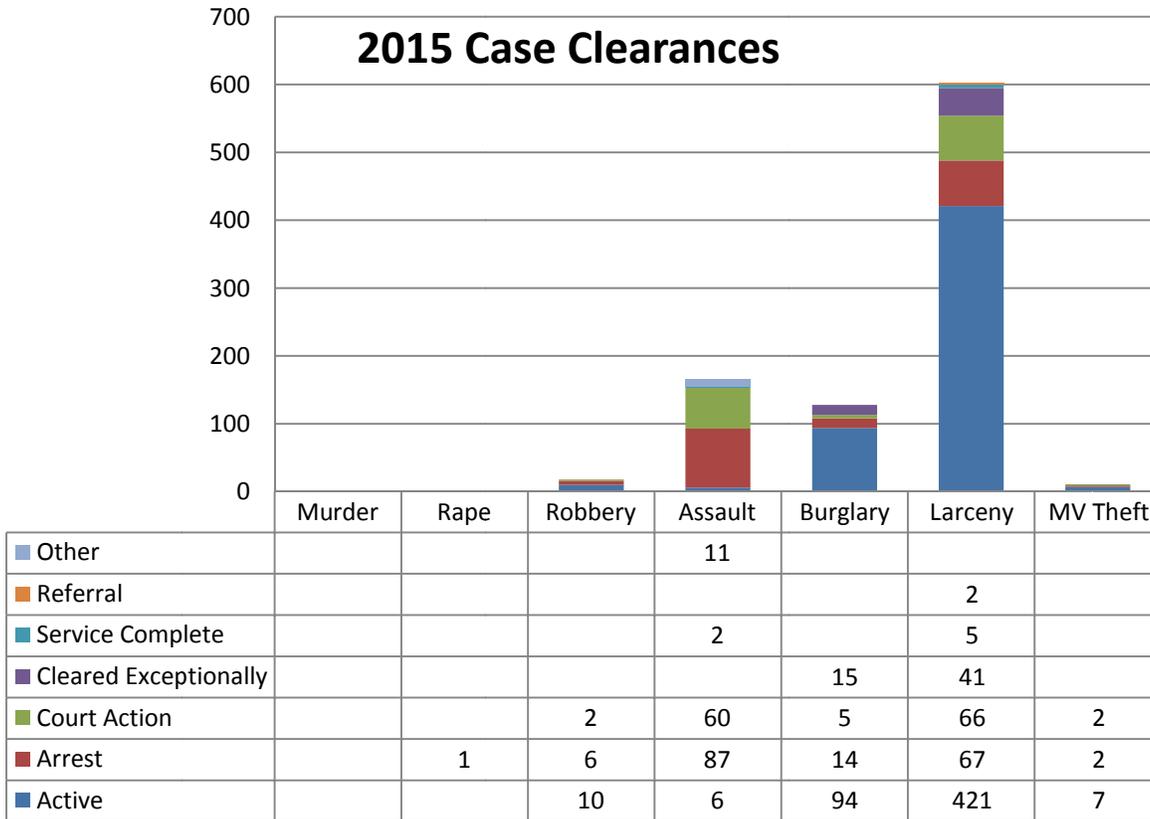
2014. One of the fourteen internal affairs complaints was sustained, one was sustained/unfounded/dismissed (three allegations in one complaint), one was not sustained, two were mediated, five were unfounded, one was unfounded/closed (two allegations in one complaint), and three are under investigation.

- **Use of Force** – During 2015, there were **35** use of force incidents. Use of force incidents are up (35%) from the 26 reported in 2013. The types of force used in 2015 against humans included (multiple types of force being applied in some cases): Firearm (drawn) – three, Firearm (point) – three, Baton (display) – one, OC (pepper) Spray – four, Less Lethal Shotgun (discharge) – one, Knee Strikes – one, Physical (hands/grab/wrestle) – 29. Additionally, force was used against animals in one situation – Varmint Gun (discharge to euthanize a turkey) - one. Ten of these use of force situations were during the process of placing a noncompliant individual under arrest for another offense, six were the result of MV pursuits, six involved patients with mental health conditions that needed assistance being involuntarily transported, four involved MV stops of individuals with license conditions that resisted arrest, four involved intoxicated individuals who resisted arrest/protective custody, two were during volatile family disturbances, and two were individuals being non-compliant during the booking process. Additionally, one incident involved groups of wild, aggressive turkeys.

The Department defines use of force as any force beyond compliant handcuffing. This includes numerous situations where a show of force is made by officers but no physical force or contact applied. Additionally, this includes uses of force in non-criminal situations, such as assisting emotionally disturbed persons to safety. Reporting use of force incidents is required of officers and incident reports cannot be approved without an officer filling in mandatory field in the report writing system which indicates if force was used. Additionally, supervisors are required to submit a report detailing whether or not officers followed proper policy and procedure while applying force. These reports were completed in all 2015 use of force incidents and officers were found to have been in compliance.

- **Motor Vehicle Pursuits** - In 2015, there were eight **motor** vehicle pursuits, up from five in 2014. These pursuits involved: (1) stolen motor vehicle, (2) a stolen box truck involved in a hit and run, (3) a motorcycle speeding and failing to stop for red lights, (4) a motor scooter which did not stop for a helmet violation, (5) low speed pursuit of a motor vehicle failing to stop, (6) pursuit of a moped failing to stop, (7) speeding vehicle failing to stop, and (8) assisting Newton PD on a pursuit which entered our Town. In four incidents, the officers and supervisors complied with the guidelines, policies and procedures set forth by the Department with concern to motor vehicle pursuits. In three incidents, the failure to stop did not constitute a pursuit under Department policy, but since there was an attempt to evade police the facts were considered. One pursuit resulted in disciplinary action.
- **Clearances** – Of the 926 Part A crimes reported in 2015, there were 177 cases cleared by arrest, 135 cleared by court action, 56 cleared exceptionally, seven closed by completed service, 2 cleared by referral and 11 were closed by other means, resulting in a **42%** clearance of crimes for the year. Specifically, 100% of rapes, 44% of robberies, 96% of assaults, 27% of burglaries, 30% of larcenies and 36% of motor vehicle thefts were all cleared by arrest, court action, cleared exceptionally, completed service, referral, closed or are in-active. ****Please note that many of the 926 active cases are still under investigation and may be cleared/closed as a result. Additionally, many prior year cases were cleared/closed during this period as a result of on-going investigations.**

2015 Case Clearances



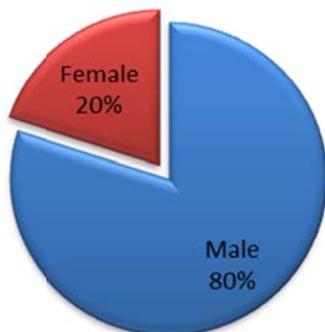
RACIAL AND GENDER BREAKDOWN OF POLICE/COMMUNITY INTERACTIONS

ARRESTS:

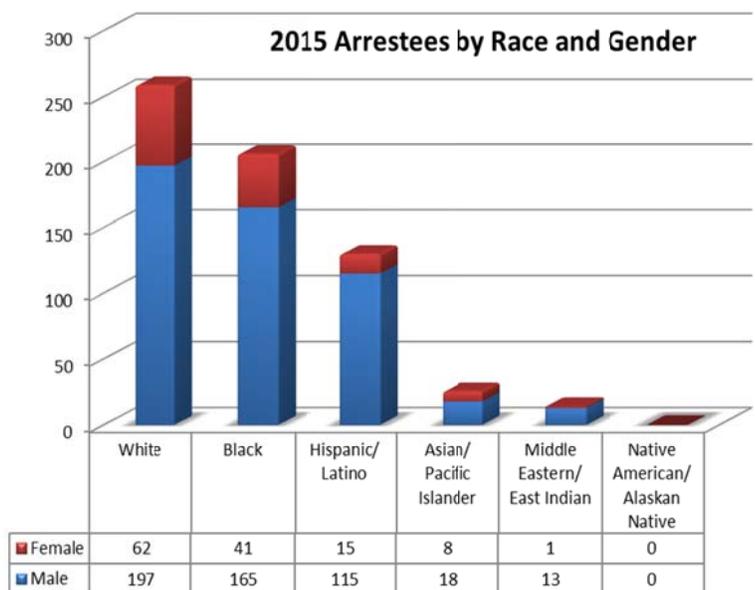
During 2015, there were 635 arrests, **down 16%** from the 756 made in 2014. In 2015, 41% of the people arrested were white, 32% were black, 21% were Hispanic, 4% were Asian/Pacific Islander, 2% were Middle Eastern/East Indian and none were Native American/Alaskan Native. 80% of the arrestees were male and 20% were female. 32 of the arrestees were juveniles.

During the year, the BPD also placed 13 people into protective custody (for being under the influence of alcohol). 85% of these PCs were white, none were black, 15% were Hispanic, none were Asian/Pacific Islander and none were Middle Eastern/East Indian and or Native American/ Alaskan Native. 100% of the PCs were male.

2015 Arrests By Gender



2015 Arrestees by Race and Gender



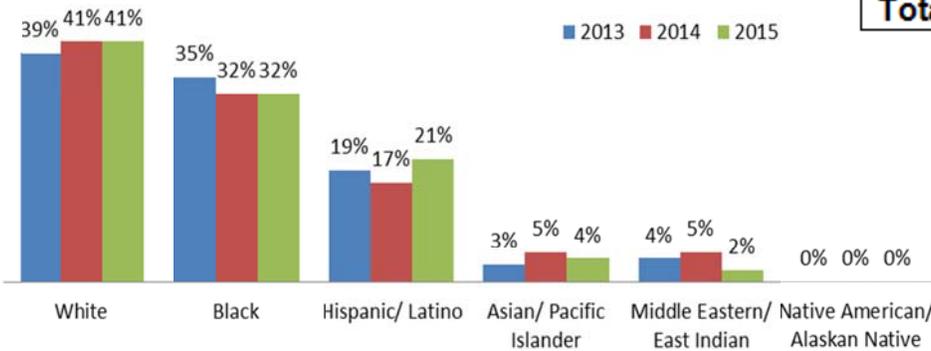
Additionally, during the year, there were three sex offenders registered in our system. All three were men and 66% (2) were white and 33% (1) was Black.

By comparison, in 2014, there were 756 arrests, down 15% from the 888 made in 2013. 41% of the people arrested were white, 32% were black, 17% were Hispanic, 5% were Asian/Pacific Islander, 5% were Middle Eastern/East Indian and none were Native American/Alaskan Native. 82% of the arrestees were male and 18% were female. 22 of the arrestees were juveniles.

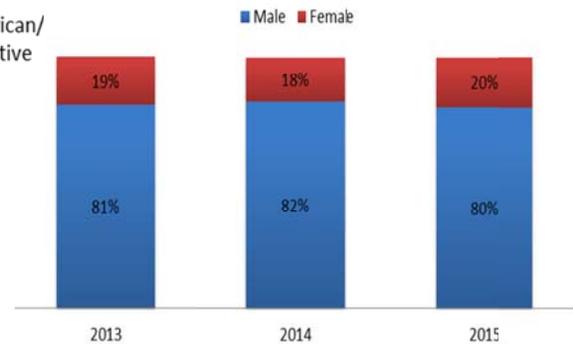
The following two graphs compare the percent breakdown by race and gender of persons arrested over a three year period.

2015 Arrests: 635			
Race		Gender	
White	259	Male	508
Black	206	Female	127
Hispanic	130		
Asian/Pacific Islander	26		
Middle Eastern / East Indian	14		
Native American/ Alaskan Native	0		
Total:	635	Total:	635

Arrests By Race - 3 Years Comparison



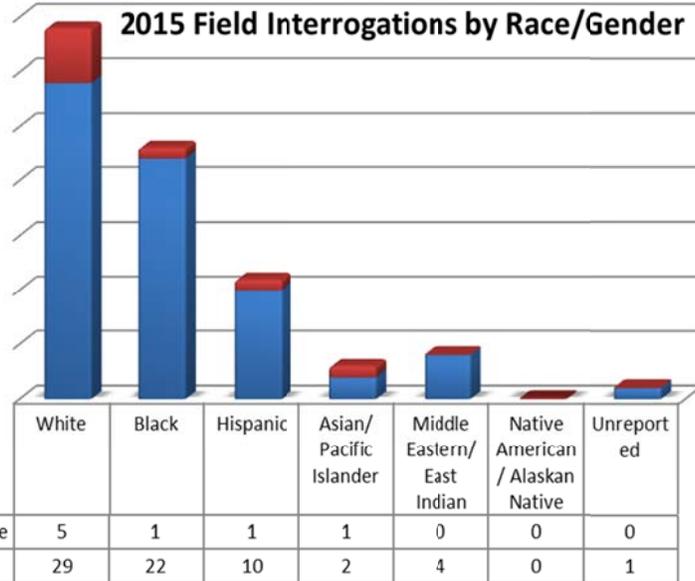
Arrests By Gender - 3 Year Comparison



FIELD INTERROGATIONS:

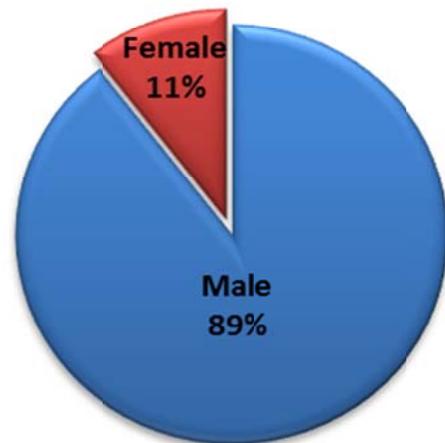
Commencing with the beginning of 2015, the Department began to breakdown what we had previously classified as Field Interviews into two subsets: Field Contacts & Field Interrogations. Field Contacts cover those individuals who the police encounter during the normal course of conducting routine police services that we need to identify. Field Interrogations are individuals stopped by the police whom the police or citizens believe to be acting suspiciously and rise to the level of suspicion that they have, are or are about to commit a criminal offense.

During 2015, there were a total of 76 field interrogations conducted. Of these people who were stopped and questioned for suspicious activity, 45% were white, 30% were black, 14% were Hispanic, 4% were Asian/Pacific Islander, 5% were Middle Eastern/East Indian and none were Native American/Alaskan Native. 1% were not identified by race. 89% of the people FId were male, 11% were female. The following two graphs compare the percent breakdown by race and gender of persons field interviewed in 2015.



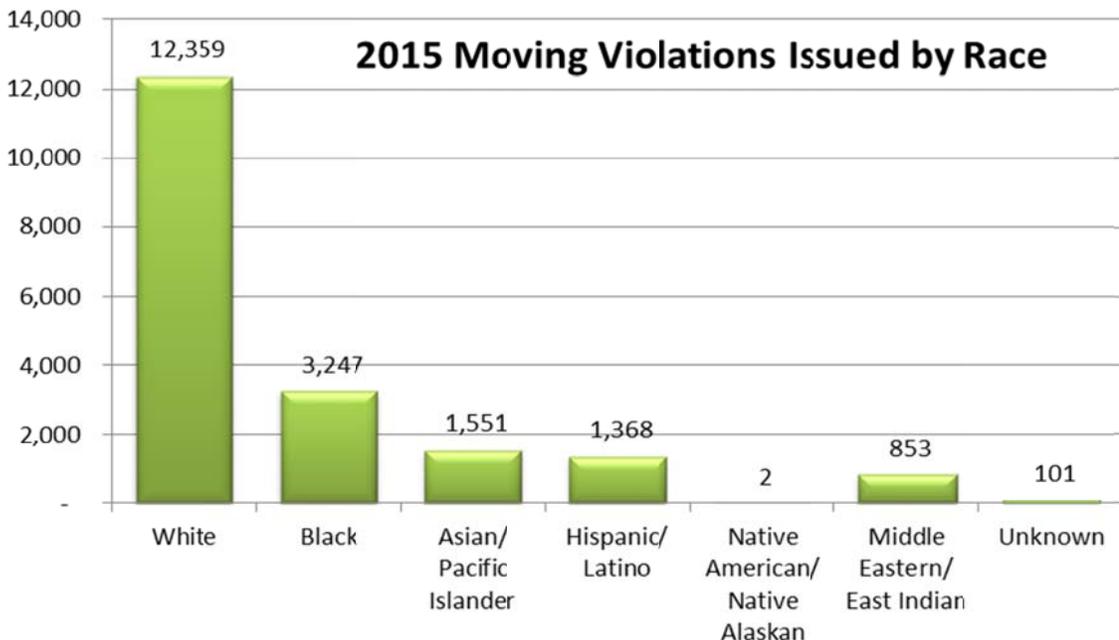
2015 FIs: 76			
Race		Gender	
White	34	Male	68
Black	23	Female	8
Hispanic	11		
Asian/Pacific Islander	3		
Middle Eastern/East Indian	4		
Native American/Alaskan Native	0		
Unreported	1		
Total:	76	Total:	76

2015 Field Interrogations by Gender



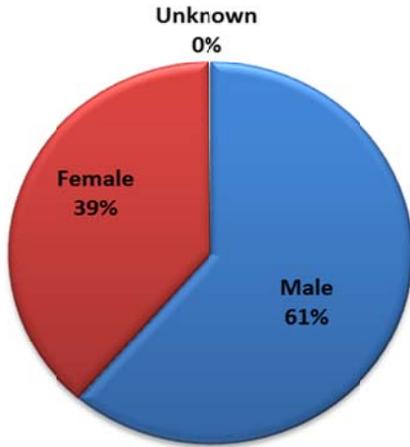
MOVING VIOLATIONS:

In 2015, there were 19,481 moving violations issued, down 10% from the 21,714 issued in 2014. Of the motorists issued citations in 2015, 63% were white, 17% were black, 8% were Asian/Pacific Islander, 7% were Hispanic, 4% were Middle Eastern/East Indian and less than 1% were Native



American/Alaskan Native. Less than 1% were not classified by a race category. Of these citations, 61% were issued to male motorists and 39% were issued to female motorists. During the year, there were two non-inventory motor vehicle searches conducted.

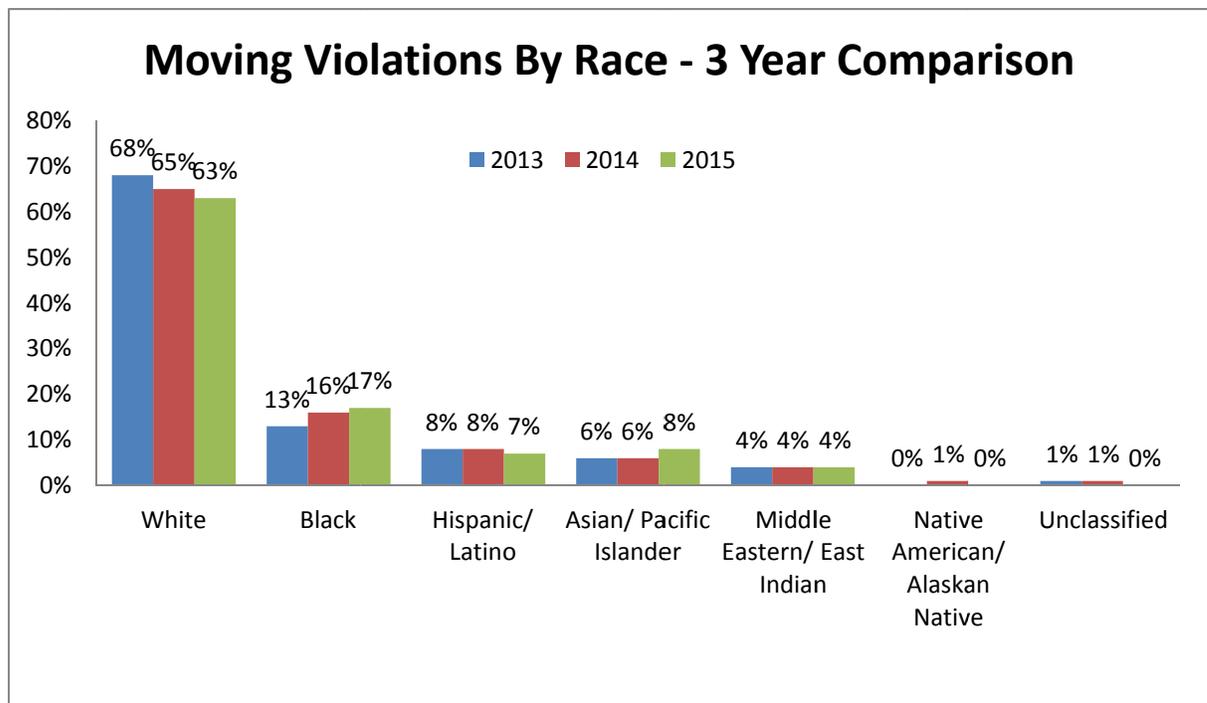
2015 Moving Violations by Gender

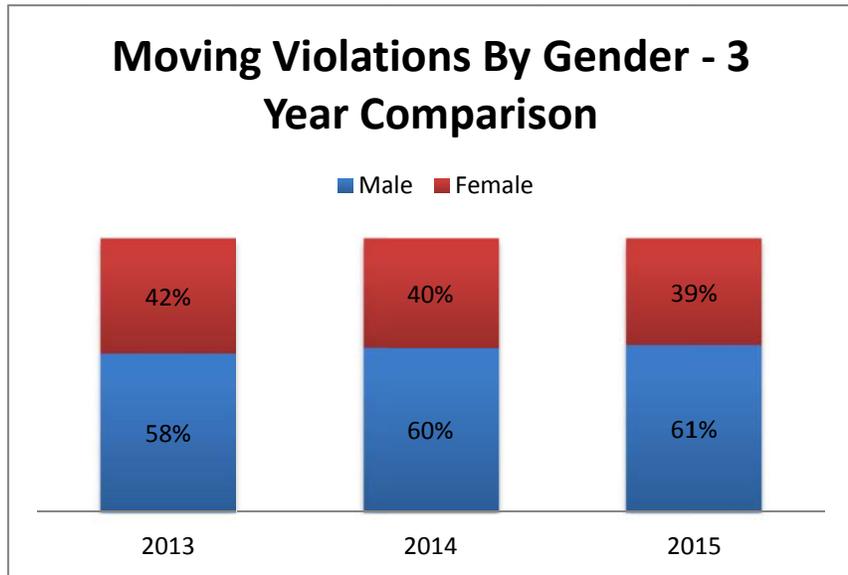


2015 Moving Violations: 19,481			
Race		Sex	
White	12,359	Male	11,934
Black	3,247	Female	7,504
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,551	Unreported	43
Hispanic	1,368		
Middle Eastern/ East Indian	853		
Native American/ Alaskan Native	2		
Unreported	101		
Totals:	19,481		19,481

By comparison, in 2014, there were 21,714 moving violations issued. Of the motorists issued citations, 65% were white, 16% were black, 8% were Asian/Pacific Islander, 6% were Hispanic, 4% were Middle Eastern/East Indian and less than 1% were Native American/Alaskan Native. Less than 1% were not classified by a race category. Of these citations, 60% were issued to male motorists and 40% were issued to female motorists. During the year, there were 59 non-inventory motor vehicle searches conducted (representing 0.2% of the total stops where moving violations were issued).

The following two graphs compare the percent breakdown by race and gender of persons issued a moving violation over a three year period.



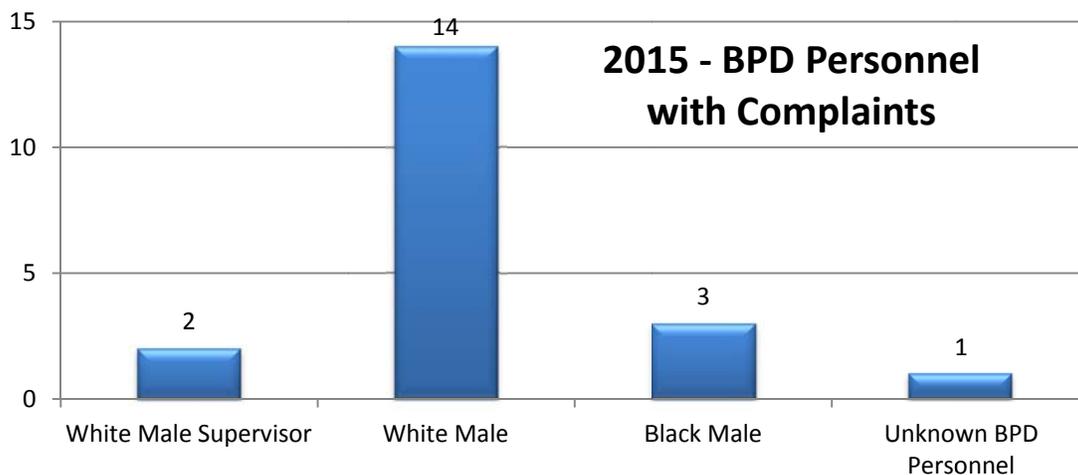


CITIZEN COMPLAINTS:

During 2015, 14 citizens filed complaints with the BPD's Office of Professional Responsibility for alleged misconduct that resulted in 25 violations investigated against a total of 20 members of the Department (with multiple officers and multiple violations cited in some complaints). The Department's volume of documented community interactions (from 93K calls for service, 19,481 moving violations, 131,470 parking tickets, 76 field interrogations and 635 arrests) reaches more than 244K (which does not account for the thousands of daily informal interactions during traffic posts, walking beats, community presentations and routine patrol), resulting in a 0.00005% rate of complaints (or 1 in every 17K documented interactions).

Of the 14 complaints in 2015, 13 were against a Brookline Police Officer/s and one was against an unknown BPD employee. The complaints were for discourtesy/rudeness, improper procedure, conspiracy, retaliation, racial profiling, general misconduct and excessive force. One of the fourteen internal affairs complaints was sustained, one was sustained/unfounded/dismissed (three allegations in one complaint), one was not sustained, two were mediated, five were unfounded, one was unfounded/closed (two allegations in one complaint), and three are under investigation.

Of the 14 complainants, three were white females, three were white males, two were Hispanic females, two were Hispanic males, one was an Asian male, one was a Black female, one was a Black male and one was a Middle Eastern male.



In 2015, two complaints were against a white male supervisor, 14 were against a white male patrol officer, three were against a black male patrol officer, and one was against an unknown BPD employee. There were multiple officers named in some complaints, resulting in a total of 20 individual officers with a violation lodged against them. As in years past, the Department continues to utilize the Early Intervention Program (EIP), when appropriate, with employees who receive citizen complaints. The EIP provides for increased supervision and training.

Administration

In a time where Police Officers' rolls are changing, as a department we recognize a need for greater collaboration with our service providers. The Department is happy to announce that our Community Crisis Intervention Team (CCIT) model is now fully operational. Adding, we reached our goal of having 25% of our sworn members trained and actively participating in this community partnership in order to better serve those people in our community with mental health needs.

Patrol Division

The Patrol Division continues to be at the forefront of the Department by serving the day to day needs of residents. From ensuring safety on our streets to responding to service calls to working with community partners to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods, the Patrol Division is the backbone of the Department.

The Patrol Division consists of many specialty units including the Special Response Team, the Bike Unit, the Patrol Warrant Unit and the Crisis Negotiation Team and is responsible for the Dispatch Center, Lodging and Liquor regulations and Animal Control functions.

The Department believes that the education and enforcement of traffic laws, for both bicyclists and motorists, is critical to improving bicycle safety and enjoyment. In an effort to reduce the number of accidents and increase bicycle safety, officers were directed to perform traffic enforcement at locations that saw the most crashes and hazards. Crash hot-spots were identified and officers were deployed to these specific areas.

Patrol Bike Unit



During the past twelve months the Patrol Bike Unit (PBU) has been an integral part of the Department. There are currently 17 Officers in the unit. The PBU has been used as an effective tool in deterring criminal activity, providing alternative enforcement methods, promoting positive interactions with citizens, and educating the public regarding bicycle and vehicular safety.

PBU daily assignments and deployments are a direct result of reports received from the Crime Analysis Unit (CAU). The information we receive from the CAU allows us to deploy our resources in the most effective and efficient manner. Aside from daily assignments and responsibilities in 2015, the PBU officers worked specific venues where

their function was to supplement other patrol units, increase officer visibility and become more accessible to the public

Over the past year, the Patrol Bike Unit was activated multiple times to provide security and regional assistance for the following; 2015 Patriots Super Bowl Parade, Three separate Black Lives Matter Protests, Boston's 4th of July celebration on the Esplanade, and the 119th Boston Marathon. The Patrol Bike Unit was also activated multiple times to provide security and assistance in support of the Patrol Division for the following events; In-town Bike Parade, the Lincoln School ride your bike to school day, Black Mass movie premiere, and Spotlight movie premiere.

Crime Detection/Prevention

In keeping all detectives running at full speed, we continued updating our trainings relevant to the changing times that are occurring within today's society. These trainings vary in the target areas of new technology, human relations, victimology and the most up to date responses suggested by experts in conducting thorough and complete investigations.

The Detective Division's successes have also been enhanced by their willingness to work with outside agencies on numerous occasions in development of suspects and solving crimes. The agencies ranged from adjacent cities and towns, Federal agencies including the FBI Bank Robbery Task Force, DEA, Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Postal Service Postal Inspectors.

Community Service/Training Division

The Community Service Division's various programs, such as the Child Seat Safety Program and Rape Aggression Defense (RAD), continue to be offered and greatly enhance the safety of our residents. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program also continues to recruit, train and deploy its 220 volunteers, who are on-call to assist the Town during local emergencies. Our officers continue to work with the schools, other Town agencies and local service providers to improve the quality of life for residents. Despite difficult fiscal times and reduced grant funding for community policing activities, we have maintained a balance and will continue to provide these valuable services to the community.

In 2015, the BPD Community Service Division became involved in a nationally recognized youth intervention program known as the Youth-Police Initiative (YPI). This international program brings together local youth and police in a dynamic setting to learn about each other, share common experiences, and develop long-term relationships. Additionally, the Division oversaw the implementation of a Juvenile Assessment Matrix policy that uses the Massachusetts Arrest Screening Tool for Law Enforcement (MASTLE). The objective, impartial, scientifically valid tool predicts the likelihood of re-arrest and failure to appear in youth. The purpose in implementing the tool and Matrix was to direct at-risk youth who come in contact with police to social service programs when it is appropriate to do so.

The BPD continues to reach out to the community on social media via Facebook and Twitter. In 2015, we significantly increased our followers on Twitter, growing from 6,071 to 7,875. The Department tweets about 35-50 times per month. Our front line supervisors continued sending out "tweets from the streets." We have also significantly increased our Facebook presence. The Department has also recently opened its own YouTube page.

Traffic Division

In 2015, the Traffic Division implemented a new software system that is designed to assist in the communication and data collection sharing between the Traffic Division personnel. Entries include Hot Spot Accident Locations and the Neighborhood Traffic Concerns.

Also this year, the Traffic Division implemented a new deployment system for our Parking Control Officers. The year-end statistics indicate a significant increase over 2015 in fines/tickets given, while actual personnel hours had an overall decrease. It should also be noted that this occurred in the year where the winter resulted in a significant decrease in enforcement opportunities.

During 2015, the Traffic Division processed 131,470 parking violations totaling \$4.2 million in fines and penalties. This number is up 1.5% from last year. In addition to the processing of parking violations, Supervisors in the Traffic Division processed more than 10,000 appeals.

Public Safety Dispatch

The Brookline Public Safety Dispatch Center currently has a staff of thirteen full-time Emergency Telecommunications Dispatchers, two trainee Dispatchers, and one Chief Emergency Telecommunications Dispatcher. Two additional Dispatchers were hired in October 2015 and graduated from the State 911 Public Safety Communications Academy in November.

The Police and Fire Departments both offered unique training opportunities for its Dispatchers this year including Mental Health First Aid Training which was given to all Police Officers and Dispatchers in the Department. The Fire Department joined together with the Dispatchers and Dispatch Supervisor to discuss changes and updates to Fire Department Dispatch procedures and given Mayday Protocol training. Also, the fifteen Dispatchers and one Dispatch Supervisor combined for a total of 320 initial and continuing education training hours in 2015.

In 2015, the Dispatch Center handled 93,553 calls for Police Service entries and 7,805 for Fire Service calls. Also, in 2015, the Dispatch Center took and responded to 12,183- Emergency 911 phone calls from landline and cellular transfer 911 calls.

Emergency Management

During 2015, the Brookline Emergency Management Team continued to enhance the Town of Brookline's resilience and ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural and man-made critical incidents and pre-planned events. We will continue to ensure that first responders and volunteers have been trained to the appropriate level in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System. To ensure NIMS compliance, we continued to utilize the state's new Resource Management System (RMS). According to MEMA, the primary function of RMS is to help search for resources statewide and support mutual aid between communities.

Animal Control

In 2015, there were 784 animal related calls for service. Our Animal Control Officer continued to enforce Town By-Laws and State laws pertaining to animals and continued to work cooperatively with the Parks and Open Space Division and the Town's licensing unit to increase public awareness and compliance with pertinent statutes.

Conclusion

There were 50 commendations for outstanding police work that were issued to 33 officers, for their work during the year. Through their outstanding performance these officers, and a great many others, consistently demonstrate their commitment to providing the highest quality of police service to the public. With professionalism and expertise, we continue to build relationships with citizens in order to improve personal safety, protect individual's rights and property, and promote individual responsibility and community commitment to keep our citizens safe and aware. As we move forward in 2016, we will continue to work to improve the services we provide to the community. Thank you for your continued support of the Police Department and our mission.

Fire Department
Paul D. Ford, Fire Chief



Administrative Division

The Mission Statement of the Brookline Fire Department reads, in part, that Brookline's firefighters will work to "protect life and property and lessen adverse effects on the environment." The Fire Department is proud of its work in 2015, having met that goal. Fire Suppression, Fire Prevention, Emergency Medical Services, Rescue, and Hazmat mitigation continue to be the priorities of the department. The efforts in these areas could not have been successful if not for the dedication and professionalism of the Fire Department's officers and firefighters. Strong support from town government continues to play a significant role in the department's success and long history of excellence in serving residents and visitors alike.

The Administrative Division consists of a Fire Chief, Chief of Operations, an Executive Assistant, and an Information Technology Systems Analyst. Additional administrative staff, shared with the Police Department, includes a Public Safety Business Manager and three clerical staff.

The Division is responsible for both the day-to-day operations of the Fire Department as well as long range planning and budgeting. The office also interacts frequently with citizens and business owners, town, state and federal officials, other fire departments as well as other town departments. Additionally, the Division assists various media, insurance, and private entities. The Division is further charged with reviewing Standard Operating Guidelines, preparation of the Department's Annual Budget and its Capital Improvement Plan, and it also ensures compliance with departmental policies, orders, rules, regulations, and procedures.

In 2014 the Administration applied for and was awarded a grant under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through its' Assistance to Firefighters Grant program (AFG). This grant, implemented in 2015, assisted the Brookline Fire Department in developing certified fire instructors within its own membership.

The Department was awarded a Fire Prevention and Safety grant, also under the DHS, to develop and implement a Senior Safety program. This program will consist of visits to the homes of requesting seniors where firefighters will install new combination Smoke/Carbon monoxide alarms and perform a home safety survey. They will offer the seniors safety tips in areas of electrical, cooking and fall hazards.

The Department began the year with seven vacant positions that were in the process of being filled. Those positions were filled with a seven member recruit class in the spring.

The Department saw five permanent promotions in 2015. Captain Kyle McEachern was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief, Lieutenant Stephen Nelson to Captain and Firefighters Scott Greider, Mike Kelleher and Ryan Guilfooy to Lieutenant.

Fire Suppression Division

The Brookline Fire Department Suppression Division is divided into four working groups (shifts) whose responsibilities include the protection of the lives and property of the people of Brookline from fires, natural and manmade disasters, and hazardous materials incidents, as well as saving lives by providing Emergency Medical Services, preventing fires, and enforcing State Fire Laws and Codes. Suppression is the largest Division of the Fire Department and is staffed by 4 Deputy Chiefs, 7 Captains, 21 Lieutenants and 115 Firefighters. They respond from five fire stations geographically distributed throughout the town.

The BFD responds to a variety of incidents from medical and household emergencies to major accidents and structure fires. In 2015 we saw structure fires in multifamily homes and high-rise buildings, as well as single family homes. Fire Department response was exemplary in all instances. Our emergency response system has proven to be multi-dimensional, efficient and effective in all phases of response. During the year, this Division responded to many calls for Emergency Medical Services. All structure fires for the year were contained to the building of origin with no exposures involved.

In 2015 the suppression forces responded to a total of 7,805 calls. Of these, 4,010 were for medical emergencies, 629 were box alarms and 3,166 were still alarms.

Fire Prevention Division:

The Fire Prevention Staff consists of the following:

- 1- Deputy Chief
- 2- Lieutenants
- 1- Full-time Office Manager

The Fire Prevention Staff job responsibilities are the following:

- Enforcing MGL.Ch.148, 527 CMR State of Mass. Fire Regulations and sections of the Eighth Edition of the Mass. State Building Code pertaining to Fire Alarm and Sprinkler Systems.
- Fire Investigations as required by MGL.Ch.148 to find the area of origin and cause of fires that occur in the Town of Brookline.
- Reviewing and issuing fire permits in compliance with the Mass. State Fire Regulations (527 CMR and MGL. Ch. 148).
- Conducting plan reviews for all new sprinkler and fire alarm systems for code compliance and fire service usability.
- Performing Certificate of Occupancy Inspections for all new construction and substantial renovation projects in the Town of Brookline.
- Performing fire alarm and sprinkler system acceptance testing for all newly installed fire alarm and sprinkler systems in the Town of Brookline.
- Inspection of licensed occupancies (lodging houses, restaurants, hotels, second-hand retail establishments, second-hand auto sales and open air parking lots) in the Town of Brookline.

- Follow-up inspections for problems and code violations encountered by the seven fire companies as well as citizen complaints.
- Receiving and answering telephone and EMAIL inquiries related to code requirements, technical questions and fire hazards.
- Manning the Fire Prevention Office and public window.
- Department Liaison to Fire Alarm Dispatch, coordinating In-Service Training and Metro Fire response guidelines

Summary of Fire Prevention Activity of 2015:

- Created, Produced and Implemented The MAYDAY SOG for the Public Safety Dispatch
- Sorted and Purged and updated the Address Files (with MA Secretary of State Approval) and currently transitioning to Electronic Files.
- 34 - Fire Investigations conducted by Fire Prevention.
- Maintained a public Fire Prevention Window for issuing Fire Permits, Smoke Detector Certificates and conducting department business.
- 533 - Six Unit and Up Annual Building Inspections.
- 930 - 26F & 261/2 Smoke Detector and Carbon Monoxide certification inspections scheduled and inspected by both the Fire Companies and Fire Inspectors.
- 134 - Certificate of Occupancy Inspections.
- 314 - Fire Permits issued.
- 789 - Fire details were scheduled.
- 155 - Plan Reviews completed.
- 57 - Installation and removal of aboveground and underground oil storage tank inspections.
- 15 - Quarterly Health Care Inspections (required by MGL Ch. 148) (60 Annual inspections)
- 49 - Lodging House Inspections performed.
- 150 - Common Victualler License Inspections.
- 20 - Retail Package Store Inspections.
- 4 - Second-Hand Motor Vehicle License Inspections.
- 2 - Second-Hand Articles License Inspections.
- 2 - Inn Holders License Inspections.
- 61 - Open Air Parking Inspections

S.A.F.E. Program 2015:

- Fire Education (S.A.F.E. Program) consists of a combination of lectures, questions, answers and demonstrations for Kindergarten through Second Grade Students for all the Public Schools in the Town of Brookline. These classes are taught by two Safe Instructors that have attended training classes to conduct S.A.F.E. Education.

Training Division

The Training Division is staffed with one Deputy Chief and one Captain. This Division is responsible for initial recruit training, as well as the continuing education and in service training of the Fire Department personnel. The Training Division has a continued partnership with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), State Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), Battle Road Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BREPC) and Mayor's Office of Emergency Preparedness (MOEP). Together in this Unified Organization, the Training Division is at the forefront in this regional co-operative when it comes to keeping this department informed in the newest training initiatives.

This past September we added seven new recruits to the department. The Training consisted of a 10 week schedule, that introduced all the basic skills required for firefighting and EMS that will serve as a foundation to grow in this field.

The Training Division also provides comprehensive instructions that cover both re-certification of skills and new certifications to the Departments line personnel. The certifications are recognized by the state and enable us to play a larger role in regional training exercises. With over 25 classes held by the training division, every member of the department was offered over 45 hours of instruction. Some of the topics covered included the following fields of study:

1. Fire Suppression
2. Emergency Medical Service Instructions
3. Fire Department Communications
4. Responding to Elevator Emergencies
5. Auto Fires
6. Vehicle Extrication

7. Arson Awareness
8. S.C.B.A Training
9. Ice and Water Rescue
10. Hazmat Response
11. Operation of the Mass Decontamination Unit
12. Rapid Intervention Team Training (R.I.T.)

We also utilized expertise from the following outside agencies during training exercises:

1. Eversource Utilities
2. Mass Fire Academy
3. Boston Fire Department Training Division
4. Fallon Ambulance
5. Boston Mayor's Office of Homeland Security

The Department Company Officers continue to conduct their daily "In Service Training" in the stations, which helps to reinforce the knowledge and skills of their group members. A yearly list of subject matter has been distributed to each station. The Training Division also distributes supporting instructional material, references and resources necessary to aid the In Service Training. The Training Division also continues to review and update the department S.O.G.s

For the calendar year 2016 the Training Division will continue to focus on training for every day emergencies, such as building fires, ladder operations, auto extrication, and medical emergencies. The Training Division, along with the Mass Fire Academy, will be hosting several classes for our members, ranging from Transitional Firefighting techniques, Fire Officer Classes and a host of other opportunities. All these educational endeavors will continue to take place at our Facility on Hammond St.

Maintenance Division

The Apparatus Maintenance Division consists of one Motor Equipment Foreman and one Motor Equipment Repairman. The Division is responsible for the repairs and servicing of all Fire Department vehicles. The Division also maintains all of the auxiliary equipment such as small pumps, fans, hydraulically powered extrication equipment, and forcible entry equipment. The equipment repairman is also a certified self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) technician and responsible for the maintenance and repair of all SCBA units.

All vehicles were serviced twice during 2015, which consisted of grease, oil, oil filters, inspection of the anti-freeze protection and tune-ups when necessary. Each vehicle has an Annual Registry of Motor Vehicle State Inspection along with a DOT inspection. Prior to the first snowfall, each vehicle has its snow chains inspected and repaired or replaced as necessary. The Departments seven Hurst tools (Jaws of Life) have been serviced and Hydraulic Pressures set according to factory specifications. All portable generators and pumps have been serviced and tested. Four air samples have been taken on both high-pressure air compressors. Quint Four, Ladder II, and Reserve Ladder I2 have been tested along with their compliment of ground ladders. All fire engine pumps have been tested.

- **New equipment received in 2015**
- Ladder 2 KME (While we have taken delivery it will not be in service until February 1, 2016) Old Ladder two will become Ladder one

Insert Photo of Ladder 2 here

- Engine five KME (currently at the in-state dealer, will be delivered soon). Old Engine five will be kept as a spare

- C1 Ford Taurus
- S1 Ford Transit

Fire Alarm Division, Brookline Public Safety Dispatch Center Report for 2015

The Brookline Public Safety Dispatch Center in 2015 was made up of fifteen full-time Emergency Telecommunications Dispatchers (seven males, eight females) and one Chief Emergency Telecommunications Dispatcher. Dispatchers Robert Amendola and Boliere Camille were hired as Firefighters by the Brookline Fire Department in September of 2015; their position as Dispatchers is currently being filled by two Trainee Dispatchers as of January 2016.

In 2015, the Brookline Public Safety Dispatch Center again applied for and received two grants from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security; State 911 Department totaling over \$164,000 to assist with approved personnel costs, training costs, and equipment expenses which greatly enhanced the performance and quality of the Brookline Public Safety Dispatch Center.

In 2015, the Brookline Public Safety Dispatch Center fielded approximately 250,000+ Fire and Police business line calls and handled 15,151 incoming and outgoing Emergency 9-1-1 calls. In 2015, Dispatchers made 99,522 Computer Aided Dispatch Police and Fire entries. Of the 99,522 entries made, 7,805 were Fire Department calls for service that were dispatched and responded to by the Fire Suppression and Fire Prevention Divisions. Out of the 7,805 Fire Department Incident Runs, 4,338 of those were Medical and Rescue related incidents.

The Fire Alarm Division has continued to train to the highest standards possible and has provided continuing education in Emergency Medical Dispatch. Many Dispatchers surpassed the state mandated minimum requirement of sixteen hours of continuing education to maintain their EMD status and all will continue this status into 2016. Dispatchers were provided with multiple training opportunities that included, but were not limited to the following topics in 2015: CPR/AED certification, MA First Responder, Fire Service Dispatch, and Mental Health- First Aid. Another major initiative which was renewed in 2015, was to ensure that on a quarterly if not on a bi-annual basis, the Emergency Telecommunications Dispatchers receive specific Fire Department related training and conduct Policy and Procedure Reviews with Fire Department staff. In 2015, all Dispatchers were given Mayday and RIT (Rescue Intervention Team) Protocol Training to help provide for a safer environment for the Firefighters of this Department. This interactive training was received very well by all Emergency Telecommunications Dispatchers and the goal of ensuring quarterly or at minimum bi-annual training with the Fire Department will continue into 2016.

One major challenge faced by our Emergency Telecommunications Dispatchers was the record snowfall and snowstorms that affected the Town of Brookline during the winter of 2015. The Dispatchers did an outstanding job with the communications required to maintain services and to coordinate resources between the Fire, Police, and Public Works Departments of the Town of Brookline.

Building Department

Daniel F. Bennett, Building Commissioner

The Building Department is responsible for administering the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Town of Brookline bylaws as they relate to land use and the construction and occupancy of building and structures.

The Department's goal is to safeguard the public health, safety, and general welfare through structural strength, means of egress, facilities, stability, sanitation, adequate light and ventilation, energy conservation, and safety to life and property from fire and other hazards attributed to the built environment.

Staff enforces the State Building Code as well as by-laws and regulations related to zoning, building, plumbing, gasfitting, electrical, fire safety, sprinklers, accessibility, noise, signage, preservation and demolition. The Department

performs annual inspection of lodging houses, places of assembly, parking facilities and common victualler locations prior to their license renewal. Building Department staff reviews applications and inspects projects for which permits have been issued and enforces provisions of the Massachusetts State Building Code.

In addition the Department is responsible for the repair and maintenance and capital improvement programs for town and school buildings. The Department is responsible for the daily operation of the Town Hall, The Health Center Building and the Police Station.

The Building Department issued 6,761 permits in 2015. There were 10 new single-family residential building permits issued and 4 permits for multi-family residential buildings totaling 14 units. In addition there were numerous permits issued and inspections performed for additions, alterations, roofing, siding, window replacement, basement, bathroom and kitchen renovations. As a result, there were more than 500 certificates for occupancy, annual inspections and condominium conversions issued.

Pursuant to M.G.L. inspectors attended continuing education courses offered by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards. These courses assure that inspectors are well versed in code changes, latest construction materials and methods. The Department is committed to reducing paper usage/storage and trips to Town Hall with on line permitting and accepting credit card payments. Further the department is working toward developing a program for digital storage of plans and other historical records and introducing after hour inspections for better customer service. In an effort to work cooperatively with other code enforcement departments Building Department staff created and implemented a Code Enforcement Task Force that meets monthly.

The following major projects took place in 2015:

- Completed construction of a 32 unit multi-family residential building for the Brookline Housing Authority at 86 Dummer Street.
- Issued permits for the demolition of two buildings at 1234 Boylston Street (former Finagle-A-Bagel) for the construction of a new two story commercial/retail building.
- Commenced construction of a 130 room Limited Service Hotel at the former Red Cab site.
- Continued the full renovation of 51-53 & 55-57 Beals Street for Pine Street Inn for use as a 17 unit and 14 unit Lodging House.
- Provided staff support to the Board of Appeals for the Cleveland Circle Cinema application to construct a Limited Service Hotel and Retail partially located in Brookline.
- Provided staff support to the Board of Appeals for an application from Children’s Hospital to construct mixed use general/medical office & retail building, expand existing medical building and parking facility.

The following permits and certificates were issued in 2015:

Permits Issued:	6761	Certificates Issued	327
Building	2068	Builder’s Licenses	18
Electrical	1431	Board of Appeals Cases	84
Plumbing	1592	Lodging House	51
Gas Fitting	926	Violation notices	27
Mechanical	400		
Sprinkler	20	Inspections:	232
Occupancy	173	Common Vic /Food Vendor	181
		Lodging House	51

Public Buildings

The Public Buildings Division of the Building Department is responsible for the repair, maintenance, rehabilitation and general upkeep of all Town and School buildings. Division staff provides services to all Town and School buildings. The Division uses its staff for emergency calls, small to medium size projects and completion of those items left over from larger projects. Generally large-scale projects and preventative maintenance is performed by outside

contractors. In addition, specialized services such as burner/boiler maintenance, fire alarm and glazing services are performed by outside contractors. Buildings are monitored through our energy management system for heating and cooling. Approximately 1800 service orders were issued last year to outside contractors while department tradesmen handled over 2400 in house work orders.

The Building Department continues to work with the School Administration to find and create additional space for the ever growing school population. New spaces were made at the Baker, Lawrence, Pierce, Driscoll Schools as well as the High School. This included modular classrooms at the Baker School and a permanent addition at the Lawrence School. The Pierce School added a loft area next door in a private building that was renovated to make 4 classrooms. This space is presently being leased by the School Department. Additionally the Pierce Primary School had two new bathrooms built – a result of moving staff and children around to find adequate teaching spaces. The kindergarten classrooms at the Baker School were renovated; including new flooring and painting. The Driscoll School had a new classroom space built by dividing a room with news partitions. A number of classrooms rooms at the High School were created by relocating staff and programs. Staff was relocated to a newly rented space at 24 Webster St. The Old Lincoln School renovation was completed and the 7th and 8th grade students from Devotion School now occupy the building. Additional work was performed that included upgrades to the finishes, heating system and temperature controls. The largest undertaking to date is the Devotion School Addition and Renovation. The construction is planned for 2 years at a cost of \$117,000,000 with approximately 30% reimbursement from the state. The architect (HMFH) is working with Town Staff and General Contractor to complete the bid package and commence construction. The School is anticipated to be completed in the September of 2018. A temporary location, 30 Webster St., is under renovation and will be modified into a temporary school know as Lower Devotion School for grades K-4. It is expected that this work will be completed by the property owner and be ready for occupancy in September.

The Senior Center had new carpeting installed throughout the building. A new work out area upstairs was designed and built. This refurbished space will better serve the needs of the users.

As part of our energy savings measure new LED lighting has been installed in the High School Complex and Town Pool. In addition, new LED lighting was installed in the Old Lincoln School in the classrooms, Auditorium and Gym. LED lighting has an extremely long life span when compared to standard bulbs and use a fraction of the electricity. Funding for this project was partially paid from Green Communities Grant. New gas condensing boilers have been installed at the Pool and Unified Arts Building and operate at or above 95% efficiency. Most of the costs associated with these installations were part of a rebate program from the gas company.

The next large project would be for new solar panels to be installed at no charge at a number of Town and School sites through a state program. Although this program has been delayed twice, it now seems to be coming soon.

Security systems were upgraded, especially in the schools. The systems installed help to ensure a safe environment for the staff and children. Expansion of these systems is ongoing.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) programs are continuing. Over the summer fire alarm and sprinkler systems were installed in a number of the Fire Stations. A new Fire Department Maintenance facility is planned to be constructed behind Fire Station No 6. A renovation of the Pool locker rooms is under way, this work will include new tile, partitions and fixtures. Work should be completed over the summer.

The DPW expansion project has started. The work includes a re organization of the spaces at the Highway Garage, expansion of part of the building and a wash bay. This work is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2016.

Building Commission

The five Building Commission members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen in accordance with Town By-Laws. The Commission's responsibilities include the management of engineers and architects and oversight of contractors and all aspects of construction work on public buildings.

The Commission assists the user group in identifying program and infrastructure needs in the early stages of a project. Upon approval of funding by Town Meeting, the project proceeds to design and then construction and

closeout. The Commission is assisted by staff who conduct many of its routine activities and who report regularly to it.

Among its most visible project is the Additions and Renovations to the Edward Devotion School. It is a complex endeavor with many design, schedule, budget and construction challenges. In the spring of 2015, Schematic Design commenced and the Town undertook the process of selecting Shawmut Design and Construction as the contractor. Bringing in the contractor during the design phase, as allowed by statute, is expected to lessen potential issues of schedule, cost and unforeseen conditions. In May, the voters and Town Meeting approved the balance of the project funds.

The key partnership and collaboration with the Massachusetts School Building Authority was further strengthened with the signing of the Project Funding Agreement (PFA)

By fall, Design Development was underway and there was an ongoing effort of existing conditions investigations to minimize unknowns. The final months of the calendar year included an intensive effort to forward the design, embark on the permitting and approvals process, cost estimating and value engineering.

Construction had been planned to be conducted in two phases owing to the fact that only a portion of the school population was able to be housed off-site at the Old Lincoln School. After much hard work, the Town was able to identify and secure the Coolidge House lease for the upper grades. As a result, it is expected that all students and operations will now be off-site for the duration of construction. Among other things, this move is expected to reduce the time of the project to about two years.

Other projects included the completion of the classroom addition at the Lawrence School and the Old Lincoln School Renovations. The work at OLS allowed grades K-5 from Devotion to be relocated there at the start of the 2015/16 school year.

The Pierce School electrical distribution system was upgraded as well as the elevator there and at the Lawrence School.

Fire Station #5 and #6 Life Safety Improvements got underway as did the Municipal Service Center Expansion and Renovations. Fire Station #1 traffic coating was completed as was the Fleet Maintenance Study at Station #6.

Going forward into 2016, the Building Commission is prepared for new challenges and is committed to maintaining high quality in the design, construction and renovation of Town and School buildings.

Board of Examiners

The Board of Examiners was established with the adoption of the Town of Brookline Building Code in 1956. The Board consists of three members (an architect, an engineer and a licensed contractor) all appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Presently, the Board members are Barnett Berliner, and Fred Lebow. The Board meets as required to hold examinations and ensure that all work in the construction, reconstruction, enlargement, alteration, repair, removal and demolition of all buildings or structures in the Town is performed by qualified licensed persons. The Board established eleven classes of licenses for specific types of work. All meetings are conducted under the Open Meeting Law which requires notice of such meetings be posted to the public and that accurate records of the Board's proceedings be maintained. In 1994 the BBRB ruled those Municipalities that established licensing requirements for construction supervisors prior to January 1, 1975 may maintain their existing licensing requirements and accept either their Municipal License or the State Construction Supervisor's License (CSL). Today the State CSL program consists of eight designations under the Massachusetts State Building Code and accounts for a majority of the license in the Town. During 2015 eighteen (18) Brookline licenses were renewed.

Department Of Public Works
Andrew M. Pappastergion, Commissioner



*Andrew M. Pappastergion,
Commissioner*

The Mission of the Department of Public Works is to provide efficient, effective and economical services to the citizens of the Town at the desired level and in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. This is accomplished through the efforts of a well-trained workforce and the leadership of a very competent and accountable professional staff.

The Department is responsible for all endeavors relating to planning, designing, operating, maintaining, and managing public ways, park lands, open space, public grounds, town cemeteries, water distribution systems, sewer collection systems, storm drain systems, and the collection and disposal of solid waste and recycling. The Department also provides engineering support services and motor equipment maintenance services to all town departments.

MANAGEMENT

The Department of Public Works (DPW) divides its multiple responsibilities for the management, maintenance and operations of the Town's infrastructure among five principle Divisions: Administration, Engineering and Transportation, Highway and Sanitation (including Fleet Service), Parks and Open Space (including Forestry, Conservation and Cemetery) and Water and Sewer.

Overseeing each of these Divisions is the Commissioner of Public Works, Andrew M. Pappastergion. Together with his management team, the Commissioner establishes both long and short-term policy direction, forecasts annual operations and capital budgets, and structures departmental management and staffing.

Excluding Administration, each Division is headed by a Director, charged with staff, budget and management responsibilities that are tailored to the specific public resource under their jurisdiction. Peter Ditto serves as Director of Engineering and Transportation, Erin Gallentine serves as Director of Parks and Open Space, Kevin Johnson serves as Director of Highway & Sanitation and Frederick Russell serves as the Director of Water & Sewer.



*Seated: Commissioner Andrew M. Pappastergion; L-R:
Directors Erin Gallentine, Peter Ditto, Kevin Johnson, and
Fred Russell*

For purposes of departmental scale, Public Works employs 166 permanent full-time positions and has an annual operating budget of \$14.2M, excluding the Water and Sewer Division, which is operated as an enterprise with an annual budget of \$27.8M. In addition, the DPW Capital Improvement Program for fiscal year 2016 was funded at \$10.8M, which includes the Water and Sewer Enterprise.

Middle Management

While each division within Public Works is led by a Director, the mid-level management structure includes Operations Managers, General Foremen, a Fleet Maintenance Supervisor, a Tree Warden/Conservation Officer and a Transportation Administrator, all providing support and assistance to the management team.

Administrative Team

The Administrative staff consists of eight (8) positions, led by the Administrative Manager that provides critical support services for all the daily functions of the Department. Located at Town Hall and offsite facilities at Netherlands Road (Water & Sewer) and the Municipal Service Center on Hammond Street (Highway, Sanitation, Parks & Fleet Services) the business team provides customer service and handles inquiries for utility and refuse billing, refuse and recycling collection, work requests through the BrookOnLine mobile application and permitting system. In addition, all normal business functions for payroll processing, accounts billable and payable, requisition and purchase order processing as well as budget tracking.

Public Guidance and Governance

Brookline citizenry play an integral role in Town management, programming and politics through an appointed structure of official Boards and Commissions. The Department of Public Works operates within this vein of public participation, supporting the roles of specific project advisory or selection committees, targeted task forces, and boards or commissions with certain mandated authorities or controls. The following boards and commissions, whose memberships are appointed by the Board of Selectmen, work on a permanent and prescribed basis with various Public Works Divisions: Park and Recreation Commission; Tree Planting Committee; Conservation Commission; Transportation Board; Solid Waste Advisory Committee; and the Cemetery Trustees.

2015 Highlights

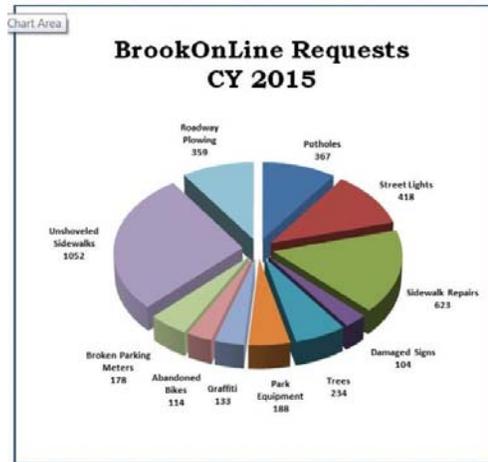
American Public Works Accreditation Program

The APWA Accreditation program recognizes public works agencies that have met the rigorous requirements of the best management practices established nationally in the public works industry. The Brookline Department of Public Works achieved this milestone in August, 2011 and became the first agency in Massachusetts and New England to do so. As part of this continuing program of excellence, the Department is required to complete a thorough re-examination of its management practices every four years to maintain its accreditation status. This was successfully completed in September, 2015.



BrookOnLine Application

The BrookOnLine Notifier Application is a tool that gives citizens the ability to report issues of concern to the public directly to the Public Works Department for resolution using either the internet or a mobile device. Issues such as potholes, graffiti, street lights and broken parking meters can be reported in real time providing the Department with additional eyes on the street. Resolution of each reported issue can be tracked for timely completion. In 2015, the Town received 3,770 requests for all categories which was an increase of 63% over 2014. Areas showing the largest increases were the winter related categories of Roadway Plowing and Unshoveled Sidewalks due to the severe winter of 2014-2015. The most notable decrease was in the Graffiti category at 73% demonstrating the Department's commitment to reducing the proliferation of graffiti town-wide.



Bylaw 7.7 – Removal of Snow and Ice from Sidewalks

Pursuant to Section 7.7.6 of the Bylaw, the Department hereby reports that during 2015 the following efforts were made to implement the provisions of the Bylaw:

- Public Education – The provisions of the Bylaw are detailed in the annual **Brookline Works** informational guide that is sent to all residents, including a listing of the penalties for non-compliance. Guides are also distributed through the Brookline Chamber of Commerce for all local businesses. In an effort to better inform our business community, the Department worked in association with the Police and Health Departments to issue a special notice to business owners detailing their responsibilities under the law.
- Enforcement – Enforcement areas are divided among the DPW, Police, Health and Building Departments and include both commercial and residential areas. In 2015, 1,052 requests for enforcement were received and investigated resulting in the issuance of 671 warnings, and 158 citations.
- Public Assistance – Public assistance to homeowners in need was provided through the **Shovel Our Snow** program administered by the Recreation Department.

Cartegraph Automated Maintenance Management System

The Department utilizes a computerized maintenance management system for processing requests from the public and generating task orders in the areas of roadway repair, traffic control, sanitation services, parks and forestry, fleet maintenance and water and wastewater utilities. Task orders are forwarded to each Division for scheduling, completion and follow up. Each year the Divisions have continued to increase their utilization of the system to allow for more efficient data management and record keeping. In 2015, the Department received and processed 6,247 work requests from the public and generated 14,143 task orders with over a 90% completion ratio. The rollout of the next version of the system will provide a mobile platform for data entry in the field which will increase both the efficiency and accuracy of the work flow process

LED Street Light Retrofit Program

In 2014, the Department launched a four (4) year retrofit program to convert 3,494 town-owned street lights from high pressure sodium to light emitting diode (LED). Key highlights of the program include:

- Potential energy cost savings of \$180,000 annually based on the reduced fixture wattage;
- Onetime efficiency incentive of nearly \$335,000 from Eversource Energy;
- Reduced correlated color temperature (kelvin) to lowest available at time of bid to address concerns of negative health effects;
- Use of variable current drivers for adjusting individual light brightness.

Currently at the halfway mark with installations town-wide, the program is scheduled to be completed at the end of fiscal 2017.

DPW Town Meeting Forum

The Commissioner held the annual "DPW Town Meeting Forum" in May. This open forum is held to address any and all questions and concerns of Town Meeting Members. Following a brief introduction to the functions of the DPW and a short summary of divisional responsibilities, the following topics were raised and discussed by TMM's: Snow plowing and removal, tree trimming, Clafin Path repairs, Pay as you Throw, recycling toter size, sidewalk sweepers, and LED lighting.



DPW Town Meeting Forum

National Public Works Week - DPW Day

In May, the Town celebrated National Public Works Week with the annual DPW Open House at the

Municipal Service Center. Over 500 third graders participated in the field trip. The Open House continued through the day with over 500 families in

the community touring the facility. Each Division within the Department set up show and tell stations to demonstrate their role in the community. The annual event gives school children and the community the opportunity to learn about these essential services and interact with DPW employees.



Students learned how the DPW installs and maintains street signs



Students watched in amazement while recycling entertainer Dr. T performs some recycling magic.



The Open House extended through the day for all Brookline families. The children learned how to plant a flower by a horticulturist.

Brookline Works Guide

This handy guide provides residents with information related to the services provided by the Public Works department. Information such as important telephone numbers, winter snow regulations, Trash and recycling information, reporting potholes and street light outages, water leaks, paying your refuse or water and sewer bill, getting a parking permit or a green dog permit and using the social media to stay connected can all be found in this informational guide.

Brookline Department of Public Works

2016 Public Works Information Guide

What does your Public Works Department do for you?

For more information visit www.brooklinema.gov/DPW

ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

The Engineering and Transportation Division of the Department of Public Works (DPW) is charged with the management and administration of town infrastructure, as well as the design and implementation of the vast majority of Public Works' items contained in the Town's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Town infrastructure would include surface facilities in the areas of all public right-of-ways, such as roadways, sidewalks, traffic signals and parks, as well as those facilities that lie underground, for example, storm drain/sewer systems, water supply lines, and traffic signal/street lighting conduit. CIP projects range in type from roadway reconstruction, to sewer separation, to landfill reclamation efforts.

In order to effectively manage both the diversity and complexity of infrastructure issues for which the Division is responsible, administrative programs and project undertakings are assigned to one of two disciplines: Engineering or Transportation. While it is inevitable, and largely by organizational design, that these two sectors should frequently overlap, the Engineering Section is fundamentally concerned with issues of civil and environmental engineering, while the Transportation Section is devoted primarily to transportation planning and traffic engineering.



Stephen King

Stephen King joined the Engineering Division on March 3, 2015. He is a Registered Professional Engineer and comes to the Town of Brookline by way of the private sector having work at CDM Smith. He has experience in design and construction oversight of water, sewer and stormwater utilities. Stephen will, among other duties, head up the pavement management program which involves developing a capital improvement program with the goal of increasing the pavement condition index to a point where the majority of the roadwork will be preventative maintenance in scope.

ENGINEERING

Division Charges

Responsibilities of the Engineering section are themselves divisible into four (4) broad categories: 1) Permit Administration and Inspection; 2) Archival Maintenance and Reference; 3) Interagency Coordination and Oversight; 4) CIP Project Management and Engineering.

Permit Administration and Inspection

The Engineering Section oversees the issuance of Street Opening and Occupancy Permits, typically given to Contractors working in public right-of-ways for utility companies, communication corporations, public authorities or private property owners. Construction work that would typically require such permitting can be either at the sidewalk or street surfaces, or require digging or trenching beneath these finished grades. Parks and school grounds also demand permit consideration.

The purpose of this permit process is both to protect the public infrastructure (property) of the municipality and to promote public safety. This permit system and associated data base is actively maintained on the Town's network. The system does generate revenue through licensing fees, which serve to offset costs of oversight and administration. Division Inspectors, with the aid of a pre-application process, determine the type of work, associated charges and anticipated impacts to material integrity and traffic/parking conditions. In addition, Inspectors monitor the work and assure that restoration meets with Town specifications.

Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drain and Water Supply Connections are also within the permitting purview of the Engineering Division. Following application procedures, engineered plans and necessary documentation are

submitted to Division personnel for review and subsequently, if recommended, for approval by the Director. Generally, these connection permits are associated with parcel developments, capacity and material upgrades, or maintenance when failures occur.

Archival Maintenance and Reference

The Engineering Section maintains record plans of its water, sewer and storm drain systems, including individual parcel connections. In addition, plot plans, or surveyed drawings, complete with bound locations, are maintained for all lands within the Town, whether public or private. These infrastructure and survey documents are kept in an extensive archive, copies of which are available to the public upon request. Along with records of property and Town-owned services, the Engineering archives contain construction plans for all Public Works projects, such as roadways, bridges and park facilities.

Interagency Coordination and Oversight

The Engineering Section coordinates directly with state authorities, such as the MBTA and MWRA, whose infrastructure is both located in Brookline and serves the community and/or its immediate region. Similarly, Engineering permits and supervises the maintenance, upgrade and installation of utility systems or communication networks, whether publicly or privately sponsored. Significant projects this past year were undertaken by the following State agencies or utility companies:

- MWRA
- National Grid
- Eversource

In addition, Brookline Engineering works closely with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MADOT), both in administering state and federal transportation dollars for local Brookline projects through two programmatic vehicles: the State's Chapter 90 Reimbursable Roadway Funds and the State's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The Chapter 90 program is a recurring annual state appropriation for municipalities, the amount of which will fluctuate annually based on the formulaic tabulation and legislative authorization factors. Approximately \$1,440,293 was allocated to Brookline in CY 2015 through the Chapter 90 program.

CIP Project Management and Design Engineering

The Engineering Section implements projects listed in the Town's CIP, which might entail project planning; feasibility studies; site surveys; design engineering; preparation of specifications and cost estimates; project advertising and bidding; contract execution; and construction administration and supervision. In this capacity, Engineering functions inter-divisionally, serving the professional engineering, architecture, landscape and surveying needs of each of the other divisions within DPW.

The following project briefs, which represent CIP items listed in Parks, Water & Sewer, Highways, as well as Engineering and Transportation, offer an overview of the Division's 2015 endeavors:

Engineering CIP

Roadway Reconstruction – 1.6 Miles of roadways were resurfaced or reconstructed which included the following streets: Tappen Street from Beacon Street to Greenough Street, Buckminster Road from Cotswold Road to Sumner road, Blake Road from Gardner Road to Sumner Road and Claflin Road.

Sidewalk Replacement – Approximately 1,347 square yards of cement concrete sidewalks, 343 square yards of cement concrete driveways and 68 square yards of accessibility ramps were replaced under the maintenance contract.

Roadway Maintenance – 5,370 square yards of bituminous concrete

repair (patching) to roadway defects and hazards, 2600 square yards of bituminous concrete sidewalk were replaced, surfaced, and 25 roads were crack sealed.

Granite Curbing – 265 linear feet of new granite curb was installed.

Brookline Village Pedestrian Overpass

The Brookline Village Pedestrian Overpass which was constructed in 1973 was torn down and removed from the site. The demolition was required in order to make way for the Gateway East Project which is scheduled for construction in FY17.

Carlton Street Footbridge – Project is in the Transportation Improvement Program for FY 2016 as an element in the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) category in the amount of \$1,776 million. Selectmen authorized final design costs for \$154,000. A 25% design public hearing was held.

Station Street Stairs

The stairs leading from the Kent Street parking lot to Station Street were repaired after being closed because of the hazardous condition of the treads.

Water and Sewer CIP

MWRA

Construction started in Fall/2010 on the Phase 2 portion of the lower Beacon Street sewer separation project. All the work involved with the installation of sanitary sewer, storm drains and structures was completed by December, 2013. The contract has been closed out.

Town

The Town working with its consultant completed the I&I inspection of Sewer subareas NI-8, NI-9, NI-10, and NI-11. The work included flow isolation and CCTV to identify I&I sources. As a result of the investigation, the Town has prepared Sewer System Contract PW/15-10. Work includes the following:

- Spot repair of sewer mains
- Install/repair sewer manholes
- Line various size sewer mains with cured-in-place pipe
- Cleaning of sewer mains
- Manhole rehabilitation

The Town executed a contract with D'Allessandro Corp in the amount of \$2,221,480 to perform the above mentioned work.

Parks and Open Space/Recreation CIP

Supervised the reconstruction of Warren and Waldstein Playgrounds.
Supervised the construction of the new playground at the Fisher Hill Reservoir site.

NPDES Phase II General Permit for Small Municipal Storm Separate Sewer Systems

The DPW/Engineering Division is responsible for the preparation and implementation of the Town's Storm Water Management Program (SWMP). The DEP and EPA require a SWMP to contain the following BMPs:

- Public Education
- Public Participation

- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Runoff Control
- Post Construction Runoff Control
- Municipal Good Housekeeping

During the IDDE inspection, the Town found an 8" sewer main leaking into the Tannery Brook drain on Beacon Street. As part of contract PW/15-10 the section of sewer was repaired. Further investigation will continue as outlined in the Town's agreement with the EPA.

Twenty applications were submitted for Stormwater Permits as required by the Town's By-Law which addresses construction site runoff. As a result, 33 site inspections were made.

TRANSPORTATION

A Transportation Administrator, Traffic Engineer, and two Administrative Assistants staff the Transportation section of the division.

Duties of the DPW - Transportation Division staff include:

1. Providing technical support and administrative services to the Board of Selectmen, the Transportation Board, Bicycle Advisory Committee, Public Transit Advisory Committee, Complete Streets Study Committee, Brookline Police Department and other town departments;
2. Responding to resident inquiries or complaints regarding traffic or pedestrian safety, parking, and taxi operations;
3. Conducting safety improvement, traffic safety, and parking studies; as well as spot studies on the use and placement of traffic control devices and parking signage;
4. Overseeing the design of intersection and traffic signal improvement projects;
5. Managing the town parking system (metered and curbside parking spaces);
6. Administering the school staff, resident daytime, guest overnight, resident overnight, and commercial area employee parking permit programs;
7. Regulating the taxicab industry, valet services, and livery services;
8. Assessing the impacts of all major new development projects on traffic flow and parking.

New Staff

Joining the Division in 2015 to fill the vacant position of Administrative Assistant – Permits is Sueretta Channer who previously worked for the Town in the Public Works Administration office. This key position is in charge of administering the issuance, invoicing, and renewal of all daytime, overnight, and temporary parking permit programs as well as the NO PARKING SIGNS issued under the authority of the Transportation Board.



Sueretta Channer

Transportation Board Meetings

The Transportation Board, a citizen body of six appointed by the Board of Selectmen, is charged with oversight of the Town's Traffic Rules and Regulations. The Board meets on a regular basis to review and adopt traffic and parking policies, to review and approve various license applications, and to act upon recommendations for traffic safety and parking improvements identified by town residents and Division staff. During 2015, the Board conducted twelve (12) public meetings and hearings at which they took action on over one hundred (100) traffic, parking, taxi, and other items under their jurisdiction.



Brookline Transportation Board

Program Administration

The division staff administers the resident daytime parking permit program, the overnight guest parking program, the overnight resident parking program, the commercial lot permit parking program, the commercial meter permit parking program, the commercial on-street permit parking program, and the temporary parking permit program as well as regulating the Valet, Taxi, and Livery industries. It also evaluates and acts upon, with the approval of the Transportation Board, all requests for handicapped parking and valet parking spaces.

In 2015, the Division:

- Issued 2,827 resident daytime parking permits;
- Issued 571 commercial daytime on-street parking permits;
- Issued two Taxi Dispatch Licenses, 10 Taxi Business Licenses, and 84 Hackney Certificates;
- Issued three Public Automobile for Hire Business Licenses;
- Issued three Jitney Licenses including the Bridj service;
- Issued Valet Parking Licenses for one eating establishment and one private residential building;
- Issued over 9,000 Temporary No Parking/Tow Zone signs to residents and/or contractors to assist during moving or construction periods;
- Issued 7,168 temporary parking permits to residents and others who suffered conditions that qualified them for short-term exemptions to the 2-hour daytime and overnight parking time limits;
- Managed the resident overnight parking program, that now encompasses 309 off-street parking spaces in 13 locations, renting an average of 165 overnight parking spaces each month;
- Issued 156 commercial meter hang-tags to 60 businesses for employee parking in Brookline Village, and 80 parking permits for employee daytime parking in the Coolidge Corner commercial district lots;
- Oversaw the issuance of over 600 school teacher and staff daytime parking permits for the Devotion, Lawrence, Pierce, Runkle, Upper Devotion, Old Lincoln, Brookline High School and Maimonides schools.

Parking Meter Management

The DPW - Transportation Division staff, working in concert with the DPW - Highway Division assumes primary responsibility for managing the 2,417 parking meter spaces located curbside and in the off-street parking lots within the commercial areas. Currently the Town utilizes three meter types to provide the best possible service to the users of our public parking supply. In the parking lots we utilize the Digital Multi-space Meter on a pay by space system, curbside in our busiest commercial districts the Town has deployed the IPS single space meter that accepts credit card payment, and in the remaining 1,320 spaces the Town continues to use the POM single space meters which accept coin payment only. In 2015 staff led a Staff Appointed Working Group of staff from other departments and representatives from the various commercial districts to discuss the implementation of the parking meter rate increase by the Override Study Committee as well as expansion of IPS single space meters town wide and

implementation of a Pay by Cell technology to better serve the needs of the public parking supply users with additional ease of use payment options.

Traffic Signals

Both the design of new traffic signals and the operation (phasing and timing) of existing traffic signals fall under the purview of the DPW - Transportation Division. Traffic counts and speed monitor data are also routinely gathered to provide information necessary for traffic signal design or modification. In 2015 DPW - Transportation staff worked with the Highways Division to upgrade the traffic signal at the intersection of Tappan Street at Beacon Street, Allandale Road at Grove Street, Webster Street at Beacon Street with new camera based detection equipment. This new equipment is better with maintenance since it is not likely to fail as roadway pavement conditions deteriorate or are trenched through and better detects bicycles and motor vehicles. Staff also studied and then altered the traffic signal timing and phasing at the intersection of Centre Street/Webster Street at Beacon Street to reduce traffic congestion during peak hours.

Taxi Regulation

The licensing and inspection of all taxicabs and limousines operating in the Town of Brookline falls under the jurisdiction of the DPW - Transportation Division and Transportation Board.

As required under the Brookline *Taxicab Regulations*, the entire operating fleet of taxicabs successfully passed semi-annual inspections conducted by the DPW -Highway Division. Upon recommendation of the division, the Transportation Board and the Brookline Police Department's Hackney Division took action to protect the residents of Brookline by strongly enforcing the vehicle safety requirements that our taxi fleet must meet during these inspections.

In 2015 Division staff worked with a Staff Appointed Working Group and the Transportation Board to develop and pass a new set of regulations for the Taxi Industry which will modernize the fleet, introduce handicap accessible vehicles, authorize e-dispatch systems, provide more opportunities for training of new drivers and other changes to help the industry the flexibility to transform and meet new customer needs and demands.

Parking Regulation

DPW – Transportation Division staff is always seeking ways to minimize the conflicts between automobiles, pedestrians and bicycles. The safe flow of traffic on the streets of Brookline is of the highest priority. Economic development and safe traffic flow also depend upon clearly delineated parking areas and adequate signage. During 2015, and as warranted by specific neighborhood safety concerns, the Transportation Board and division staff authorized a total of 20 sign work orders that involved the installation of over 200 new or modified traffic control signs, parking restrictions, or pavement markings.

Pedestrian & Motor Vehicle Safety Improvement Program

Our in-house staff and on-call transportation consultants perform area-wide safety improvement studies in response to traffic volume, speed or parking conditions that might contribute to unsafe vehicular, bicycle, or pedestrian movements. Neighborhood associations or residents living on a particular street will typically initiate such requests for a traffic calming study which is then prepared and approved by the Transportation Board following a lengthy public process.

In 2015 DPW - Transportation Division staff worked with residents and the Transportation Board in the following parts of town to design and implement safety improvement projects to lower motor vehicles speed and increase motor vehicle and pedestrian safety:

- Developed and oversaw the construction of a safety improvement plan for the intersection of Buckminster Road at Clinton Road to coincide with the planned roadway reconstruction being managed by the Engineering Division. This new design improves safety by slowing vehicle turning maneuvers and creating new crosswalks for safe pedestrian movement.
- Developed a safety improvement plan for the section of Heath Street between the town line and Hammond Pond Parkway. This plan will reduce motor vehicle speeds and increase pedestrian safety with a raised

speed hump near the town line and a new raised crosswalk and enhanced pavement markings at the intersection with Arlington and Belmont Roads. This work will be constructed in 2016.

- Developed a safety improvement plan for the intersections of Blake Road and Tappan Street and Gardner Road at Blake Road to improve pedestrian safety and slow motor vehicle speeds through these intersections near Brookline High School. This work will be constructed in 2016.
- Staff also oversaw the construction of previously approved safety improvement plans for Fisher Avenue.

Bicycle Infrastructure Design & Construction

In response to the Town of Brookline's continued desire to become a Green Community and design facilities that reduce our carbon footprint, the Transportation Board and the DPW – Transportation Division staff have made it a priority to build a multi-modal transportation network that encourages alternative modes of transportation instead of personal automobile trips. In order to encourage more citizens to use bicycles to travel throughout the town, and to connect regional bicycle routes, a safe network of routes must be designed and constructed.

In 2015 DPW – Transportation Division staff oversaw the installation of previously approved bicycle lanes, the Town's first cycle track, the Town's left turn queue boxes, and sharrows on Beacon Street, St. Paul Street (north of Beacon), and Newton St. & Goddard Avenue from Clyde Street to the Larz Anderson parking lot.

Staff participated in the Massachusetts Department of Transportation led process to develop enhanced bicycle facilities as part of the Village Square/Gateway East project and oversaw the development of final designs for the Pedestrian & Bicycle Crossing Improvement Project on Pond Avenue, River Road, and Washington Street. Additionally staff conducted studies and drafted plans, in conjunction with the Bicycle Advisory Committee, for a new buffered bicycle lane on Beacon Street westbound between Marion Street and Westbourne Terrace.



Newton Street Cycle Track



Beacon and Webster Bike Box

Support of Green Community Status

In 2011 the Town was awarded a Green Community status by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources in recognition of our resident and town staffs commitment to reducing our energy usage and improving our carbon footprint. Transportation Division staff have been a partner in this process developing plans and overseeing construction projects to develop a multi-modal transportation network that encourages alternative transit modes. In 2015 this work included

- Continued implementation of policies and projects to encourage safe cycling and walking to reduce congestion caused by motor vehicle use;
- Overseeing the second year of a four year conversion project of all cobra head street lights to LED; and
- Advocating for increased efficiencies in our public transportation systems.

HIGHWAY, SANITATION AND FLEET SERVICES DIVISION

The Highway, Sanitation and Fleet Services Division is comprised of four (4) separate work units each with independent goals and objectives. The Highway Unit, Sanitation Unit, Fleet and Facilities Unit and the Traffic Systems Unit are each described in detail below along with their key accomplishments. The Division is led by Director Kevin Johnson and each unit is managed by a team of senior supervisors.

HIGHWAY UNIT

The Highway Unit is responsible for the maintenance of more than 220 lane miles of asphalt roadways and 150 miles of sidewalks of varying surface types. During 2015, Highway continued its effort to make intermediate repairs to roadways and sidewalks in an effort to preserve their surface integrity for the safety of the public and to keep them clean and more aesthetically appealing. The unit continued its program of working in conjunction with contractual services to accelerate the replacement of sidewalks in areas of the Town where pedestrian traffic is heaviest and the sidewalks are in an advanced state of deterioration. In addition to the surface repair of streets and sidewalks, the Highway unit is responsible for the public pathways, municipal and school parking lots, paved play areas, along with other roadway appurtenances including curbside benches, litter baskets, fencing, and guardrails as well as clearing of snow, sand, leaves, litter, graffiti, and other unwanted debris from public ways and facilities.

HIGHWAY STATISTICS 2015

Bituminous Concrete placed	799 tons
Concrete Sidewalk placed	8148 square yards
Leaves collected	2624 tons
Street sweeping	1262 tons
Waste Concrete, Asphalt & Gravel	4030 tons
Snow Storms / Events	26
Snow Accumulation	104.2"
Household Hazardous Waste Day Participants	1301

Snow and Ice Control

The winter of 2014 – 2015 has been described as “historic and unprecedented” with over 104 inches of snow accumulation, most of which occurred in a 20 day period in January and February. The Department is responsible for the clearing of snow from 254 lane miles of public roadway, 900 street intersections and 77 private ways. In addition, snow clearing operations are done on over 44 miles of public sidewalk generally within commercial areas and along walking routes to and from public schools. Winter operations also include snow clearing from public buildings and facilities and public schools. Due to the large amount of snow this year, the Highway Division was required to remove snow from not only commercial areas but secondary streets as well to allow for safe passage of emergency vehicles. Over 85,000 cubic yards of snow was transported to the Town’s “snow farm” at the Transfer Station.



Sidewalk Replacement

The Highway Division continued with an aggressive sidewalk replacement program. The Division crews placed a total of 1046 cubic yards for 2015. The replacement remains stable through training, cross-training, quality equipment and a dedicated workforce. The ability to sustain this level of productivity is based on funding to purchase concrete and maintaining existing manpower levels.



Employee Training

In 2015, the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety amended the regulations for Hoisting Licenses by adding a continuing education requirement. Each license holder is mandated to complete 4 hours of education at a cost of \$100 for each two year renewal period. The DPW holds on-site training averaging 30 employees for training to satisfy the new requirements.

Recyclable Concrete and Asphalt

The disposal of waste roadway materials (asphalt and concrete) generated by roadway and utility repairs has resulted in annual expenses for hauling the material off site. Over the past several years, the Highway unit has begun a program to recycle these waste materials into useable processed gravel for reuse as base material for sidewalks and backfill for utility trenches thereby avoiding both disposal costs and the expense of purchasing new material.



SANITATION UNIT

The Sanitation Unit is responsible for the collection and disposal of municipal solid waste for 13,362 customers and a recycling and recovery program that includes the annual collection of residential household hazardous wastes.



Recycling Program

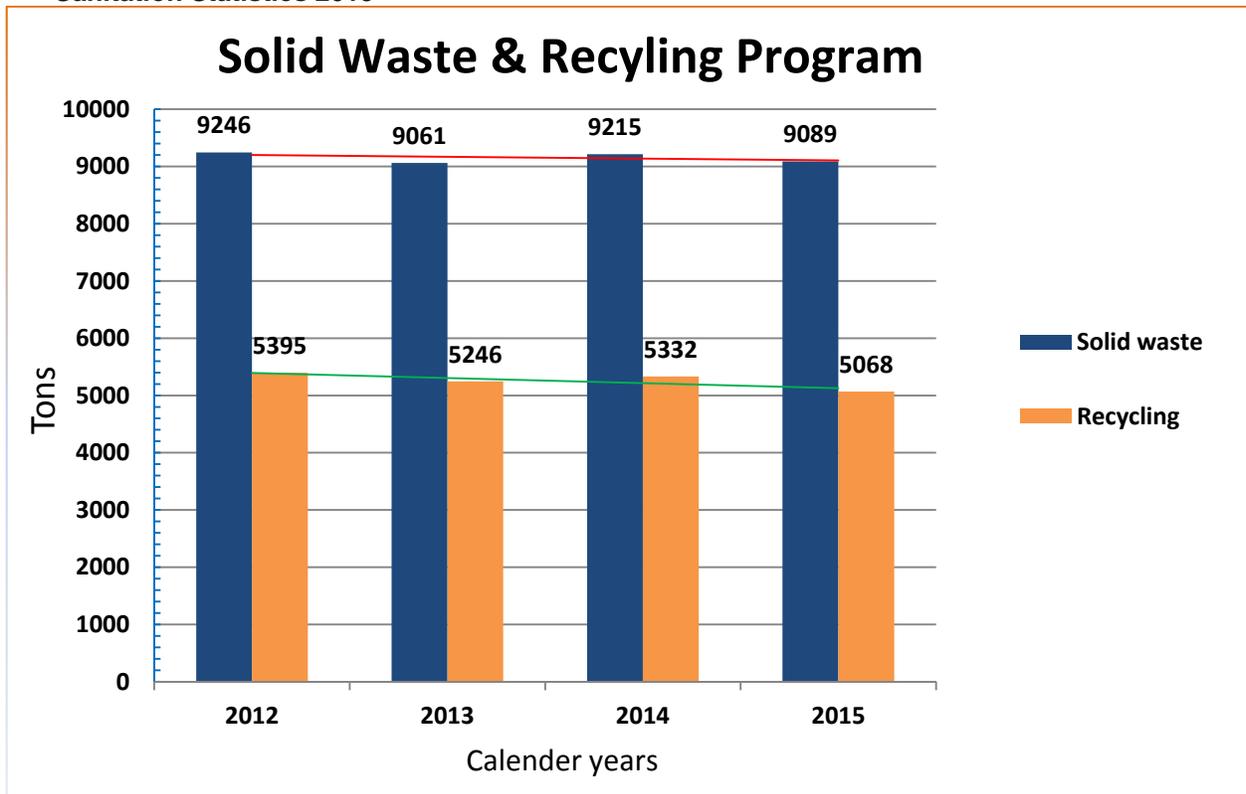
Since the implementation of the single stream recycling program in 2010, recycling has seen an increase of 16.6 % in 2015 while solid waste has decreased by 9.9%.

Household Hazardous Waste

The Sanitation Division continued offering the weekly household hazardous waste drop-off center. The center located at the Transfer Station is opened to residents every Thursday from May thru October.

The DPW designated areas at Town Hall, the Health Center and the Municipal Service Center for year round collection of Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFL), batteries and cellphones.

Sanitation Statistics 2015



Solid Waste Code Enforcement Program

Solid Waste Complaints Received		501
Inspections/Re-inspections		950
Solid Waste Warnings Issued		701
Solid Waste Citations Issued		52
Total Fines Collected	\$5,155	
Number of Waste Haulers Permitted	35	
Waste Hauler Permit Fees Collected	\$16,890	

FLEET AND FACILITY SERVICES UNIT

The Fleet and Facility Services Unit is responsible for the acquisition, inventory, inspection, maintenance and disposal of all mechanized Public Works equipment, with the exception of the Water and Sewer Division. The Fleet Services Unit also maintains and inspects all other automotive / truck equipment within the Town except for equipment operated by the Fire Department. In addition, this Unit assists in the administration of the Town's taxi licensing and inspection program, as well as the routine physical maintenance of all Department of Public Works buildings, including garages, office, and storage facilities town-wide.

Employee Technician Training

A strong and continued emphasis on technical training has benefited the Fleet Services Unit enormously. By utilizing vendor and manufacturer relationships, technician training has been increased at minimal or no cost to the Town. The increase in training hours to 120 hours has directly improved technician efficiency and productivity.

Employee Technician Shifts

The Fleet Maintenance Section continued to operate two work shifts. This enabled the section to better serve the needs of all departments. Operating two maintenance shifts during the day has allowed us to complete 721 Preventive Maintenance Work Orders. This also improves response time to breakdowns and drastically reduced vehicle downtime.

Taxi Cab Inspections

In conjunction with the DPW's Transportation Division and publicly appointed Transportation Board, the bi-annual 371 taxi cab inspections were completed.



TRAFFIC SYSTEMS UNIT

The Traffic Systems Unit is responsible for the maintenance of traffic signals, parking meters, pavement markings, ornamental and utility street lights, fire alarm boxes, signs, and graffiti. In total, this inventory is comprised of approximately 1,120 individual signals, 3,600 street lights, 1,883 parking meters, 27 multi-space meters, 28 school zone warning lights, 10,210 signs, 229 master fire boxes, 302 street fire boxes, 100 miles of overhead wires, and pavement markings on more than 200 lane miles of streets throughout the Town. Along with daily, weekly, and monthly maintenance routes, the division executed work orders issued by the Transportation Division for regulatory sign installation, pavement markings and parking meter modifications. New to this unit's responsibility is the maintenance of 27 multi-space meters and the installation and maintenance of 2100 LED cobra head street lights.

Traffic Signals

Maintenance of the signalized intersections, flashing beacons and school zone flashers continued throughout the year.

Street Lights

All Streetlights owned by the Town were updated in the GIS program listing location and type of streetlight. This data enabled a smoother transition to the new LED fixtures currently replacing the existing high pressure sodium units. To date the Division has replaced nearly 2/3 of the 3,600 fixtures.



Parking Meters

The maintenance and repair of 1,883 parking meters and 27 multi-space meters is a daily function of the Traffic unit. 1,320 meters are the traditional POM meters and 563 are the new IPS single head meters that use coins and credit cards. These meters are located in Coolidge Corner, JFK Crossing, Washington Square and Lower Beacon Street. In addition, the 27 Multi space meters are in all parking lots and reservations that have converted to "pay by space"

Signs and Pavement Markings

The Town continued to upgrade street signs, stop signs and poles to meet current MUTCD (Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices) standards of text size and retro-reflectivity. The Traffic division completed 22 work orders from the Transportation Division (199 sign total) and repaired or replaced 698 signs due to knock downs or faded signs. The Traffic Division has worked with the Engineering Division on a program to standardize pavement markings throughout the town. Part of the program is utilizing new marking products like 3M inlay tape and logos.

Street Lights

Continued maintenance of street lighting, this includes ornamental, park, path and standard street lighting totaling over 4,000 lights. 560 street light work orders were completed in 2015.

Events & Special Tasks

In conjunction with other departments, the Traffic Systems Unit plays a major role in the planning and executing of several major events throughout the year (Boston Marathon, ½ Marathon Bike parade Avon Breast Cancer walk, Aids Walk Jimmy find Walk, Town, State and Federal elections, Walk for Hunger) and several minor events. Placing and removing all flags and banners on poles throughout the Town for different Town or private events is a common task.

Fire Alarm

Continued maintenance of Fire Alarms, this includes Master Boxes, Street Boxes and 100 miles of cable wire.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE DIVISION

The Mission of the Parks and Open Space Division is to develop a clean, green, safe, accessible and well maintained network of parks and open spaces for both passive and active recreation that preserves the historic integrity and cultural significance of Brookline's landscape. *Please visit www.brooklinema.gov/parks for updates throughout the year on our park and open space system, technical resources, projects, programming and events.*

The Parks and Open Space Division, in conjunction with the Park and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Tree Planting Committee and Walnut Hills Cemetery Trustees, is responsible for the design, development, policy, programming, maintenance and management of over 600 acres of public open space, comprised of 38 parks and playgrounds, three sanctuaries, 10 public schools, land around 15 public buildings, five public parking areas, two cemeteries, over 50 traffic islands and over 11,000 street trees throughout the Town. The Division implements an aggressive maintenance program on 24 multi-use playing fields, a safety inspection and repair program for playground structures at 22 parks and 10 schools, and ongoing maintenance, painting and repair at 25 basketball courts, 32 hard surface tennis courts, and one set of six clay courts. The Division is responsible for seasonal preparations, horticulture improvements, litter pick-up, trash collection, leaf removal, turf restoration, carpentry and fence repairs, as well as snow and ice removal during the winter months. In addition, the Division maintains a full-sized outdoor skating facility (the Jack Kirrane Ice Skating Rink) at Larz Anderson Park.

Parks, Schools & Public Grounds

The Parks and Open Space Division provides renovation, maintenance and repair of all play equipment, park furniture, walkways, landscaping and fixtures in the Town parks, school grounds and public grounds. The following highlights 2015 projects:

Fisher Hill Reservoir Park

In February 2011, the Town closed on the purchase and sale of the MWRA Fisher Hill Reservoir property with the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management. This capped a ten-year planning process that culminated in the Park and Recreation Commission approving the final park plan and project priorities in 2013 and collaborating with the Preservation Commission to secure a Preservation Restriction for the historic gatehouse.

Near the end of 2013, design consultant Klopfer Martin Design Group completed final construction bid documents, and the construction contract was awarded and executed to Argus Construction Corp. Argus Corp. began to mobilize, stage and clear the site of vegetation in January of 2014. Construction continued on the site through 2015 with work on the ten-acre park nearing completion. Earthwork and seeding are in place, utilities are complete, pedestrian circulation is largely complete, the sculptural play events are installed, perimeter fencing is complete, and planting that included 1,500 trees and 4,500 shrubs was completed. Work on the historic gatehouse, which included stabilization of the masonry structure and installation of new windows, has been done and construction of the new comfort station is complete. The work that remains to be done in the spring of 2016 is completion of the parking lot and the pedestrian paths around it, and installation of wetland plugs in the wet meadow to the south and bioswale that filters the runoff from the parking lot. A grand opening celebration will be planned for fall 2016.



Fisher Hill Reservoir Park in Construction

Waldstein Playground and Eliot Field/Warren Playground

Renovation of both Waldstein Playground and Eliot Playground/Warren Field was successfully completed in spring 2015. Both parks now include accessible walking paths, new play equipment, improved athletic fields and facilities, places for socializing and quiet reflection, and multigenerational activities. Work at Waldstein Playground addressed improvements to the tennis courts and basketball court, new water play, renovation of the comfort station and the ball field as well, with special focus on easing the drainage problems. Improvements at Eliot Playground/Warren Field include a new backstop with sunscreen, newly constructed infields and turf renovation with emphasis on maintaining the open and “rustic” character of the park. By happy circumstance, a number of boulders were unearthed during the construction process at Eliot Playground and were able to be incorporated into the design. In both parks, the improvements create balance between built amenities and the green character that is so well loved.

Brookline Avenue Playground

The public design review process was completed in October 2015 for improvements to Brookline Avenue Playground, with five public meetings held. While the plan contemplates improvements to the entrances, perimeter plantings, partial renovation of the ball field and replacement of the infield, some new and replacement fencing; the primary emphasis has been not simply to exceed ADA requirements, but to thoughtfully and proactively design an inclusive playground. Inclusive playgrounds make a fundamental statement about how communities value meaningful play experiences for people of all ages and abilities. Universally designed play environments increase the “playability” for people of diverse abilities, age, race, gender, ethnicity, culture, and socioeconomic status (Playcore Principles of Inclusive Play). The goal is for this playground to be a destination for all children with and without mobility or developmental challenges. The design theme revolves around experiencing and interacting with nature, and includes manipulative water play as well as new play equipment and accessible surfacing. CDBG funds were obtained this year to supplement the construction budget.

Pierce Playground

Construction documents are underway for improvements to the Pierce School Playground after successful completion of the public design review process in August 2015. Goals for the project were to accommodate the

existing school uses within a growing student population and accommodate neighborhood needs for accessible open space, both passive and active, for people of all abilities. New additions include play equipment for preschoolers and school age children, renovation of the ballfield, new fencing, new plantings, a picnic area and passive seating with new site furniture, and a new pedestrian circulation system that brings the paths to within ADA guidelines and provides a perimeter walking path. One of the major improvements will be a new entry treatment at School Street.

Green Dog Program

In 2015, 1,381 residents and 161 non-residents enrolled in the Green Dog off-leash program, keeping participation in line with previous years and showing a noticeable uptick in non-resident enrollment. The Town also issued 3 commercial dog walker licenses and 13 guest passes this year. Park visitation by Green Dog members was very high, and Rangers confirmed regular overall compliance with program rules and regulations. In addition to processing the years' applications, since January 1, 2015, the Rangers responded to a wide array of Green Dog related issues, ranging from general inquiries on how to register and the program's rules and regulations to more complex issues involving unpermitted parties using Green Dog areas during off-leash hours. The Rangers cooperated and coordinated with the Animal Control Officer to ensure that dogs were licensed and under proper control by their owners.

With a goal of increased communication, the Green Dog Program sent out regular email updates to interested members. Updates involved concerns with holes, information on field closures, pertinent Program changes, user-generated informative material, and information on Green Dog meetups, a new program combining social time between dog owners and an opportunity to speak directly with Parks employees to raise any questions or concerns they may have with the Green Dog Program or Brookline Parks in general.

Park Rangers

In 2015, Rangers patrolled parks and open spaces, providing information and general visitors' services to park patrons, enforcing rules and regulations, collecting park usage information, and identifying and completing maintenance tasks to improve visitor experience, accessibility and safety. For many Brookline residents and park visitors, Park Rangers serve as a primary point-of-contact for Brookline Parks and Open Space. Throughout the year, the Rangers served as liaisons and advocates for the dog owners, athletic groups, playground visitors, and park abutters who visit Brookline's parks and open spaces, and worked to build interdepartmental relationships within the Town.



Friends of the Old Burying Ground

Rangers monitored and visited parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and nature sanctuaries throughout the town. They cleaned restrooms, filled holes, repaired signage, bagged animal waste, and removed over 15,000 pieces of litter from Brookline green space. Goose management was an ongoing issue at Larz Anderson Park, Olmsted Park, and the Brookline Reservoir, resulting in regular feces cleanups and use of various goose relocation techniques over 70 times in 2015. In the sanctuaries, the Rangers monitored wetland habitats, cleaned obstructions from waterways, and patrolled walking paths and boardwalks. Trails through wooded areas and sanctuaries were cleaned,

raked, and re-established through regular maintenance throughout the year. Rangers continued to remove invasive plants, most notably in Dane Park, Larz Anderson Park, the Brookline Reservoir, and along Olmsted Park.

Rangers also led or participated in a variety of stewardship and learning opportunities for local residents and school groups, ranging from scheduled volunteer cleanups to guided tours and educational activities at Hall's Pond

Sanctuary to junior ranger activities at Larz Anderson Park and Soule Recreation Center. The development of an online portal for Volunteer Projects in the Brookline Parks aided in more than doubling the number of volunteer hours from 2014. This web presence allows interested parties to create their own unique volunteer projects or sign up for existing community projects hosted by Brookline Parks or local Friends groups. Over 400 hours of volunteer labor were recorded, with over 175 participants, from school groups to churches to passionate individuals.

Rangers staffed and facilitated events like Brookline Bikes Beacon, Brookline Day, and public concerts at Emerson Garden and Olmsted Park. The development of an interpretive plan for Larz Anderson Park in 2013 equipped Rangers with impressive tools and knowledge for leading programs and providing historical information on the grounds. In addition to their regular visitor services duties at Larz Anderson Park on weekends, rangers were on hand to provide historical interpretation of the Park. While most were short, informal talks, Rangers gave several historical walking tours, now advertised in the Park and offered every Saturday and Sunday afternoon.



Summer Sundays Concerts at Olmsted Park

Outdoor Movie Series

The Parks and Open Space Division continued its popular tradition with its Summer Movie Series at the Driscoll School Field. The partnership with COAH Church was well-organized and well-received, leading to attendance at all 4 events of 500-600 visitors. The family-friendly movies “Despicable Me”, “Paddington,” “Meet the Robinsons” and “Big Hero 6,” were huge hits, often with perfect weather and enthusiastic crowds.

Brookline in Bloom:

In 2015, the Town's parks and open spaces lit up with over 15,000 flowering annuals, 250 perennials, 1,800 colorful fall mums and 55,000 spring flowering bulbs throughout the Town's parks, playgrounds, libraries, town grounds, school grounds, medians, traffic circles and islands, and cemeteries. As part of the continuing outreach program, children from each school learned about different bulbs and how they grow from the Town's Environmental Educator. Each child then got to help plant bulbs around their own school with the help from the Parks and Open Space Division's Horticultural crew.

In April 2015, Beacon Street was again alive with yellow and blue color for the Boston Marathon; this was the result of the Brookline Parks Division's Horticultural crew continuing the “*Boston Strong Marathon Daffodils Program*”. The

crew formed a Yellow and Blue “Boston Strong Ribbon” using 400 Yellow Daffodils and 75 Blue Pansies on the hill across from the Fairbanks ‘T’ Station. Over 7,000 Yellow Daffodils including 13,000 other bulbs were installed from Cleveland Circle to Saint Mary’s MBTA station at the Boston line.

The Muddy River Restoration Project

On October 10, 2012, the Muddy River Restoration Project Groundbreaking Celebration was held in the Back Bay Fens in front of the Landmark Center. The Muddy River Project is an essential part of the on-going effort to rehabilitate the Emerald Necklace park system. The rehabilitation is guided by *The Emerald Necklace Environmental Improvements Master Plan* and the *Muddy River Flood Control, Water Quality, Habitat Enhancement and Historic Preservation Project*. This overarching effort includes improvements at Charlesgate (completed in 2005), as well as the Back Bay Fens, Riverway, and Olmsted Parks.

The City of Boston and Town of Brookline worked in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a comprehensive program to restore the Muddy River: however the project scope has been reduced to exclude the majority of the environmental restoration elements of the project and only include flood control. Funding for the effort comes from the Army Corps, the Massachusetts Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and its Department of Conservation and Recreation, Boston, and Brookline. The first phase of the project is nearing completion. Work completed in 2015 included the installation of 10 foot by 24 foot culverts to carry the Muddy River under the Riverway and Brookline Avenue, realignment of the traffic pattern around the Landmark Center including removal of the jug handle road, and daylighting of the Muddy River in areas in front of the Landmark Center and between Brookline Avenue and Avenue Louis Pasteur. (“Daylighting” means taking a river that has been put underground in pipes and opening it up to the daylight once again.) Phase II of the project will be designed in 2016 and include limited spot dredging up and down the park system.

Putterham Library

The front of the Putterham Library received a significant redesign and renovation through the generosity and talent of Christie Dustman, Landscape Designer. In coordination with the Preservation Division, the existing brick wall was removed except for a small section at the far end. The design consisted of using a mix of groundcovers, washed river gravel, perennials, evergreen trees and the use of different size large stones to accent the design areas.

Heath & Runkle School Fields

The Division completely renovated the turf grass fields at the Heath and Runkle Schools. Working with each school’s Principal the fields were closed for three months during the summer and early fall. Parks Division crews improved the soil by topdressing with compost and adding fertilizer. The fields were aerated to help reduce compaction and prepare the area for seeding. After seeding, the fields were rested for the remaining scheduled closure. At the end of the three months the Principals worked with the Parks Division to help improve the balance between field use and providing a proper resting period for the grass to recover. So far the results of this joint project show that with cooperation from the schools, turf fields can be restored and that the new grass surface is sustainable.

Forestry

The goal of the forestry program is to preserve and maintain all shade trees along public ways, parks, school grounds, cemeteries, and all other public grounds. The Division provides for the safety of all public ways and grounds through the removal of dangerous limbs and trees and is responsible for replacing trees removed. The total number of trees under the jurisdiction of the Division is reported as more than 50,000. Included in that total are over 11,000 public street trees. The Division continues to utilize and update its street tree inventory, which includes information on tree species, size, condition and health, and management needs. The overwhelming citizen interest in tree preservation continues in Brookline. The Division continues to work with interested citizens, businesses and environmental advocacy groups to enhance the care of the urban forest.

In 2015, the Town was pleased to receive a Tree City USA Award from the National Arbor Day Foundation for its care and stewardship of the urban forest. Brookline has received Tree City USA recognition for over 25 years.

Tree Planting

The Town continues to strongly support the tree planting program with a goal of planting more trees than are removed each year. In 2015, approximately 160 trees were removed, and over 260 trees were planted along the public ways. A wide variety of trees are planted to insure that species diversity is maintained. Species diversity

helps in protecting the Town's urban forest from attack by a single disease or pathogen, such as Dutch elm disease, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, or the Emerald Ash Borer. Town Arborist, Tom Brady, spent time with the classes at the Heath School talking about the importance of trees and how to care for them.



Town Arborist, Tom Brady, Arbor Day Planting Winthrop Square

The three-member Tree Planting Committee, established in 1886, supervises the selection, planting and removal of all street trees in Brookline. Hugh Mattison is the chairman of the Tree Planting Committee and was joined by Nadine Gerdts and Elizabeth Erdman, who joined the Committee in March of this year.

Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive pest whose larvae tunnel through the wood of ash trees, leading to the death of branches and eventually the whole tree. The EAB was first detected in Massachusetts in 2012 and was found at the Arnold Arboretum in 2014. Traps for the Emerald Ash Borer were placed throughout Brookline in 2015 in a cooperative effort with the USDA to monitor for this pest. We are pleased to report that no Emerald Ash Borers were found during this effort. The state Department of Conservation and Recreation continues to enforce a statewide quarantine which restricts movement of hardwood firewood and ash nursery stock and lumber outside the regulated area, to help slow the spread of the EAB.

CONSERVATION

The Brookline Conservation Commission is responsible for the administration of environmental laws and policies, open space protection and management, water management, and preservation of natural features of the environment. The Commission administers and enforces the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Brookline Wetlands Protection By-Law through its review of permit applications and issuance of Determinations of

Applicability, Orders of Conditions, Certificates of Compliance, and Enforcement Orders. The Commission also administers the Federal Flood Protection Program. It initiates and helps guide studies concerning open space, water quality, flooding and other aspects of local environmental quality. It prepares and oversees implementation of the Town's Open Space Plan and manages conservation areas owned and conservation restrictions held by the Town. The Conservation Commission seeks and administers grants to support the Town's environmental protection efforts, and guides many volunteer maintenance and improvement activities.

CEMETERY

Walnut Hills Cemetery

The initiative of the Division to improve the maintenance and management of the Walnut Hills Cemetery has resulted in an increase in the dignity, tranquility and overall appearance of the cemetery. Town staff and the Cemetery Trustees are referencing the Master Plan for the Walnut Hills Cemetery as their guiding document for improvements. The Cemetery Trustees met with the Town's treasurer and revisited the investment strategies for the Cemetery Trust Funds to ensure the most beneficial financial outcome for the future care of the Cemetery.

Old Burying Ground

The Brookline Parks & Open Space Division rehabilitated the entrance gate and posts at the Old Burying Ground, planted thyme within the newly restored Cook Family lot, furthered construction bid documents for the doors and hardware to complete the tomb restoration project, and worked with the Friends of the Old Burying Ground on joint initiatives for tree and vegetation management.

WATER AND SEWER DIVISION

The Water and Sewer Division operates and maintains the Town's water and wastewater systems consisting of 355 miles of piping and appurtenances that provide the entire population with reliable drinking water, for both domestic use and fire protection, and for the collection of sanitary sewage and storm water drainage. The operation of all three systems is accomplished in strict accordance with all federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations to promote the health and welfare of the community.

Under the leadership of the Director, the Division's administrative staff efficiently and courteously handles all water and sewer business functions, including payroll, accounts payable, licensing, permitting and customer relations. Over 2,000 requests for information and assistance and nearly 40,000 utility service invoices are processed annually, with over 2,000 billing complaints and inquires are investigated and resolved. In the past year, Division staff has serviced and processed 57 applications for Licensed Drain Layers and have issued 85 permits for repairs to sewers and drains.

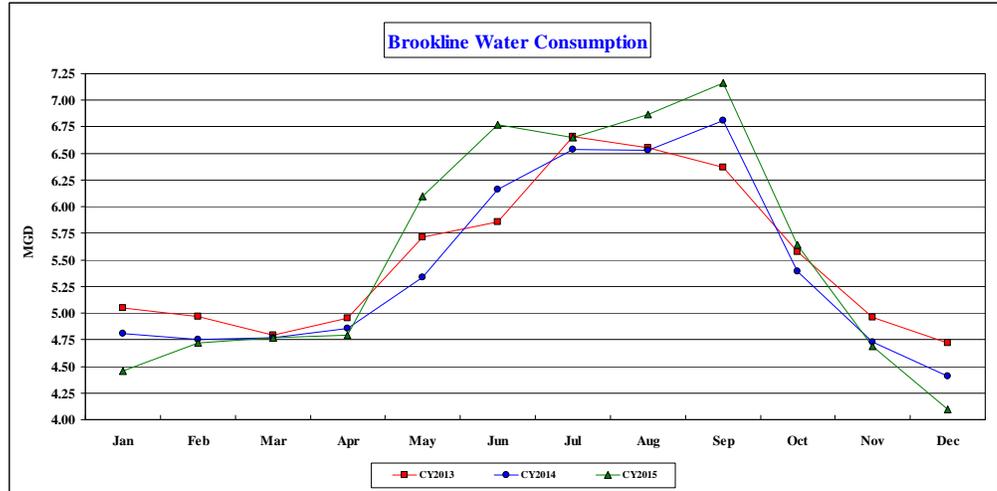
Components of the water distribution system include over 135 miles of cast iron and ductile iron pipe, 2,027 line valves, over 1,500 fire hydrants, 10,800 service connections, 1.67 million gallon water storage facility. During 2015 the Division installed, repaired or replaced 135 service pipe connections, repaired 12 service and main leaks and repaired or replaced 41 fire hydrants. In addition, the Division conducted 45 fire flow tests yielding \$11,250.00 in revenue. Emergency response was provided for 825 service requests and 375 complaints were investigated and resolved for water quality, water pressure, and leakage problems. The Division purchased 2,030 million gallons of water from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), representing a reduction of 1.5% over 2014 with an average daily usage of 5.56 million gallons and a maximum daily usage of 9.44 million gallons, and the maximum flow week occurred from 8/30/15 to 9/05/15 where 52.84 million gallons of water was consumed. Retail water and sewer sales generated \$26.82M in revenue.

New in 2016, the Water & Sewer Division will be introducing the Aquahawk Alerting System©, which is an on-line portal to allow customer access to account history, usage and billing information as well as customer notification capabilities for consumption anomalies.



Hydrant Installation

In July 2011 The Water & Sewer Division implemented a new rate structure for how we bill for water and sewer. An ascending block rate was established to bring more equitable cost distribution among customers. A water and sewer charge for public buildings as well as a fire service charge was implemented. The new base charge, which is based on the size of the house meter, will cover approximately 30% of the Division's fixed operating and debt costs.



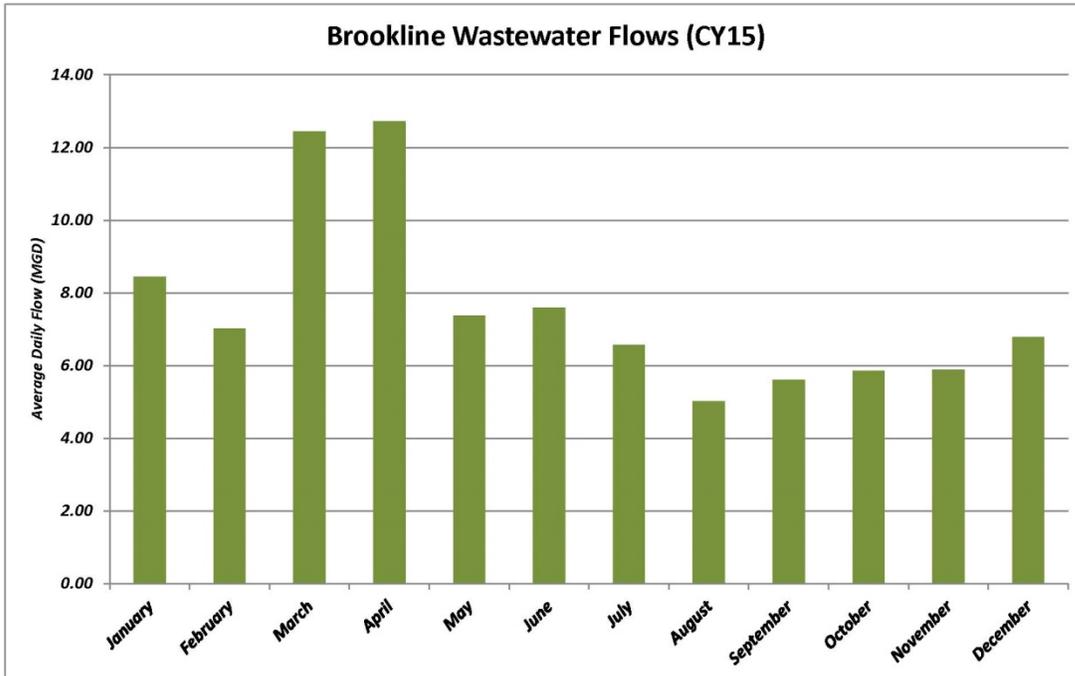
In 2009 the Division implemented a Water Main uni-directional Flushing program as recommended by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). This program has been ongoing for the last several years. The Water Main Flushing Program is an effective method of improving drinking water quality for residents and businesses, and is an integral component of a water utility's distribution system maintenance program.



Hydrant Flushing

The Division's Cross Connection Control Program, established in 1989 pursuant to the Drinking Water Regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has inspected all high and moderate high risk facilities throughout the Town and identified 1982 violations requiring the installation of 1801 backflow preventer devices on irrigation systems, fire sprinkler systems and high hazard plumbing systems. Annual testing of these devices by Division staff is mandated by the State of Massachusetts regulations and yielded \$94,705.00 in revenue in 2015.

The wastewater collection system is made up of 104 miles of separated sanitary sewer pipe. The Department of Public Works is currently completing sanitary sewer system improvements directed to eliminate inflow and infiltration. Presently the town's average wastewater flow is 7.61million gallons per day.



The second system comprises 101 miles of storm drains that collect runoff and roadway drainage from 3,296 catch basins and discharge through twelve drainage districts to the Muddy River, Saw Mill Brook, Stony Brook, and the Charles River. The major part of both systems was constructed between 1880 and 1930 and includes pipe sizes from 6” to 150” in diameter

During 2015 emergency assistance was provided for 84 requests involving broken, plugged or backed up sewer and drains as well as the repair of 42 sewer and drain manholes. Structural repairs were made to 82 catch basins. 1,412 catch basins were cleaned generating 624.4 tons of sand sediment and debris.

Representation to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) was provided by Jay Hersey of the Engineering Division, who serves as the Town’s designee to the MWRA Advisory Board. In addition, Andrew M. Pappastergion, Commissioner of Public Works is an elected member of the MWRA Board of Directors serving in his sixth consecutive 3-year term representing the sixty one (61) cities and service area.



Catch basin cleaning

Recreation Department

Brookline Recreation's mission is to enhance the quality of life through enriching experiences which support the Brookline Community in developing and maintaining healthy lifestyles. We endeavor to provide opportunities for young people, adults, and senior citizens to live, grow, and develop into healthy, contributing members of our community.

The team at Brookline Recreation enters into each year with a set of objectives that are centered on the needs of the community and focused on constantly improving delivery of service to the citizens of Brookline. The staff works hard to create and implement programs and services that surpass the needs and expectations of the community. 2015 was a year that saw tremendous growth in many of our service categories.

The increase in school aged population in Brookline has continued to be a defining factor in many of our divisions. At the Evelyn Kirrane Aquatics Center, enrollment in swim lessons grew over 10%. There were a record number of private swim lessons given last year and also a record number of group lesson participants enrolled in programs throughout the year. Facility improvements included minor repairs in the locker rooms, full implementation of the family changing area, and the installation of a new scoreboard and timing system that was paid for through fundraising. Administrative and aquatic staff also teamed up to successfully launch a four week crowdfunding campaign that raised over \$20,000 for future capital improvements in the facility.



Since the full-time Recreation Therapy position was added in 2011, the division has created dozens of new programs and services for the disabled population in Brookline. The "On the Town" program is a social group service specifically designed to encourage people with intellectual disabilities to socialize and learn important life skills, and the program continues to thrive and expand each season. Brookline's presence in Special Olympics of Massachusetts has become greater over the past several years. Leading the way was Brookline's own Jenny Harrington, who earned two silver and one gold medal at the 2015 Special Olympics held in Los Angeles. Jenny was honored by both the Park and Recreation Commission and the Board of Selectmen in October.

The Recreation Therapy division has continued to add elements to summer camps to allow the programs fully support the public school extended school year participants throughout the summer months. Additional staff and materials have been added at each site to allow the campers to transition from Extended School Year programs to Recreation Camps seamlessly. Brookline Recreation successfully completed a third year of partnering with the Public School of Brookline Food service division to provide healthy lunch options for all students and campers at all summer camp locations in town.

The Soule Early Childhood Center again garnered national attention for its unique curriculum, which blends Reggio Emilia and Montessori education philosophies to achieve an uncommon but extraordinary preschool experience for the Brookline families who are enrolled. Soule Center teachers shared their successes with a variety of visitors to the center, including early childhood teaching groups from Japan, Israel and China. Facility updates include a Zen Garden in the courtyard and new single stall bathrooms in the classrooms.

The Robert T. Lynch Golf Course at Putterham Meadows broke ground on a new driving range with 22 bays. The project is slated to be completed in July, 2016. The golf course played host to over 34,000 rounds of golf, a 5% increase over the previous year. Long overdue, the turf maintenance facility was completed early in the year, and now houses all of the facilities equipment and supplies and provides facilities for the staff.



Enrollment in youth sports programs, which directly relates to the rise in Brookline's school aged population, continues to climb. 2015 saw record numbers of youth playing sports such as soccer, baseball and lacrosse. As a response to the growing need for new sports programs as well as a need for alternatives to contact football, youth flag football has grown to over 400 players, an increase of over 20%. Youth basketball numbers have also seen considerable increases in the Joel Noe Recreation League, Travel basketball leagues and in the High School Recreation League. Brookline Recreation worked with parents of basketball players to create the Brookline Basketball Association (BBA), a parent coordinated organization that will provide volunteer support to the growing basketball program.



Partnerships with other Brookline departments are an integral part of providing excellent delivery of service to the community. Without the assistance of the Police and Fire Departments, the Department of Public Works, and the Building Department, events such as the 4th annual Brookline Day Celebration, the Summer Concert Series, and the Haunted Hayride would not be possible. The



Public Schools of Brookline have become invaluable partners in bringing the best possible summer camp experience to children in Brookline, with over 100 children per day transitioning from extended school year services to recreation day camps in the various campuses across town. Together, we share a mission to "leave no child inside" by providing educational, nutritional, and leisure experiences for children during all of their "out of school" time.

Brookline Recreation sends out monthly e-newsletters to all 20,000 members of our internal data base, and publishes a program brochure which is mailed to 27,000 households four times per year. The department also continued to enhance its social media presence in 2015, with over



1,800 active followers on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, all of which are connected to the social media presence in other town departments. The ability to share information through social media outlets has helped keep the public informed and connected with Brookline's vast number of resources for residents.

Public Schools

The Public Schools of Brookline include eight PK-8 elementary schools, Brookline High School, a comprehensive high school for grades 9 through 12 and an early childhood center. As of December 2015, there were a total of 7,755 students enrolled in our eight elementary schools, Brookline High School and in pre-school programs across the district.

English Language Learners comprise approximately 10 percent of the district's K-12 enrollment and more than 11 percent of the K-8 population; speaking 34 different primary languages. This group of more than 700 English language learners is served by English learning programs in their schools. Included in this enrollment are 321 students served by our district-wide K-8 native language support programs: Japanese, Korean, Hebrew, Chinese, Spanish and Russian.

The Public Schools of Brookline continue to be among the highest performing and most respected school systems in the United States. Brookline students are accepted at highly competitive colleges and universities in numbers that are significantly higher than most other school districts.

Brookline is at the forefront of providing quality public education to its residents. However, our stakeholders believe that successful school systems and organizations only remain high performing when they strive for continuous improvement. Therefore, we have many initiatives currently underway in the system to ensure that Brookline will remain at the forefront of education in the Commonwealth and nation.

Vision Statement

Ten Year Vision

The Public Schools of Brookline
Dynamic, Collaborative, Equitable
Engaged with the Community
Contributing to the World

Brookline provides an extraordinary education for every child. Each child's unique path to achievement is supported in academically exciting and programmatically rich environments. A dynamic, diverse community of teaching professionals works collaboratively, innovating and inspiring each other and their students. Staff gets to know students intellectually, developmentally and culturally. Students are encouraged to question and challenge ideas and participate as active citizens. Schools use a variety of assessments to get the fullest picture of student learning and growth over time. These data are shared regularly with the community, and they form the basis of how we understand and improve student, teacher and administrator performance. Parents are partners with the schools in supporting their children's education, and schools communicate effectively so that parents are confident of the response to their child's circumstances and needs. The community, well informed and involved in the schools, supports these efforts that continue a tradition of challenging ourselves to do better, efforts that ensure the enduring value of a Brookline education.

Mission

Our mission is to ensure that every student develops the skills and knowledge to pursue a productive and fulfilling life, to participate thoughtfully in a democracy, and succeed in a diverse and evolving global society.

Goals

Goal 1: Every Student Achieving

Ensure that every student meets or exceeds Brookline's high standards and eliminate persistent gaps in student achievement by establishing educational equity across all classrooms, schools, and programs.

Goal 2: Every Student Invested in Learning

Increase every student's ownership of his/her learning and achievement by using rigor, relevance, and relationships to foster a spirit of inquiry and the joy of learning.

Goal 3: Every Student Prepared for Change and Challenge

Instill in every student the habits of mind and life strategies critical for success in meeting the intellectual, civic, and social demands of life in a diverse, ever-changing, global environment.

Goal 4: Every Educator Growing Professionally

Foster dynamic professional learning communities that inspire inquiry, reflection, collaboration, and innovation, and use data to improve teaching, advance student learning, and refine the programs and practices of the Public Schools of Brookline.

Core Values

High Achievement for All

We inspire our students to develop a passion for learning. We realize the power of holding high expectations for every student, and we understand that intelligence grows with effort and cultivation. We emphasize rigor and relevance, placing great importance on curriculum, instruction, and assessment that challenge students to develop the capacity to synthesize information, acquire knowledge, exercise judgment, and apply their understanding to solve complex, real-world problems. We support students through strong relationships to become invested in their learning, develop the confidence and persistence to grow as learners, and meet their goals for success in and beyond school.

Excellence in Teaching

We understand that passionate, knowledgeable, and skillful educators are the core strength of our schools. Understanding that excellent teaching begins with strong relationships with students, we actively create an environment in which students feel safe to take intellectual risks, are respected for their identity, and are motivated to challenge themselves. Educators share responsibility for all students and provide engaging instruction and assessments that accommodate differences in learning styles, interests, and readiness. We create and sustain a collaborative environment for educators that promote an atmosphere of intellectual excitement, innovative instruction, and professional growth.

Collaboration

We commit to collaboration in all aspects of education to foster interaction among diverse viewpoints and broaden learning for our students, educators, and community. We emphasize collective problem solving in student learning. We promote professional collaboration by supporting educator teams working together across schools, disciplines, grades, and roles. We engage with parents, guardians, and the Brookline community to establish common goals and share the responsibility for educating our students. We seek and nurture partnerships with local, regional, and national organizations that add value to our collective enterprise.

Respect for Human Differences

We know that a diverse, inclusive atmosphere strengthens us as individuals, as a community, and as learners. We honor Brookline's diversity and value the varied perspectives and experiences that enrich our schools. We foster a safe environment for expressing and exploring human differences and commonalities, in an environment in which caring and authentic understanding promote a deep sense of belonging and respect for all.

Educational Equity

We identify, understand, and eliminate barriers to educational achievement in our schools. Educators in every school provide their students with the individual support needed to reach and exceed Brookline's high standards. While allowing for the expression of diverse perspectives, we establish policies and practices that are fair and just for all our schools and provide educational opportunities to ensure that every student can meet our standards for achievement, participation, and growth, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, age, language, national origin, disability/ability, socio-economic status, or other human differences.

District Updates

Devotion School Building Project

During FY16 the Devotion School Building Committee made major decisions and passed key milestones allowing the project to be shortened by 24 months and become a single-phase project. In Fall 2015, the committee identified rental space at 30 Webster Street that would enable all students to move off site for the duration of the reconstruction. Grades 5-8 will be located at the Old Lincoln School while grades K-4 will be housed at the Webster Street building. The construction phase will begin in July 2016.

The Devotion School Building Committee is responsible for advising the Town beginning with the architect selection and continuing through construction. It includes members of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee, Interim Superintendent Joseph Connelly, Principals Jennifer Buller and David O' Hara, town administrators, budget officials, and parent and community representatives. The Town is partnering with the Massachusetts School Building Authority on this project, which is scheduled to be complete by Fall 2018.

9th School Study

In November 2015, the Town's effort to identify a site for and build a new elementary school began with the release of Ninth Elementary School Site Identification Study. completed by Civic Moxie, this study focused on six sites across town that best fit specified criteria. Since the report was shared with the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee, they have held two open forums, one public hearing and three joint meetings to get public input on and to discuss where to build the 9th elementary school. The boards decided to have more in-depth analysis of three preliminary sites during spring and summer 2016 and have established a deadline of October 2016 to make final site selection.

Superintendent Search

In October 2015, Superintendent Bill Lupini left the district after 10+ years as the superintendent to become the superintendent of Essex Technical High School. Dr. Joseph Connelly took over as Interim Superintendent on October 29, 2015. Well known to the Brookline School Community for being the interim principal at both the Runkle School and the Devotion School, Dr. Connelly helped launch the superintendent search, two principal searches, the process for identifying a site for a 9th elementary school and the effort to renovate and expand Brookline High School.

In November 2015, the School Committee started a national search for a new superintendent by hiring Atlantic Research Partners to provide expert guidance and to facilitate the search process. The search process included gathering input from the public and staff on the qualities and skills needed in the new superintendent through five community forums, more than 30 focus groups, and an online survey that more than 300 people responded to. Twenty-nine candidates applied and three finalists were chosen to participate in public interviews and stakeholder meetings. On March 10, 2016, the School Committee named Andrew Bott as the new Superintendent of Schools in Brookline. Prior to becoming principal at the Lincoln School, Mr. Bott served as a principal in Boston for 12 years.

Elementary Curriculum

English Language Arts - Literacy Program

Through high quality literacy instruction, the Public Schools of Brookline seeks to develop readers and writers who are proficient, productive, and engaged.

Brookline uses a comprehensive framework to describe the behaviors and understandings we expect to see at each stage of a student's development in literacy. That framework, correlated to the MA ELA Frameworks (2011), provides a guiding structure not only for instruction, but also for student assessment, teacher professional development, and curriculum renewal in the language arts.

As a measure of its commitment to equity in literacy learning, the Public Schools of Brookline employs a cohort of highly-trained Literacy Specialists and Coaches. These specialists offer support in two major areas: direct services to students who struggle with literacy learning and coaching to classroom teachers.

Math

The goal of Brookline's K-8 mathematics department is to provide a high-quality program whereby we meet the needs of every student and require high expectations for academic excellence. We continually expand our repertoire of curriculum resources and instructional strategies to provide access and equity to a diverse range of learners. We have identified and developed common grade level assessments that align with the 2011 MA Curriculum Frameworks for Mathematics. These assessments are used to diagnose what students know and understand about mathematics, and to identify students in need of intervention resources. To support higher performing students who need greater challenges, we collaborate with the Enrichment Challenge and Support Department to develop engaging extensions.

Each year, interested students in grades 5 and 6 participate in three town-wide Math League competitions. Our student participation in Math League competitions continues to grow. In grades 7 and 8, motivated mathematics students have the opportunity to prepare for and compete in the national MathCounts program. The success of our mathematics program is evidenced by increased numbers of students successfully taking BHS math courses above the standard level (honors and advanced), increased participation rates on AP tests and average AP test scores, and improvement on standardized tests.

Science

Over the last few years, the PK-8 Science Department has updated the Science curriculum to incorporate the use of science notebooks, inquiry, and hands-on activities. Our goal is to provide engaging, rich opportunities that allow all students to develop a deep, enduring understanding of how to think and work as scientists, as well as key scientific concepts that will have real world connections/value for them throughout their entire lives. We encourage curiosity and hope that our students will become life-long learners. We are also integrating with other areas of the curriculum and focusing on the use of higher order thinking skills (21st Century skills).

The new curriculum also focuses on teaching students to be stewards of our environment and responsible global citizens. In order to do this, we are weaving outdoor learning (using school gardens and Brookline's nature areas) into learning experiences for students of all ages.

K - 8 World Language

The Public Schools of Brookline seeks to develop students who will succeed in a multilingual and multicultural global society, beginning with world language instruction in Kindergarten. In January of 2009, following an override-spending plan approved by the voters in Brookline, Brookline brought the study of world language to grades K – 6 to complement world language instructions already in place for students in grades 7 and 8.

Brookline uses the ACTFL Performance Descriptors for Language Learners to set oral proficiency targets by grade level that describe what students will be able to do in the target language. These descriptors, together with the World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages, serve as a roadmap for instruction and assessment in addition to curriculum development.

Brookline is committed to K-12 world language instruction and is at the forefront of the important work of developing 21st century skills in our students to succeed in a multilingual and multicultural global society.

Brookline High School

Brookline High School reflects the high value the Town holds for education, having established a tradition of extraordinary achievement and cutting edge innovation which has earned a national reputation. Serving 1,955 young people, we like to say that we represent the whole world, and that we are a laboratory for the future of a global

society. Students at Brookline High are from a multitude of races, nationalities, cultures, and socio-economic strata. Our students come from 76 nations and speak 34 languages. We are proud of our diversity; and we have simultaneously created great unity amidst the diversity, as our students pursue two common goals- academic success and exemplary citizenship.

High School Programs

African-American Latino Scholars Program (AALSP)

The African-American Scholars Program at Brookline High School is designed to enhance the culture of high achievement among students of color. It is about helping Brookline High School reach its fundamental academic goal, an achievement profile that reflects the diversity of our student body.

The aim of the AALSP is to increase the number of students inducted into the National Honor Society (NHS), improve scores on all standardized tests, such as MCAS and the SAT, and gain admission to some of the most selective colleges and universities in the nation. These goals will be attained by fostering scholarly identity, preparing students for the SAT, conducting daily Scholar Seminars, and organizing regular intellectual events.

Career and Technology Education

The Career and Technology Education Department offers courses in the following areas: Business/Finance and Information Technologies, Medical Careers/Human Development, Culinary Careers/Food Preparation, Environmental Technology, Integrated Construction, and Graphic Arts/ Publishing.

The Career and Technology Education Department offers courses which allow students to explore occupational fields which will influence their educational and employment decisions. Enrollment in these courses offers opportunities for students who will pursue post-secondary education at either the 2 or 4-year level as well as students who will enter employment or the military upon graduation.

In addition to providing valuable career information and experiences, courses in Career and Technology Information are intended to provide transferable skills which are useful in both personal and employment situations.

The emphasis on technology in these courses, programs, and pathways is intended to reflect transferable skills, competencies and technological advancements which are important components of all career fields. The Career and Technology Education Department is committed to the integration of technology into all of its offerings.

Steps To Success (STS)

Steps to Success (STS) is a fifteen-year-old, comprehensive educational achievement program that provides academic support and year-round youth development activities for low income students. Beginning in Grades 4 through college, Steps works to enhance educational outcomes for students from low-income families in order to defeat the cycle of poverty.

Prior to Steps to Success, only 30-50% of students living in public housing matriculated into college. Now, with ten cohorts of STS high school graduates, over 80% of these students are accepted to institutions of higher education with 95% of the Class of 2015 having matriculated into an undergraduate program. The Class of 2015 was awarded over \$700,000 in merit scholarships. Though nationally only 6-8% of the lowest income quartile of students graduate with their college degrees in six years (by age 24), over 75% of STS college students are on track to graduate in that timeframe.

STS currently engages approximately 250 students and their families as well as over 80 college students, most living in Brookline Public Housing. Program areas include after school enrichment, paid summer internships, early college awareness and preparation, and early career exploration. STS Advisors work with students and their families throughout their school career; tracking student progress while getting to know families in their home and linking them more closely with school teachers, administrators and resources.

System-Wide Programs

The Public Schools of Brookline offer a number of programs to better serve the students of Brookline. Some examples are listed below. More information on all of these programs can be found on the school website (<http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us>).

English Language Learners (ELL)

The English Language Learners (ELL) program provides services to more than 750 students in grades K-12 whose primary language is not English and who are not yet proficient in English. The program provides support at each school, with services focused on children's English language acquisition, literacy development, and academic achievement. As of October 2015, Brookline educates the 21st largest ELL population in the Commonwealth.

The program's objectives are to:

- Continue development of Sheltered English curriculum, combining state benchmarks and outcomes with subject area content;
- Increase Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) professional development offerings for all teachers;
- Monitor English Language Learners' achievement on state and local assessments;
- Increase family accessibility to school and district documents and events through effective translation and outreach procedures.

Enrichment and Challenge Support (ECS)

The Enrichment and Challenge Support (ECS) program is a system-wide program that supports classroom teachers in providing challenging curriculum and extension opportunities to all students. The goals of our program are: teachers see the potential in all students; all students experience meaningful learning and growth; students are invested in their own learning; and students demonstrate creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking. Our mission is to collaborate with Brookline educators to create rigorous, relevant, engaging learning for all students.

ECS Resource Teachers work alongside classroom teachers to meet the needs of their students for challenge, enrichment, and extension across all disciplines, within the classroom, throughout the school day. ECS Resource Teachers spend much of their time co-planning with classroom teachers and working in classrooms. Extension and challenge work is built into the curriculum and involves the classroom teacher working in collaboration with the ECS specialist.

Metropolitan Council For Educational Opportunity (METCO)

The Public Schools of Brookline is a charter member of the Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity (METCO), a one-way, voluntary desegregation program designed to expand educational opportunities, increase diversity, and reduce racial isolation by permitting 300 students in the City of Boston to attend Brookline Schools. Students in METCO participate in all aspects of the academic and extracurricular life of the schools and are supported by the Director of METCO and staff.

The program's objectives are to:

- Ensure high academic achievement for all students in METCO;
- Collaborate with and support families in the Brookline METCO Program;
- Build connections across traditional divides of race and class while helping all PSB students learn the skills necessary to be active, engaged citizens;
- Collaborate with school and district leaders to ensure students enjoy equitable access to educational opportunities and resources/services unique to the Public Schools of Brookline.

Special Education

Brookline provides a continuum of special education services in order to provide students with disabilities between the ages of three and twenty-two with a free and appropriate public education. A wide range of services are provided

to meet the individual needs of students, from academic support to related services such as speech, occupational, and physical therapy, as well as counseling. Within the special education team process, parents, students, special education staff, and classroom teachers collaborate together to determine student needs and to develop individual education programs that address students' needs within the least restrictive environment. Staff members work closely with families in assuring that necessary services are identified and provided to students in accordance with applicable mandates. Consultation and professional development opportunities are provided to general education professionals, special education professionals, paraprofessionals and parents across the district.

Brookline Adult & Community Education

Brookline Adult & Community Education, one of the largest non-credit public education programs in Massachusetts and a program of the Public Schools, provides a broad menu of enriching and educational courses, activities, lectures, and events for seniors, adults, teens, and children.

The program's stimulating special events and courses are co-sponsored with community organizations, including Brookline Senior Center, Department of Public Health, Council on Aging, Frederick Law Olmsted Historic Site, Brookline Recreation, Brookline Climate Action Change Committee, Friends of Jamaica Pond, Brookline MLK Celebration Committee, Roland Hayes Celebration Committee, Goddard House, Friends of the Performing Arts, National Park Services, School/Community Partnership, Brookline Interactive Group, Brookline Sister City, Human Relations-Youth Resources Commission, League of Women, and the Brookline Department of Veterans Services.

The program also offers a large variety of *Smart* enrichment programs and activities for children ages 5-13 that are open to Brookline residents and non-residents alike. Staff is comprised of professional educators who teach in Brookline and nearby school systems. *SmartClasses* offers after school, weekend, and evening classes and activities throughout the school year. *SmartVacations* offers vacation-week activities in computers, drawing and painting, pottery, culinary arts, yoga, animation, martial arts, soccer, and more. *SmartSummers* offers an enriching summer experience and programs in the areas of computers, theaters, arts and crafts, and culinary arts.

Through its proud tradition of public schooling, the "business" of Brookline has always been education. Brookline Adult & Community Education builds on this tradition, expanding the concept of community education to serve the many diverse constituencies that make up the Brookline community. Its goal is to continue to bring the community together in its essential work—education for the improvement of the quality of life for all its members.

Library
Sara Slymon, Director



2015 was an exciting time at the Public Library of Brookline as we endeavored to continue the culture of change implemented in 2014.

Service

Total circulation for all three libraries for the year was 1,181,767 items. This translates to 130 items per hour for every hour that the libraries were open.

The library launched several new collections in 2015. Our wildly popular cake pan collection has pans for all holidays and special events and can be borrowed just like a book. We also added a games collection which includes board games, card games, and books on gaming. Both collections had fantastic launch parties which included life sized Candyland, staff baked cakes, and a Scrabble tournament. The library also added a 3D printer. We held a contest to design our new circulating chess pieces: Harry Potter and Star Wars themed characters received the most votes.

The Children's Department staff was very busy in 2015, circulating 337,209 items. The Children's Department also hosted 663 special and regularly scheduled programs, a 20% increase over 2014; these programs were attended by 22,595 people. Between all three branches we hosted hundreds of story times in five different languages (French, Spanish, English, Farsi, and Hebrew) film programs, including the ever popular Friday Flicks, sing-alongs, craft programs, and a wonderful Fall Fest. We had a wonderful turnout for the annual Stuffed Animal Sleepover at the Coolidge Corner Theater. The animals were chaperoned by children's librarian Caroline Richardson.

The Teen Department was also very busy in 2015. They hosted 21 programs with 580 attendees, and increase of 207%. The Teen librarian, Robin Brenner, also partnered with Girls Who Code to offer coding classes for teen girls. We had to add an extra class to accommodate all of the interested girls. Many authors came to visit and conduct book talks including, M.T. Anderson, and Holly Black. Superhero day was a runaway success with over 25 superheroes and 250 guests. Banned Book Week was celebrated with a display focusing on the history banned books. Teen book groups continue to thrive with Manga and Anime Club, as well as the Shelf Respect Book Club. A new book group was added, Pages and Panels, to entice graphic novel enthusiasts and it is very well attended. The

Teen Room has a cadre of a half a dozen Library School students who volunteer to staff the very busy afternoons. The Public Library of Brookline Teen Tumblr is still extremely successful and busy with 4,500 followers. The Library sponsored 319 programs for adults with 6,209 attending. Some of the programs include author talks, trivia contests, and one on one computer lessons

In the spring we again partnered with the Recreation Department to transform the Main Library into an 18 hole mini-golf course. The theme this year was the board game CLUE. There were three events in one day which catered to audiences of different age groups. Pizza and soda were offered, and a good time was had by all 400+ attendees. The Library participated in the Third Annual Brookline Day at Larz Anderson Park. The Director was joined at the Library table by several members of the Board of Trustees and together they met over 300 people and gave away lots of great freebies, including many copies of Larry Ruttman's Voices of Brookline. You can still pick up your free copy at any of the three library locations.

The library successfully employs many different social media platforms to deliver our message including BrookOnline, www.brooklinelibrary.org, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+, Foursquare, Yelp, and Tumblr. These services allow the library to engage with the community, disseminate news and information in a timely manner, and highlight our wide array of programs and services through the sharing of pictures, videos, and how-to tutorials. In 2015 we re-configured our Social Media strategy to present more fresh, exciting and relevant content to the public. The Social Media team changed a number of key members and we have been posting more frequently. The results have been excellent.

We currently offer 68 electronic databases, most of which can be accessed from home computers or wireless devices. Some are provided by the State, some by the Massachusetts Library Network, and others through our membership in the Minuteman Library Network. MLN is a consortium of 43 public and academic libraries who work together to enhance service for library users. The library has many subscriptions to interesting databases and online services including Hoopla, for streaming movies, Zinio, for reading magazines, Consumer Reports Online for research, and TumbleBooks for early childhood literacy. This year we added Lynda.com to our database offerings. Lynda "is an [online education](#) company offering thousands of video courses in software, creative, and business skills. Founded in 1995,^[2] the company produces video tutorials taught by industry experts. Members have unlimited access to watch the videos, which are primarily educational." (Wikipedia)

Technology has been very helpful to us in facilitating the way in which our patrons can borrow materials from other libraries; in 2014 Brookline residents borrowed 165,438 items from libraries outside of Brookline in the Minuteman network. These items usually arrived within a day or two of requests being placed on the computer, either remotely or at the library. Due to the widespread interests and acumen of Brookline residents the library borrows significantly more books from other libraries than anyone else in the state with the exception of Cambridge. We are also a very generous lender with 135,833 items lent to other Minuteman libraries in the state. Over the past ten years, the level of sharing among Minuteman libraries has increased 500%.

2015 marked the fourth year that the library was able to offer service on summer Sundays. Circulation of items on summer Sundays at Coolidge Corner remains huge, and the service is very popular with residents and will continue for the summer of 2016.

Trustees and Staff

The Board of Library Trustees consists of twelve members, serving staggered three year terms. The Board sets policy and oversees the management and operation of the library system. This spring, Carol Axelrod, Vivien Goldman, Regina Healey, and Carol Troyen Lohe were re-elected to their positions as Trustees. In the spring of 2015, Trustees Puja Mehta, Michael Burstein, Judith Vanderkay, and Jennifer Rees will be eligible for re-election.



Library Director Sara Slymon and the Board of Library Trustees

Assistant Director for Technology Michael Wofsey resigned from the Library in March of 2015. After an extensive international search the library hired a new Assistant Director for Technology, Hank Sway. Hank came to the library after years of service as a Systems Librarian from Harvard University. Hank has already made an incredible difference at the library, deploying improvements to service including more robust Wi-Fi, stronger wireless printing, and piloted a team to redesign the library website. The new library website will be up and running this spring.

In September, Mary Egan-James retired from service to the library after a distinguished career. Mary started working for the library as a page in 1972. Over the years, Mary served as a library assistant, technical services supervisor, circulation supervisor, and ultimately library bookkeeper. Mary was a wonderful employee and is missed. We wish her a wonderful retirement.

Anne Clark was promoted from Interim Reference Supervisor to permanent Reference Supervisor. Anne has been with the Reference Department since 1984. Colin Wilkins was promoted from Interim Collection Development Supervisor to permanent Collection Development Supervisor. Colin has been with the library since 2008.

Krista Barresi was promoted from Reference Librarian I, to Reference Librarian II and now serves as the Library Archivist. Krista is a founding member of the Green Team, who pursue ideas to reduce the libraries carbon footprint, has also served on the library TAILS committee, who bring issues from midlevel staff to the Director and who implement initiative to improve workplace culture.

Roy MacKenzie was promoted from part time Reference Librarian to full time Reference Librarian one and now serves as assistant to Hank Sway and on the Social Media committee. Roy was an integral part of the gaming committee in 2015.

Felix Pena was hired as full time Library Custodian after working for the Recreation Department for many years.

Susan Ingram retired after two decades of devoted service in the library's Technical Services Department.

Additional departures include Librarians Eileen Fontenot, Erin Williams-Hart, and Library Assistant Jen Millett, Jeffrey Josephat, Stephanie Foster, Eileen Gallagher, Mahasen Khamaisi Julia Bloom, and David Gorin.

The Library hired the following part time librarians in 2015: Keiko Nishimoto, Eileen Fontenot, and Quinn Morris-Pearson. The following part time library assistants were hired in 2015: Sebastien Sulser, Sarah Ruggiero, Julia Bloom, David Gorin, and Jennifer Gray.

We are happy to announce that the following part time employees were promoted to full time positions: Charlotte Ryan (Putterham library assistant), Bryan Kreuzsch (Technical Services library assistant)

Full time staff members work 37 hours per week, including evening, Saturday and Sunday hours. Educational backgrounds include English, History, Literature, Mathematics, German, Biology, Music and Computer Science.

Part time staff members work a variety of different schedules, but also include evening and weekend hours.

The staff is fluent in a number of different languages including Hebrew, Spanish, Russian, German, Chinese, and Portuguese.

The library currently has 90 total employees, 31 of whom hold Masters Degrees in Library Science.

Friends

The Friends of the Brookline Public Library were established as an independent 501 © 3 corporation in 1981. Through an ongoing book sale the Friends raise funds to supplement and enhance library services. They have sponsored a growing number of programs including storytellers, musicians, magicians, museum passes, green initiatives, senior socials, film festivals, and other educational and entertaining events. Last year the Friends were proud to sponsor the Public Library of Brookline BOOKBIKE, a mobile library attached to a bicycle. The Bookbike was ridden around Brookline by staff librarians who stopped at neighborhood parks, public housing, senior housing, and town wide events. Bringing service to the underserved is part of the core mission of the library, and this is an important step towards fully realizing that mission. Last year the Bookbike made over a dozen visits, and circulated 552 items.

The Friends are sponsoring our innovative Artist in Residence program for 2016. The team was configured and all the groundwork laid in 2015 and we are looking forward to having an artist on hand in the Main Library.

The Friends also sponsor a great many staff development and continuing education opportunities, which enable the staff to offer the best and most current library practices to the community. With so many immigrants in Brookline,

one of the most valuable services that the Friends sponsor is their ESL classes. Free instruction to people who want to learn English is offered at the Coolidge Corner Branch.

The Friends are always looking for volunteers to help with the events discussed above, as well as with other ongoing activities. Please ask for a brochure next time you visit the library, or visit: <http://friendsofthebrooklinelibrary.org/>

Brookline Library Foundation

The Brookline Library Foundation was incorporated in 1999 as an independent non-profit 501 © 3 corporation, whose initial purpose was to raise funds in support of the renovation of the Main Library. After contributing more than \$4 million for the Main Library renovation project, the Foundation continues to raise funds through an annual mailing and its annual Midwinter Mingle. The Foundation has made significant contributions to enhance the programs, services, and facilities offered at all three branches. The Foundation funded the Building Program of the Coolidge Corner Branch library this year, which is an integral building block in the grant application process to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The Foundation has also funded a landscaping project to make the garden at the Putterham Branch library ADA accessible which should be completed in 2016. The Foundation is also funding the development of a new website for the library, which began in 2014 and should be completed in 2016.

Brookline Library Music Foundation

Brookline Library Music Foundation celebrates its 63rd year this year. They presented six free concerts in 2015 at the Main Library, to the delight of over 650 attendees. As always the concerts featured a wide variety of musical styles, including classical, jazz, and modern.

Facilities

The most important facilities issue that is being addressed is the renovation or replacement of the Coolidge Corner Branch Library. In 2015, we completed a building program, and initiated a feasibility study. The Town hired Schwartz/Silver architects to do the feasibility study and several community meetings were held. Results of the building program and the feasibility study can be found here: <http://www.brooklinelibrary.org/get/CCBP>

This year the Main Library added a gate to the parking garage. The parking garage is for library staff and patrons, and this gate enables the library to control access to the garage when the library is closed. We have partnered with the Brookline Police Department to make sure that they have access when we are closed so that they can keep their cars under cover and out of the way of the plows when there is bad weather. This partnership has been very successful.

The Putterham Branch got some long overdue renovations to both kitchens. All new cabinetry and sinks were added to update the kitchens from their original 1950's state.

All of the libraries switched over from delivered water to filtered tap water.

Conclusion

I want to thank the Trustees, Foundation, Friends, and people of Brookline for your robust support of the Public Library of Brookline. I would like to thank the staff for all of your hard work, creativity, innovation and devotion to the highest level of service to the Brookline community; it is an honor to lead such a dedicated group of individuals. The Trustees and Staff all appreciate the support of the Board of Selectmen, Advisory Committee, Town Meeting, and other municipal departments. We look forward to 2016.

Planning And Community Development

Alison C. Steinfeld, Director

The Department of Planning and Community Development is responsible for planning activities and projects that are focused on preserving and enhancing the quality of life by protecting and improving neighborhoods; defining and promoting appropriate economic development; and safeguarding the amenities that make Brookline a desirable place in which to live, work and invest. These activities include reviewing development and redevelopment projects, preserving the community's historic and cultural integrity, protecting and promoting housing opportunities, strengthening and expanding the tax base, exploring grant opportunities, and administering the federally funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs. The Department is also responsible for identifying and examining planning issues and initiatives of importance to the community. The Department provides professional and administrative staff support to a host of boards, commissions and committees.

The Planning Department consists of three divisions: Regulatory Planning, Community Planning, and Economic Development, each led by a division head under the supervision of the Planning Director. Administrative support is provided by Linda Hickey and Derick Yung.

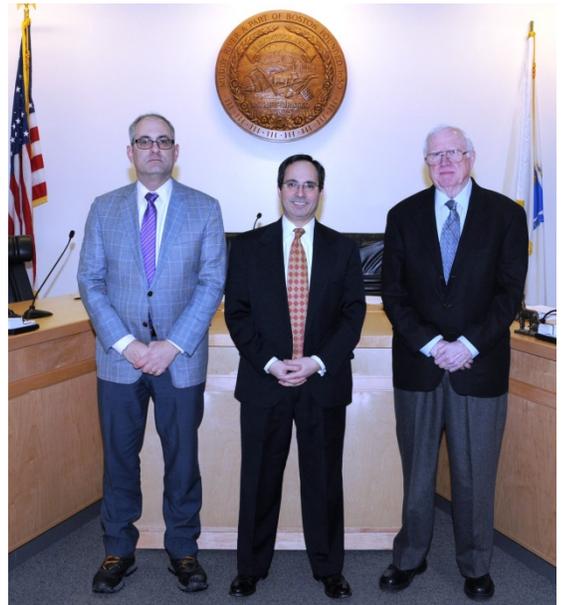
Regulatory Planning

The Regulatory Planning Division focusses on activities related to land use regulations, including zoning, subdivisions, and historic preservation as well as environmental issues. Managed by Assistant Director for Regulatory Planning Polly Selkoe, the Division is staffed by Senior Planner Lara Curtis Hayes, AICP; Planner Maria Morelli, AICP; Zoning Coordinator Jay Rosa; and Preservation Planners Dr. Greer Hardwicke and Marissa Barrett, who joined the Planning Department this year.

Regulatory Planners provide staff support to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), Planning Board, Design Advisory Teams (DATs), Zoning By-law Committee, Climate Action Committee (CAC), Preservation Commission, and the Neighborhood Conservation District Commission (NCDC). They guide applicants through the special permit, variance, design review, demolition, and preservation processes; represent the Planning Board at ZBA hearings; and help coordinate the entire land use regulatory process in conjunction with the Building Department as well as other planners. The Division also conducts research to guide the physical development of the community, and prepares zoning amendments for consideration and approval by Town Meeting. The Division's success is dependent upon a solid and effective working relationship with the Building Department.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The ZBA is a three-member quasi-judicial board that is responsible for reviewing and approving applications for relief by special permit and variance from the requirements of the Zoning By-law in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act—Massachusetts General Laws, Chapters 40A and 40B. The Board is composed of three members: Chairman Jesse Geller and Members Jonathan Book and Christopher Hussey; and four Associate Members who sit when regular members are unable to do so due to absence or conflict-of-interest: Avi Liss, Johanna Schneider, Mark Zuroff and newly appointed Kate Poverman. The Board typically meets weekly and generally hears two to three cases each week. The 2015 caseload for the Board was 75 cases.



Zoning Board of Appeals

Planning Board

The Planning Board consists of volunteer citizens appointed by the Selectmen: Chairman Linda Hamlin, Clerk Steven Heikin, Robert Cook, Sergio Modigliani, Mark Zarrillo and newly appointed members Blair Hines and Mathew Oudens. Jonathan Simpson resigned from the Planning Board to assume the position of Associate Town Counsel for the Town.



Brookline Planning Board

The Planning Board makes recommendations to the ZBA on all development proposals that require zoning relief; and reviews all proposed commercial signage and awnings, façade alterations and wireless telecommunication facilities. The Planning Board also convenes DATs, Design Review Teams (DRTs), and less formal “design groups” to evaluate the design aspects of larger projects; reviews the Town’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP); and submits recommendations to Town Meeting relative to land use matters. Many Board members also serve as liaisons to other Town committees.

Planning staff worked with multiple DATs, including one appointed to review the plans for the new Edward Devotion School. The Devotion School DAT included liaisons from both the Planning Board and the Devotion School Building Committee, ensuring that the DAT benefited from the input of individuals who are extremely familiar with the project. In December, the Planning Board recommended approval of the Devotion School proposal, which involves demolishing two wings of the school, retaining the original 1913 school building, and constructing new additions totaling more than 178,000 square feet, with new landscaping, playground equipment and field space. Additionally, the Planning Board formed a DAT in November to review a proposal for a new multi-story garage and showroom development at 308-328 Boylston Street, Audi Brookline. This DAT is expected to begin meetings in early 2016. Finally, the Planning Board formed a DRT to provide guidance and comments on the 40B Comprehensive Permit proposal for 21 Crowninshield Road. This proposal has undergone many changes; the project was initially proposed as a 20-unit apartment building, and in December the applicant revised the project and proposed eight townhouse-style units. The ZBA is expected to review the application in early 2016.

Devotion School Proposal



Rendering of the Devotion School

The Planning Board and ZBA also reviewed a number of zoning applications for additions, conversions of existing dwellings for additional units, and construction of new commercial structures and uses, including approving: the new medical and general office development and parking garage at Brookline Place, a new hotel and age-restricted residential development at the former Circle Cinema (located in both Brookline and Boston), and a Registered Marijuana Dispensary in the former Brookline Bank building in Brookline Village. In addition, the Board reviewed 68 façade and design review applications submitted by businesses.

Zoning By-Law Amendments

A revision to the Zoning Map was proposed by the Department and approved at Spring Town Meeting. This revision extended the Renewable Energy (SOL) Overlay District to include a portion of the Transfer Station property at 813, 815 and 817 Newton Street. The overlay allows for large-scale ground-mounted solar development with Planning Board review.

Preservation

Preservation Planners' work includes protecting, restoring, and preserving the town's historical and cultural assets, encouraging a healthy preservation and development climate, and advising homeowners and Town agencies regarding historical and technical restoration procedures. The Planners provide professional staff support to the Preservation Commission and Neighborhood Conservation District Commission (NCDC) and assist neighborhood groups considering the feasibility and appropriateness of Local Historic District (LHD) or Neighborhood Conservation District designation. .

With the support of staff, the Preservation Commission is responsible for the educational, cultural, physical, economic and general public welfare through preservation of the historical and cultural assets of Brookline, including buildings, sites and districts of historical and architectural significance. It also encourages the development of appropriate uses and settings for such buildings and places. Appointed by the Selectmen, the Preservation Commission consists of David King, Chair; Elton Elperin, Vice-Chair; Paul Bell; Wendy Ecker; and Rosemary Battles Foy. Commission alternates include Kirstin Gamble Bridier, Peter Kleiner, and Giti Ganjei Saeidian. Judith Selwyn left the Commission after serving for many years. In the 1980s and early 1990s, she served as chair of the then

Historical Commission and Local District Commission and oversaw the inception of the Preservation Commission. Alternate Peter Ames also left the Commission.

Local Historic Districts

The Preservation Commission and staff administer eight Local Historic Districts (LHDs): Pill Hill, Cottage Farm, Graffam-McKay, Harvard Avenue, Chestnut Hill North, Lawrence, Wild-Sargent and, added in 2015, Crowninshield. In 2015, the Planning Department received 140 applications for exterior work in the districts including the completion of the design of six new buildings in the Chestnut Hill North LHD.

Demolition

The Preservation Commission is responsible for reviewing projects under the Demolition Delay By-law. Buildings are evaluated to determine their historical and/or architectural significance before a demolition permit may be issued. If a property is deemed significant, the Commission pursues alternatives to demolition including mitigation for the loss of a building. The Preservation Commission reviewed 52 buildings for demolition of which 18 were deemed significant with stays of demolition imposed.

Certified Local Government and Town-Owned Historic Buildings

As an agent of the Town, which is a Certified Local Government, the Preservation Commission, with the advice of staff, reviews projects affecting National Register and State Register properties and reviews areas for National Register potential. This year, with a matching Survey and Planning Grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, staff completed area forms for the Crowninshield, Beals-Stedman and Greater Toxteth areas. Projects reviewed in 2015 included the rehabilitation of the Fisher Hill Gatehouse and conversion of the Fisher Hill Reservoir into a new park, Devotion House windows and the Devotion School. The Reservoir Gatehouse and Park were declared a National Historic Landmark. The Town received a matching Massachusetts Project Fund grant of \$60,000 to install historic windows and a door to the Fisher Hill Gatehouse. Planners also prepared an application to place Hancock Village in the National Register of Historic Places.



Fisher Hill Gatehouse

Neighborhood Conservation Districts

The NCD is charged with establishing rules, regulations and procedures for NCDs and reviewing projects in the Hancock Village and Greater Toxteth NCDs. Commissioners include Chair Paul Bell, Vice-Chair Dick Garver, James Batchelor, Deborah Goldberg, David King, Dennis DeWitt and Robin Koocher; and Commission Alternates Mark Allen and Stephen Chiumenti.

Climate Action and Sustainability Initiatives

Senior Planner Lara Curtis Hayes, AICP, continued to provide staff support to the CAC, which focuses on climate and sustainability initiatives.

In July 2015, the Town was awarded \$240,000 through a Green Communities competitive grant for energy efficiency projects. The grant will fund new interior LED lighting in the High School, the Tappan Street Gym and Pool, and new outdoor LED lighting in parks and open spaces. Most of these projects were completed in 2015.

On the solar front, the Regulatory Planning Division continues to work with the Selectmen's Office and other Town departments to install solar photovoltaic facilities on municipal buildings and properties. The Town worked with a solar developer to analyze all of the Town's buildings to find appropriate sites for solar installations, and began drafting letters of intent and a contract, likely to be completed in 2016.

The Division also represents the Town at meetings of the Climate Preparedness taskforce, a newly-formed coalition of municipalities in the Greater Boston region, which, with the assistance of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, have agreed to work together to address the likely regional impacts of climate change. This taskforce is encouraging municipalities to develop individual climate vulnerability assessments, for which the Town applied for and was awarded assistance through the state's new Community Compact program.

Finally, the CAC continued to refine and implement the Climate Action Plan, which was adopted by the Board of Selectmen in December 2012 and serves as a basis for planning future projects. The Climate Action Plan sets a greenhouse gas reduction goal of 25% below 1990 levels by 2020, and 80% by 2050. The plan recommends 39 actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as encouraging solar and geothermal technologies and working on improving bicycle and pedestrian networks, and invites interested residents to work with the CAC. In 2015, the CAC began evaluating ways to help stem natural gas leaks from underground pipeline infrastructure, and to support net metering legislation and the solar industry at the state level.

Community Planning

Joe Viola, Assistant Director for Community Planning, manages the Community Planning Division, which includes Housing and Community Development sub-components and addresses other general planning issues. Housing Project Planners Bruce Genest and Virginia Bullock staff the Housing Office, and Community Development Administrator Gail Lewis administers the federally-funded CDBG and HOME Programs.

Community Development Block Grant Program

Community Development staff is responsible for fulfilling the statutory and regulatory requirements of the Block Grant program. In late 2014 and early 2015, the Community Development Office prepared the Town's Five Year Consolidated Plan and Strategy, which serves as a roadmap for the use of CDBG funds over the next five year period.

Approximately \$2.6 million in grant funds were appropriated during the two federal fiscal years that span calendar year 2015. In addition to the many public services that operate with the assistance of CDBG, federal funds also helped the Brookline Housing Authority (BHA) with needed capital improvements to its housing complexes. CDBG funds were allocated for programs including Hebrew Senior Life's capital improvements to 112 Centre Street and the Parks and Open Space Division's landscape improvements to the Brookline Avenue playground.

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has become increasingly data-orientated and the Town is constantly challenged with meeting new and often complex guidelines and requirements within the grant year. Nevertheless, staff effectively used CDBG funds to support affordable housing, public facilities, and public services while successfully meeting HUD requirements. In doing so, staff was able to integrate CDBG and HOME funds with the Town's overall planning program and, whenever possible, to leverage private, state and federal dollars with the Town's CDBG allocation.

Community Development Advisory Committee

Citizen participation is a key component of the CDBG program. The Community Development Advisory Committee conducts several public hearings to deliberate on grant requests, culminating in a funding recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. In May 2015, the Board of Selectmen approved the CDBG budget as part of its approval of both the Town's Fiscal Years 16-20 Five Year Consolidated Plan and Strategy and Fiscal Year 16 One Year Action Plan.

Homeless Consortium

As a member of the Brookline-Newton-Waltham-Watertown Homelessness Continuum of Care, the Town works to serve the needs of the homeless. The consortium has adopted a Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness and Action Plan and participated with other Continuums in the Commonwealth to conduct the first unaccompanied youth count in the nation. In 2015 the Continuum of Care was awarded \$1.4 million for housing and service programs to respond to the critical needs of homeless individuals and families.

Housing

Housing staff focuses on creating, preserving, and improving affordable rental and ownership housing in Brookline by working with the Housing Advisory Board (HAB) and Board of Selectmen to channel the appropriate Town-controlled resources into development projects as opportunities arise. Staff assists households with incomes ranging from extremely low income (less than 30% of area median income) to upper-moderate income (up to 110% of area median income).

The Housing Office has been faced with the challenge of operating with decreased federal, state and private housing development resources as well as changing policies. CDBG and HOME funds must now be committed to projects and expended in much more abbreviated timeframes than in the past, making it more difficult to amass funds in order to leverage private funding to support and create affordable housing. During 2015, Brookline received \$334,521 from its traditional sources: \$186,863 in federal funds through the WestMetro HOME Consortium and \$147,658 from the Town's CDBG allocation for the Affordable Housing Program. While there were no private developer contributions to the Housing Trust, the Town deposited an estimated \$163,078 from FY2016 free cash. A total of \$217,214 was paid back to the Town in first-time homebuyer repayments which is returned to the consortium, but available to the Town as HOME program income.

Housing Advisory Board

The Housing Advisory Board (HAB) is charged with recommending housing policies, plans, and programs to the Board of Selectmen, particularly those related to the promotion of affordable housing. The HAB also serves as trustee of the Town's Housing Trust. HAB membership includes Roger Blood (Chair); Steven Heikin (Planning Board representative); Michael Jacobs (BHA representative); Karen Kepler; Kathy Spiegelman; Bill Madsen-Hardy and Rita McNally (tenant representative).



86 Dummer Street

Housing Development

Housing staff has worked closely with the Brookline Housing Authority (BHA), which made significant progress during 2015 to develop 32 new rental units for low-income households at 86 Dummer Street on an underutilized portion of the Trustman Apartments site. The Town has committed \$3.7 million in HOME and Housing Trust funds and \$600,000 in CDBG funds to the project, thereby assisting the BHA in leveraging over \$8 million in other federal and state subsidies and tax credits. The project commenced construction in July 2014 and was fully occupied as of December 2015.

51-53 and 55-57 Beals Street with assistance from the Town. These lodging houses had been managed by the Pine Street Inn since 2004 as part of an outreach effort by the Housing Office to local lodging house owners. Using CDBG and Brookline Housing Trust funds, the Town contributed \$1.28 million towards the \$2.55 million acquisition cost of the properties. In 2015 Pine Street Inn secured over \$6 million in additional Town, federal, state, and private financing to undertake major renovations resulting in two completely rehabilitated buildings with 31 permanently affordable "enhanced" Single Room Occupancy units. All new units will contain private bathrooms and kitchenettes.

In 2014 Pine Street Inn was able to acquire two lodging houses at

Construction began in May 2015 and, as of the end of the year, one of the two lodging houses was occupied, with construction of the second building due to be completed in the spring of 2016. The total Town commitment to this project has been over \$1.9 million.

Homebuyer Assistance

The Housing Office continued to provide homebuyer and renter counseling for those seeking affordable housing in Brookline. Housing staff managed the resale process of six deed-restricted affordable homeownership units involving marketing, selecting income-eligible households by lottery, determining eligibility, and providing technical assistance to households purchasing the units. Staff assisted two homebuyers with refinancing existing units purchased under the Homebuyer Assistance Program.

Creation and Preservation of Affordable Housing Opportunities

Housing staff continued to work with non-profit agencies to preserve existing affordable rental housing and oversaw the allocation of CDBG grants to the BHA for capital improvement projects at several of its developments.

In 2014, The Village at Brookline, Brookline's largest single affordable housing development with 307 affordable units, notified the Town that it would prepay the original subsidized mortgage and gradually convert the property to a mixed-income development over the next two decades. Town and BHA staff and officials negotiated with the owner to successfully retain a minimum of 100 units as affordable to low-income households for another 30 years. In 2015, Housing staff continued to work with the owner to explore options for additional affordability in the property's 116-unit senior building located at 99 Kent Street.

Affordability Monitoring

Housing staff is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the Affordability Requirements of homeownership and rental projects, with each development subject to its own set of regulatory documents. Housing staff monitored 455 rental units at 17 properties to assure continued service to eligible tenants at affordable rents. In addition, staff monitored 160 affordable condominium units to confirm continued owner occupancy.

Planning: Hubway

Community Planning and Economic Development staff continued working with a Selectmen-led Hubway Advisory Committee to analyze current operations and possible expansion opportunities for the Town as part of its participation in the Hubway Regional Bicycle Share system. The Committee anticipates making recommendations to the Board of Selectmen in 2016.

Economic Development

The Economic Development Division encourages appropriate growth and fosters the prosperity of businesses in the town's commercial areas. The Division is staffed by Economic Development Director Kara Brewton and Economic Development Planner Andy Martineau.

Economic Development Advisory Board

The Selectmen-appointed Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) seeks to strengthen and expand the commercial tax base to support Town programs and services. Additionally, EDAB works to increase the value of commercial properties by promoting the vitality of our commercial areas and supporting our small businesses. EDAB is led by Co-Chairs Anne Meyers and Paul Saner; founder Bob Sperber; and members Cliff Brown, Derrick Choi, Susan Houston, Carol Levin, Kenneth Lewis, Thomas Nally, Marilyn Newman, Alden Raine, and Donald A. Warner.

Planning for a Changing Brookline

Over the past several years, the Town has had success working with Selectmen-led study committees and neighborhood groups to refine and improve the plans for three major redevelopment projects now underway: Red Cab (111 Boylston Street), Children's Hospital (2-4 Brookline Place), and Circle Cinema (375 Chestnut Hill Avenue). This small district, property-specific approach has led to zoning changes and development agreements that enable larger development projects to move forward, while providing for benefits including, but not limited to, public spaces

and parks, new public amenities, job preference agreements, mitigation for abutting residential areas, and financial benefits for the Town. While we have seen the advantages of multi-interest participation in these property-specific study committees, there is a desire amongst many residents and some boards to take a broader, more proactive approach towards redevelopment efforts throughout the town's commercial districts. In an effort to broaden the approach to redevelopment, (EDAB) hosted the first two installments in a series of workshops aimed at engaging the community in a conversation about future redevelopment opportunities with a particular emphasis on establishing criteria for "successful projects." The workshop series will continue in 2016.

Route 9 East

Claremont Company worked through record-breaking snowfall to construct a 130-room Hilton Homewood Suites limited service hotel at 111 Boylston Street, the former Red Cab site. The project is expected to yield an additional \$1,000,000 in annual tax revenue to the Town and will hopefully serve as a catalyst for redevelopment along the Route 9 corridor. The hotel is anticipated to open in early 2016.

A team of graduate students in Land Use Planning from MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning was tasked with developing a vision for the Route 9 East corridor, including exploring several land use scenarios and implementation strategies to make the vision a reality. As part of their analysis, the students conducted extensive outreach to area residents, businesses and property owners. The final recommendations identified multiple catalyst sites for potential redevelopment and suggested public realm improvements and zoning tools.

Building on the MIT Study and the momentum generated by the EDAB-sponsored workshops, the Selectmen voted to establish the River Road Study Committee (RRSC). The charge of the RRSC is to review and analyze the redevelopment potential of the Industrial Zone between River Road and Brookline Avenue, including a proposed hotel redevelopment by Claremont Company at 25 Washington Street. The RRSC will be examining a number of issues including, but not limited to, current conditions, zoning, parking requirements, design guidelines, shadow studies, and other land use planning tools such as transit-oriented development. The Committee is to report back to the Selectmen in preparation for Fall 2016 Town Meeting, with recommendations for zoning amendments to create a Special District under Section 5.06 of the Zoning By-law that would permit appropriate commercial and mixed-use redevelopment projects, while mitigating impacts on adjacent neighborhoods, the Muddy River, Emerald Necklace and historic districts.

Pre-Construction Work in Cleveland Circle and Brookline Place

Two major Economic Development projects completed the ZBA permitting process in 2015: a 230,000 square foot primarily medical office building at 2-4 Brookline Place and 68 hotel rooms at 375 Chestnut Hill Avenue. By the end of the year, both projects had submitted their Construction Management Plans and initiated on-site staging for construction. Once completed, these projects together are estimated to generate more than \$2.5 million of new annual tax revenue per year.

Finding Our Way

With the help of a consultant and a working group comprised of resident volunteers, Economic Development staff created a cultural wayfinding program and uniform sign design standards for the town. The working group met several times over the course of the fall and winter to examine various themes, colors, styles and font options, ultimately deciding on an "Olmsted-inspired" motif and standards that were adopted by the Transportation Board in the spring. The cultural wayfinding program was created to provide a cohesive family of signs to guide people to many of the town's most celebrated parks and cultural resources as well as to implement a new urban design element currently absent from the streetscape. Installation is scheduled for 2016.

Small Business Assistance

The town-wide store-front vacancy rate increased by 1.3% over the past year to 9.2%, with the highest rates occurring in Brookline Village and Chestnut Hill. Many new vacancies were due to the demolition of buildings to make way for new construction. There are also several chronic vacancies of properties that have not been occupied for over a year. Technical assistance for 11 potential new businesses in Fiscal Year 2015 resulted in the opening of seven new storefronts in calendar year 2015: Boston General Store, Middle Gray, Sonny Boy, Olive Connection, Tiny

Hanger, Livite, and Waxy's. The owners of the Arcade Building in Coolidge Corner received a façade improvement loan to help with their restoration efforts.

Community Events and Partnerships

Economic Development staff continued to transition management of the First Light Festival to a Steering Committee of business owners. The Committee raised funds from the business community and residents to support the festival, including art installations mounted to light poles throughout town, and organized the entertainment for the evening. Staff supported other community events including the Coolidge Corner Arts Festival, Coolidge Corner Food Festival, ArtsBrookline series, Brookline Village's Wellness Open House event and the first annual Village Day.

Long Range Planning

The Department is also engaged in several planning studies and initiatives that are not associated with any specific division. In conjunction with the School Department, the Economic Development Director assumed the role of Project Manager to coordinate a process to identify and examine possible sites to accommodate a ninth elementary school. It is hoped that the information generated by this study as well as the cooperative framework reinforced during this process will support future intra- and inter-departmental planning efforts.

The Planning Department also issued a Request for Proposals to undertake a Strategic Asset Plan (S.A.P.). The S.A.P. is an exhaustive study that will involve a comprehensive Needs Assessment to determine current and projected needs for municipal services and facilities and, subsequently, an identification and analysis of the Town's resources to accommodate those needs, including but not limited to: market rate housing, affordable housing, open space, and economic development to expand the tax base. The S.A.P. will inform a Major Parcel Study (MPS), planned for FY17. Focused on major private parcels held by institutions, the MPS will seek to determine the best possible uses to be encouraged on those parcels based on the Needs Assessment.

Brookline Housing Authority

Board of Commissioners

The Housing Authority has five Board members, four of which are elected for overlapping five year terms. The fifth is appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth.

- David Trietsch, Chairman
- Michael Jacobs, Vice Chairman
- Barbara Dugan, Treasurer
- Joanne Sullivan, Commissioner
- Judy Katz, Commissioner (Governor's appointee)

Senior Staff

- Patrick Dober, Executive Director
- Matthew Baronas, Assistant Director

Public Housing Operated by Brookline Housing Authority: 924 total units

<u>Housing for Seniors & Disabled</u>	<u># of Units</u>
Walnut Street Apartments 4-24 Walnut Street	24
Ralph Sussman House 50 Pleasant Street	100
	121

Arthur O'Shea House 100
61 Park Street

Theresa Morse Apartments 100
90 Longwood Ave

John W. Kickham Apartments 39
190 Harvard

Col. Floyd Apartments 60
32-40A Marion Street
19-36 Foster Street Extension

Housing for Families:

Walnut Street Apartments 76
22 High Street

High Street Veterans 186
1-33 New Terrace Road
176-224 High Street
186-218 Chestnut Street
Egmont Street Veterans 120
51-85 Egmont Street
338-348 St. Paul Street
209-221 Pleasant Street

Trustman Apartments 86
7-33 Egmont Street
144-156 Amory Street
337-347 St. Paul Street

Housing for People with Disabilities 33
Scattered Sites

Housing Vouchers Administered – 965 total vouchers

Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers 926 vouchers
Massachusetts Rental Vouchers 39 vouchers

Application Procedures

Applications for all programs are available Monday through Friday between 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. at the main office, 90 Longwood Avenue, by calling (617) 277-1885 or online at www.brooklinehousing.org. The 1, 2, and 3 bedroom family public housing waiting lists are closed until further notice except for wheelchair accessible apartments. Translation services are available through a telephone service and on the Housing Authority's website.

Accomplishments & Activities in 2015

- Barbara Dugan was re-elected by Town voters in May 2015 to a five year term on the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Dugan serves as the resident member.
- Completion and lease-up of the new 32-unit affordable housing building at 86 Dummer Street occurred in late 2015. Seventy percent of the apartments are reserved for households who live or work in Brookline. The Town provided extensive funding and support. Thanks to the Selectmen, Town Manager, Planning

Department, Building Department, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Public Works Department, among others for making this a successful endeavor.

- BHA continued its successful operations with a vacancy rate below 2.5%, a HUD “High Performer” ranking from HUD, and a ‘clean’ financial audit.
- BHA and the owners of Beacon Park (1371 Beacon Street) initiated the process of transitioning the 30 low-income households to the BHA’s Sec. 8 program when the property’s original subsidy expires in 2016. This will preserve the 30 apartments as affordable housing in Brookline.
- BHA hosted its 22nd annual Thanksgiving Dinner for more than 130 elderly/disabled residents and summer cookouts at all housing developments.
- BHA successfully updated Collective Bargaining Agreements with its two unions – Teamsters Local 122 and AFSCME Local 1358.

Self Sufficiency, Education & Health Programs

- BHA is a founding partner of Steps to Success (STS), along with the Brookline Public Schools, providing comprehensive support to BHA students.
- Together with Springwell, BHA operates a multi-year Supportive Housing Program grant from the state Executive Office of Elder Affairs. The grant allows BHA to provide independent living services and service coordination to all five of its senior/disabled buildings and provide a hot lunch program at Morse Apartments.
- BHA partnered with The Greater Boston Food Bank to implement the Commodity Supplement Food Program, which provides 30 pounds of food per month for income eligible residents age 60 plus.
- In partnership with the Brookline Food Pantry, the BHA now hosts food pantry distribution at Egmont St. Veterans Apartments. All BHA residents are eligible to shop at the pantry once every two weeks.
- The Brookline Senior Center offers exercise classes at two senior/disabled housing buildings. The senior shuttle stops at BHA developments.
- The Next Steps and ROSS programs support BHA residents with career development, job placement and other services, including the Training Incentive Program, financial literacy workshops, tax preparation services, and more.
- Next Steps and The Brookline Teen Center hosted a highly successful ‘Alternatives to College’ fair attended by over 200 participants and 27 local training programs and other resources.
- BHA has three Computer Learning/Homework Centers at Walnut Street Apartments, Trustman Apartments, and High Street Veterans Apartments.
- BHA operates a summer youth employment program for residents ages 14-22.
- BHA provides Section 8 rental assistance to special needs housing providers in Brookline including the Pine Street Inn, Center Communities, Specialized Housing, and others. BHA also administers Sec. 8 assistance for more than 150 households at the privately-owned The Village at Brookline, to ensure long-term affordability.

- BHA leases 31 SRO scattered site apartments to Vinfen, which provides housing and services to Department of Mental Health clients.
- With BHA funding, The Brookline Community Mental Health Center provides a wide range of social services to our residents, including the operation of two Transitional Housing Programs for young adults and formerly homeless families.
- The BHA provides ESL classes to BHA residents at several locations.
- The Brookline Early Education Program (BEEP) and the Parent Child Home Program provide literacy programming and a weekly playgroup at Walnut St. Apartments.
- BHA teams with the Brookline Police Department in the “Walk and Talk” program, in which select police officers are assigned to our developments. Crime rates are very low at BHA developments.

Capital Improvements in 2015

CDBG funding received from the Town is vital to BHA’s ability to maintain its properties. The following projects were underway or complete in 2015 at various locations.

- New energy efficient washers and dryers installed
- Low-flow toilets installed
- New heating/hot water systems installed
- Doors and locks replaced
- New ceilings installed
- New hallway flooring installed
- Security camera upgrades
- Exterior masonry/sidewalk repair
- Lead paint remediation
- Elevator upgrades

**Human Services
Health Department
Dr. Alan Balsam, Director**

The Brookline Health Department has as its mission the protection of the health of Brookline residents and others who may work or otherwise be associated with the town. Toward that end, the Department maintains an active surveillance system of health status indicators, and has planned, implemented, and continues to evaluate a broad spectrum of local health services designed to reduce morbidity and mortality and enhance the quality of life of those who live and work here.

Administration

During 2015, the Department continued a formal community health needs assessment of Brookline. With support from a range of funders, the Department distributed Healthy Brookline, Volume 16: Communicable Diseases in Brookline. This information will be used to plan and evaluate public health programs going forward.

The Department management structure was maintained, providing for more access to the Director, and elevating core public health functions. In addition to the on-going biweekly management team meetings, periodic all-staff meetings with an educational component served to help build a sense of mission and community among staffers, and to enhance intra-departmental communication.

This year, the Department continued to be successful in leveraging non-Town resources for a broad range of projects. Over \$130,000 was raised from a variety of sources including medical centers, foundations, federal and state government, etc. In addition, ten well-qualified graduate students were recruited for internships for a variety of public health projects. We maintained our outreach campaign to enroll uninsured Brookline residents in the State's mandatory health insurance plan.

We worked closely with other town departments to craft and implement a regulatory framework for the sale of medical marijuana in Brookline, and finalized all licensing requirements.



Train Memorial Health Center

Scores of individuals and groups toured the Train Memorial Health Center, Brookline's first Green Building, and the building was featured as part of the national Solar Tour by the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association. In addition, the Jennifer A. Lynch Garden of Remembrance, located adjacent to the Health Center, provided a focal point for a number of public events including our annual vigil for victims of domestic violence in October featuring a video contest for high school students.

Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Management Team continued to meet to prepare for the possibility of an emergency. The Health Department took the lead on issues related to pandemic preparation and bioterrorism and Cheryl Snyder began as our Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. More than 250 health professionals and other members of the Brookline community have joined our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), which provides support for Health Department activities throughout the year and will support the Health Department in the event of an emergency.

Brookline MRC volunteers attended monthly trainings in Brookline and throughout the local area this past year. During the fall, 75 MRC volunteers assisted the Health Department with providing flu shots to more than 1500 people in Brookline. The MRC built its Preparedness Buddies Program to link MRC volunteers with vulnerable elders.

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Environmental Health

This Division, led by Patrick Maloney, MPAH, oversees many State-mandated programs including the licensing and inspections of food establishments, housing code inspections and enforcement actions, swimming pools, solid waste handling practices, animal, insect and rodent control, and the abatement of general nuisances. Additional concerns include asbestos removal, lead in the environment, hazardous



Pat Norling received the Heroes Among Us Award from the Boston Celtics for her work with domestic violence

waste, indoor air quality, and the enforcement of state and local tobacco control requirements, including the issuance of permits for tobacco retailers and monitoring the over-the-counter sale of tobacco products.

With state funding, Brookline continued monitoring compliance with the Town's Tobacco Control By-Law and pursuing complaints concerning infractions of the law. In addition, we saw final implementation of smoke-free housing policies in all public housing properties in Brookline and maintained our five community collaborative. Natalie Miller, MPH, continued to coordinate the program.



Lightbulb recycling and sharps disposal

Brookline continued to be one of the only towns in the Commonwealth to fully implement non-criminal dispositions (tickets) as an enforcement element to inspections. The Division completed all mandated inspections as required by State regulation. The Division continued to post Food Service Establishment inspection reports on line. The Town's Information Technology Department has been of great assistance on this project.

Mosquito control activities continued this summer as part of the Town Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. The Division treated 3500 Town catch basins with a bacterial larvicide, to prevent the hatching of adult mosquitoes. We maintained our surveillance system for mosquitoes and produced information on ways to reduce risk for mosquito borne diseases.

The Division helped enforce the Town's policy on snow removal with the DPW, implementing new regulatory requirements and fines. Also working with DPW and other town departments, we continued a mercury disposal program in two Brookline locations and maintained a program to recycle CFL/fluorescent light bulbs. With support from the State Health Department we continued a program for safe sharps disposal.

The Division responded to hundreds of requests from the public for information on indoor air quality, mold, lead and solid waste disposal. We implemented the new guidelines for Mobile Food Trucks and Lodging Homes in Brookline. The Division offered three rabies vaccination clinics in conjunction with the Newton Health Department. The sealer of weights and measures tested all town weighing and measuring devices, taxi meters, and scanners to ensure accuracy. Finally the Division implemented the new Town By-Laws restricting the use of plastic bags in retail establishments and polystyrene in food service establishments, and the requirement to offer public water to patrons of sit down food establishments.



2015 First Annual Brooklinemen's "Walk A Mile in Her Shoes" to help prevent domestic violence

Child Health

Under the direction of Gloria Rudisch MD, MPH, the Division of Child Health continued to be the Department's liaison with School Health Services and the nursing and health education staff in the schools, and oversaw all Health Department programs targeting children and youth. There continues to be a strong association with the Essential School Health Services grant, which has facilitated the transition to a full-time school nurse leader, provided for technology training, and for health program materials. In addition, the Division maintained a regular schedule of child immunization clinics staffed by public health nurses with physician back up. Over 300 youngsters were served.

Our child development staff monitored the growing number of group day care centers (31) and extended day programs (9). We provided technical assistance and training sessions for all day care directors and educational programs for children in day care. In conjunction with the Parks and Open Spaces division, we maintained a schedule to help control playground overuse at Brookline parks.

Community Health

Led by Lynne Karsten, MPH, this Division oversees community health initiatives including women's health, community immunization, climate change, elder health programs, healthy eating, and physical fitness. We continued the "Clean Hands for Good Health" campaign to educate the community on steps to prevent the spread of disease. The Division expanded its programming in physical fitness and physical activity, promoting the Brookline Passport to Health and Fitness, strengthening the Town's Brookline On the Move brand, and receiving continued funding to promote wellness and prevent disease and disability in Brookline. In 2015, Wellness in the Village held its third annual fair to showcase the array of health and fitness options available in Brookline Village.

The Women's Health campaign funded by Brigham and Women's Hospital involved organizing educational programs and screenings. We launched the first annual "Walk A Mile in Her Shoes" to call attention to domestic violence.

With our partners at Beth Israel/Deaconess Medical Center, the Department promoted a series on healthy aging and related health issues for seniors. We have continued to work with town departments to train staff in the use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). Currently, there are over 30 AEDs in town buildings in strategic locations, in addition to those in all emergency response vehicles. Employees in all town buildings and schools where AEDs are located now have received CPR/AED training. During National Public Health Week in April, the Department sponsored a variety of well-attended events, including a food preservation workshop on fermenting, canning, and pickling food. The Division continued to cosponsor American Red Cross blood drives at the Main Library.

The Division continued work with the Selectmen's Committee on Climate Change and CAB (Climate Action Brookline) in their initiative to raise awareness among the Brookline community about reducing Brookline's "carbon footprint." The Division developed projects that show the link between public health and climate change in the areas of nutrition and physical activity. In the fall, Community Health played a key role in organizing "Car Free School Day," an event designed to educate school age children about climate change. Lincoln School has now incorporated a bike parade as part of the celebration. Finally, we cosponsored several initiatives with the Brookline Food Pantry, including a "Fresh Produce Food Drive" in conjunction with the Brookline Farmers' Market during the summer.



Fresh produce Food Drive for Brookline Food Pantry at the Brookline Farmers' Market

Public Health Nursing/Epidemiology

The Division of Public Health Nursing/Epidemiology oversaw the investigation and control of over 250 reports of communicable disease and over 120 exposures to animal cases including bat exposures. Several outbreak situations, including shigella and norovirus, were investigated and controlled. We continue to utilize MAVEN (electronic, web-based surveillance program), the evaluation tool which provides feedback to the Health Department regarding completion of case reports.

Led by Barbara Westley, RN, the Division provided clinical support to all Department screenings, health fairs for employees and seniors, including human exposure to bats, immunization programs, and other clinical activities. Regularly scheduled blood pressure screenings provided 200 patient visits. Information and referral services in the areas of foreign travel and other general health issues were also provided. Immunization clinics for under-insured children administered 500 vaccinations. We sponsored influenza vaccination clinics for residents and employees that were attended by over 1300 people.

The Division provided technical assistance on vaccine preventable disease issues, and continued to participate in the statewide initiatives addressing emergency preparedness and bio-terrorism. Finally, we supported State surveillance and monitoring activities for Ebola, monitoring 16 residents returning from the affected areas, and implemented directly observed therapy for three active TB cases, including contact investigations.

Substance Abuse And Violence Prevention Program For Youth

This Division, led by Mary Minott, LICSW, and program social worker, Jorge Membreno, MSW, is a town/school partnership coordinating prevention and intervention services for Brookline youth and their families. Based on data from the Department's Brookline Student Health Survey, the Division's 2015 strategic action plan focused on the high rates of substance abuse among students who reported symptoms of anxiety and depression. To this end, the Division received second year funding of a Community Health Network (CHNA 18) grant for \$30,000 over 3 years, a NACCHO grant of \$15,000, a Brookline Community Foundation grant for \$5,000, and a \$15,000 subcontract grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, as part of a four town collaborative.

This year, the Division conducted prevention services through B-PEN (Brookline Parent Education Network), B-CASA (Brookline Coalition Against Substance Abuse), and the Brookline High School Peer Leadership Program. B-PEN provided education and resources to parents through monthly newsletters, community forums, the B-PEN website, and the Parent Resource Advocate. Topics included healthy relationships/teen dating violence prevention, healthy media use, teens and stress, and current trends in teen substance abuse. This year, the division held two community forums on adolescent mental health with over 200 participants, and provided up to date information on raising healthy teens for parents and treatment resources on the BPEN website. The Peer Leadership program trained 45 high school students who provided substance abuse and teen dating violence prevention presentations to over 800 students and at 4 parent workshops.

The Division's intervention services include substance abuse assessment, treatment planning, counseling and referrals, serving over 200 youth and their families this year. The Division also offers services through the Youth Diversion program in conjunction with the Brookline Police and courts.

Advisory Council On Public Health

A dedicated group of six unpaid volunteers continue to serve as members of the Advisory Committee on Public Health (ACPH). Meeting monthly, the Council provides the Director with advice on budget, policy and Town Meeting issues, health needs assessments, and a range of operational issues.

At the close of 2015, our Chairperson, Dr. Bruce Cohen, retired and moved; Dr. Anthony Schlaff assumed the Chair. In addition, the Board of Selectmen reappointed Dr. Milly Krakow and appointed Gretchen Stoddard MPH and Dr. Nalina Narian to the Council.



Advisory Council on Public Health

Dr. Schlaff has identified a number of important goals for the Council for the coming year, including working with Dr. Balsam to expand the Medical Reserve Corps in Brookline, fielding another Public Health Policy Forum in the spring, and continuing a campaign linking fitness, nutrition, and lessening climate change.

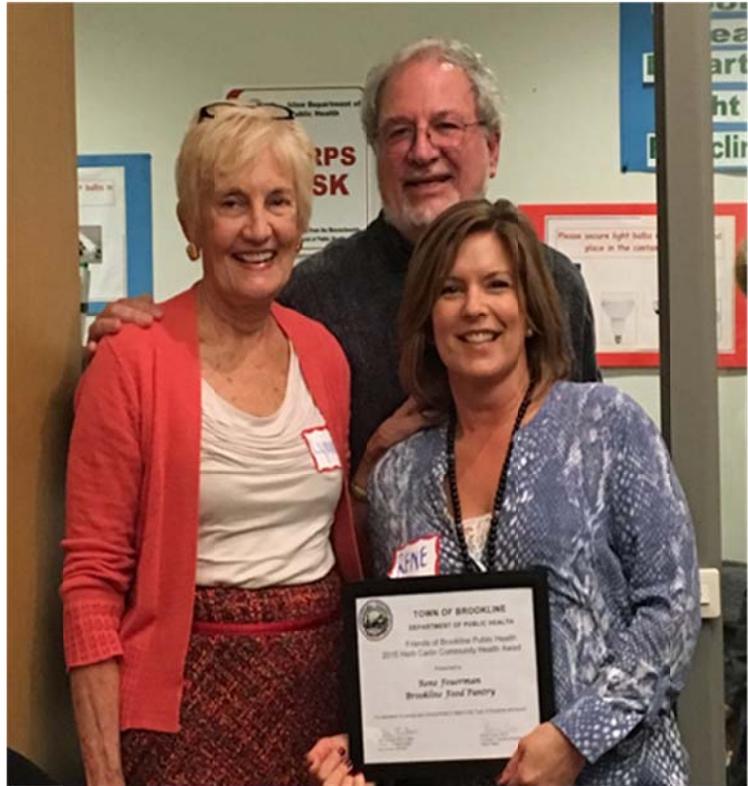


Public Health Leadership Award presented to Dr. Bruce Cohen

Friends Of Brookline Public Health

In 2015, the Friends of Brookline Public Health, a membership organization conceived to build a constituency for public health in Brookline, entered its seventeenth year. The goal of 150 individual members and six corporate members was achieved. A Board of Trustees of 15 persons, including four officers, was elected, and activities included our Annual Meeting and reception. The Board of the Friends voted to fund several public health initiatives including a linkage with our Sister City in Nicaragua, Climate Change Action Brookline, Zumba Gold, and the Brookline Food Pantry.

The Friends also co-sponsored the 19th Annual Public Health Policy Forum entitled “Health Care Reform; How’s It Going” in conjunction with the Brookline Center for Adult and Community Education and the Council on Aging. Moderated by former Governor Michael Dukakis, the forum attracted close to 200 people. Finally, the Friends continued the Annual Public Health Leadership Award in Brookline and announced the 2015 award to Dr. Bruce Cohen, for his outstanding efforts in public health. The Herb Carlin Community Health Awards went to The Brookline Food Pantry and its Director, Rene Feuerman.



Carlin Community Health Award presented to Rene Feuerman and the Brookline Food Pantry



Nineteenth Annual Public Health Policy Forum moderated by former Governor Michael Dukakis

Council on Aging
Ruthann Dobek, Director



The Brookline Council on Aging is a resource for residents over 60. Our mission is providing social services that allow people to remain independent. We work with Town agencies and community service providers to enrich the quality of life for everyone. We also operate the Senior Center five days a week with special evening and weekend programs. <http://www.brooklineseniorcenter.org>.

Services:

- Geriatric case management
- Home care: meal prep, errands, cleaning, shopping
- Income tax preparation
- Health: blood pressure, blood sugar, podiatry, Reiki, hearing, flu clinic
- Legal assistance
- Transportation: taxi, bus and van
- Fuel assistance
- Advocacy: social security, service referrals, mental health, And SNAP Food Stamps
- Food distribution
- Fitness Center
- Elder Resource Guide: 200 pages of federal, state and local service providers

Programs include: movies, art, lectures, health screenings, computer help and lunch. Area hospitals, the library, health and recreation departments, fire and the police also partner with us on programs.

2015 Highlights

- Chinese New Year & August Moon celebrations
- Silver Leaf Gospel Singers
- Dance Party USA
- Irish voices
- Japanese harp concert
- Coolidge Corner community chorus concert
- Piatigorsky Foundation concerts
- Seasoned voices poetry reading
- Red Sox road show
- Scarlet Poppies pastel workshop
- Dance caliente performance
- Russian tea room concert
- Holiday craft fair
- Memory cafes
- Gallery 93 exhibits
- Friday family flicks

- Theatre club
- Brookline reads
- Public Health Policy Forum
- Senior citizen police academy
- BrooklineCAN programs: Embracing Sexuality as We Age & MIT AgeLab: Disruptive Demographics
- Grandparent alienation group
- Healthy Brain for a Healthy Life Fair
- Emergency Preparedness Program
- LGBT bereavement & loss support group

Retirement Engagement Alternatives Program (REAP) supports residents ready to retire. It connects job seekers and volunteers to businesses and nonprofits. Social worker Deidre Waxman and Volunteer Coordinator Patricia Burns, lead workshops in networking, job search, career transition, LinkedIn, résumé writing and also do individual counseling.

REAP administers:

- Tax Work Off Program: work 125 hours for the Town to earn a \$1,000 property tax abatement
- Wisdom Works training for mature job seekers
- Boomers switching gears workshops
- Brookline census project for the Town Clerk

Party of the Century

We honored residents 99 and older in July. “Living this long calls for genetics, resilience, wisdom and grit,” Director Ruthann Dobek said, “all those things we know that make for a good life.” Advice from the centenarians: laughter, staying active, caring for others, giving back, letting go, acceptance, faith, work and an occasional shot of whiskey. Among the honorees was Ethel Weiss, owner of Irving’s Toy & Card Shop since 1939. Mrs. Weiss died in December; she was 101.

Volunteers

- Jean Doherty was named volunteer of the year, an honor that exemplifies sharing, giving and paying it forward. Jean is a member of the Council on Aging, BCAN, and has been known to wear a sandwich board in Brookline promoting the craft fair.
- The Brookline Elks were honored with the Community Partner Award.
- Patricia Burns coordinated 280 volunteers to lead discussions, movies, bridge, classes, food service and reception. Attorneys staffed our legal clinic. Volunteers also ran programs to help clients with shopping and shoveling.

Brookline Community Aging Network (BCAN) continues making Brookline a better place to age gracefully.

<http://www.BrooklineCan.org>

- Referrals to vetted service providers.
- Improved sidewalk snow removal and enforcement.
- Honored Janet Selcer for pedestrian safety and Mary Dexter for the Guide to Residential Buildings with Elevators for their advocacy.
- Shirley Selhub assisted with the TRIPPS proposal for a grant supporting alternate transportation resources.
- Ruthann Dobek and Frank Caro were named innovators of the year by the Mass Association of Councils on Aging.
- At the September annual meeting, Gov. Michael Dukakis received the Community Service Award for his support of public transportation: expanding subways and commuter rail, enhancing rider safety, revamping South Station and serving on Amtrak’s board of directors...This all volunteer group is recruiting new members to achieve its mission.

Budget

- The Town provides 70% of the operating budget.
- The Council supplements its budget with federal and state grants, and private donations.
- The state increased its funding from \$8 to \$9 per elder.

Grants

- Community Development Block Grants support taxi discounts and stipends we make to low income elders who get job training from the Council
- A family foundation underwrites the Drawing for Pleasure class

Fundraising

- We bought a new van in July for \$59,000. Jerry Billow and Barbara Kellman's raised \$47,000 at the 2014 Rotary's Dancing with the Stars, and \$12,000 came from our foundation. At this year's Dancing with the Stars selectwoman Nancy Daly raised \$12,000 which is being used to support the Alzheimer Respite Program
- The van is supported by proceeds from the annual benefit. This year it made 4,200 round-trips for 247 riders. The Hamilton Charitable Foundation ensures it runs five days a week. The Brookline Rotary supplies the gas and oil.
- At the Annual Autumn Benefit we honored community advocates Carol and Frank Caro. They were instrumental in the creation of BrooklineCAN. Both are Town Meeting members. Their ongoing mission is making Brookline a more livable community for everyone.
- This year's success is due to the dedication of staff, volunteers and our board. We're grateful to everyone who helps us ensure Brookline is a desirable place to live. We look forward to enriching our services and as always, we invite the community to get involved.

Veterans Services

Massachusetts General Laws (MGL-115) mandate the Brookline Department of Veterans' Services to assist Brookline veterans and/or their dependents with living and authorized medical expenses. We assist all residents receiving MGL-115 benefits in obtaining healthcare from the VA, Mass Health, Commonwealth Care or other sources. The Brookline Department of Veterans' Services administers emergency veteran's benefits to ensure that qualified veterans and their dependents receive both the help they need and the respect they deserve. The Town of Brookline appropriates 100% of the monies needed to assist the veterans and/or their dependents. A monthly report is submitted to the Department of Veterans' Services located in Boston. The Brookline Director of Veterans' Services initially approves the itemized expenditures and services. Per Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 115, the state is required to then reimburse the Town of Brookline 75% of all approved emergency benefits.

The Department serves as a conduit in filing for all Veterans' Affairs benefits for which a veteran/dependent may be entitled, as well as other federally-funded or state-funded benefits such as Social Security, SSI, SSDI, Mass. Health and Unemployment Compensation. Veterans' benefit paperwork can often be confusing, if not overwhelming; this office has extensive experience in case managing VA claims. In 2015 we utilized the expedited claims format for service connected disabled whenever possible to reduce their wait time by half. Residents are encouraged to stop by or call (617) 730-2112 if they have any questions or concerns pertaining to state and federal veterans' benefits. We are proud and honored this year to have assisted many Brookline veterans in obtaining the VA pensions and VA Healthcare they were entitled to, and in many cases desperately needed. In 2015, the number of veterans and their dependents seeking VA healthcare and/or pensions from the VA remained steady and strong. Our office continues to work with the Boston VA Medical center as they try to improve health care services. Networking with the VA staff we are now able to get our veterans into the medical services within two or three weeks rather than the same number of months. For Brookline seniors and veterans who find themselves without health insurance, VA Healthcare is an essential lifeline. Our office also acts as an advocate for residents trying to obtain VA financial benefits. Many times these benefits are critical to them being able to stay in their homes in Brookline. Brookline veterans and qualified dependents have received over \$120,000 this year in new VA pensions and healthcare savings, which both keeps people in their homes and contributes to the economy of our Town.

The Office of Veterans' Services manages a Veterans' Work Program to employ veterans with the Town temporarily, providing them financial assistance as they continue their education or seek their first job after leaving the service, graduating college or starting a new career. In 2015 we were able to assist five veterans. The Office of Veterans' Services also provides additional job services to help veterans to secure gainful employment in their chosen career path. In 2015 we were able to assist three veterans in obtaining full time employment in their chosen fields. The program also provides a well-trained and motivated temporary work force to assist Town departments.

Through the Military Records Branch, we are able to access veterans' discharge papers through Massachusetts veterans on-line, which saves valuable time in aiding veterans for benefits.

Almost 5,000 veterans' graves are decorated annually for Memorial Day. Our office also coordinates the Town's Memorial Day and Veterans Day Observances. This year we honored our Vietnam Veterans on the 40th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

The Department of Veterans' Services continues too assisted the local American Legion and VFW post in rehabilitating and revitalizing the veterans' meeting hall building. The veterans' post building had fallen into disrepair and membership within the post had been on the decline. After a significant rehabilitation, the veterans' post is once

again a place where veterans can meet and membership has increased in the local veterans organizations. The veterans' post hall is an asset that benefits the entire community.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have taken many of our military lives. We paid tribute to our brave servicemen and women at all our ceremonies throughout the year. The men and women returning from war are in need of many assistance programs, including rehabilitation for injuries and PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) from the day-to-day stress of survival. We are working with the VA Medical Center to assure that returning veterans are apprised of all available resources. In 2015, the Office of Veterans' Services worked on cases to prevent domestic violence and homelessness, successfully assisting two homeless Brookline veterans in obtaining housing. Thanks to the support of the Brookline Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services we were able to meet the needs of our Brookline veterans in all cases.

Brookline Veterans

The Veterans' Office has a staff of two, Bill McGroarty, Director, and Michele Earley, Head Clerk. Bill also works as the Emergency Management Planning Coordinator.

Please visit our website, www.townofbrooklinemass.com/Veterans

Veterans Day Ceremony

Lt. William McDermott and Dr. Herbert Krohn were honored for their Vietnam Service on Veterans Day 2015



Lt. William McDermott



Dr. Herbert Krohn

Commission for the Disabled

Eileen Connell Berger, Chair

The Brookline Commission for the Disabled is authorized under Section 8J of Chapter 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws. Its main duty is to advise the Board of Selectmen on issues facing persons with disabilities in Brookline.

The major issue that came before the Commission in 2015/16 was transportation accessibility, accessibility of taxi services for people with disabilities, review of taxi regulations regarding accessibility and on the occasion that taxi medallions would be issued by the town, a percentage of those vehicles that would meet industry standards to accommodate wheelchair users.

The Commission is in the process of reviewing current accessibility policies and practices across Town agencies including the DPW, Engineering, Transportation, Building, Diversity and Inclusion, etc. To that end the directors of those departments have appeared before the commission to explain current practices and create access to effective communication of needs for citizens with disabilities. Discussions and interface with town departments include effective ways of processing consumer complaints. Parking issues and barriers to paths of travel are ongoing issues for persons with mobility impairments and users of wheelchairs. A Brookline Commission for the Disabled (BCD) subcommittee process ongoing and ever changing conditions in sidewalks, snow removal practices and parking obstructions. A liaison from the BCD processes and meets with the DPW and Engineering to follow up on consumer complaints; updating redoing sidewalks

The Commission process variances requests on an ongoing basis. It reviews the architectural plans for commercial renovations and new construction and offers constructive comment on the request based on the experience of people with disabilities in the community who would be affected by a granting of such a request.

The Commission sponsors and supports worthy community projects that impact the lives of people with disabilities in Brookline. The BCD sponsors an annual Technology innovation Fund through the Park and Recreation Commission and Public Health to award accessible technology tools to youth who have a disability.

It sponsors a loaner ramp program that allows Brookline residents to borrow portable wheelchair ramps to access local businesses, neighborhood and family gatherings. The BCD also participates in a Disability Consumer Guide Show on local cable to highlight local and state services for people with disabilities. Partnering with the Complete Streets initiative and other forward thinking projects are also a part of the Commission's work.

Looking forward with added new members the BCD will create a consensus of mission. In the year ahead the Commission will review projects such as a member request to change the name of the Commission, review employment statistics for people with disabilities in the Town, developing ideas for disability web resources, resources for seniors with disabilities and the creation of a community accessibility map.

Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations

Lloyd Gellineau, Ph.D.



The Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations conducts a variety of activities and programs aimed at promoting Brookline as a community that is mindful and respectful of all people. The mission of the Office and the goal of the Town are to have a community characterized by the values of inclusion. The Office is instrumental in assisting the Town to create and to maintain a diverse workforce and to provide support and consultation to employees and others who are subjected to discriminatory behavior. The Office supports community projects that promote multi-cultural awareness, decrease health disparities, and foster better relationships between Brookline's diverse populations. The Office works in conjunction with Town Departments and Non-Profit Organizations to develop programs for disadvantaged groups and to increase the quality of life for all Brookline residents. The Office provides professional and administrative support to the following Town Commissions: Brookline Commission for the Disabled; Brookline Commission for Women; Brookline Commission for Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations, Age-Friendly City Committee; Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee and the Holocaust Witness Committee.

The Director serves as the Town's Affirmative Action Officer and ADA Coordinator. The Office provides assistance in applying for health insurance and other entitlement programs and advocates for those who may face discrimination, unfair housing practices, stereotyping and social injustice.

Accomplishments

The Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations (DICR) completed its anniversary year last November. Although office staff continues to organize its operational systems the Office has achieved the following goals for the year:

- Organized and staffed the Walk-A-Mile Event for Domestic Violence Prevention and Awareness; Chaired the Domestic Violence Roundtable, and provided consultation services to the Jennifer A. Lynch Committee Against Domestic Violence; Provided staff expertise and operational assistance to the development of the Thrive Guide- an online resource for Women and Girls Living in Brookline; Secured funding from the Brookline Community Foundation to reactivate its Insurance Application Assistance Program.

- Provided consultation, staffing and support to the Women Who Inspire event; Assisted the Women's Commission in commencing the Annual Clothing Drive; Lunch and Learn Program. Provided consultation to the Brookline Community Foundation's Women and Girls Thriving Initiative.
- Provided staffing and consultation for the Annual Youth Awards and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration; Continued to update its web presence on the "Brookline is Our Town" website. This year the Office created displays for four cultures. It continues to work with Brookline Access Television to provide online video content for featured cultures and to increase awareness of the "Brookline is Our Town" initiative; Participated in Age-Friendly City events and maintained its Lego Display in Town Hall; Provided staffing and support to the Annual Lunar New Year Festival; Collaborated and participated in the Annual Sister City Event. Provided consultation, resources, and staffing to the Roland Hayes Event that was commenced by the Hidden Brookline Committee.
- Participated in Brookline Day by hosting a table to provide information about the Office and to obtain information from citizens regarding the Office's scope of interest. Throughout the year it distributed Fair Housing Information and when warranted referred housing concerns to the appropriate service. Conducted a racial climate survey for the Police and Fire Department. In collaborating with the DICRC, the Office modified the existing online complaint form, compliant procedure and complaint database. Converted past EEO4 data from paper logs an electronic log to simplify tabulation and research. Joined the Police Department and the Board of Selectmen for a community discussion about race that was held by the Brookline Clergy Association.
- In conjunction with the DICRC, the Office modified The Town's EEO statement and continues to revise the Town's Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Policy; Assisted in the activation of the DICRC and assisted members to establish Commission goals for the year. Formed a relationship with the League of Women Voters and has collaborated on initiatives to increase voter awareness of Town issues and to increase voter participation with emphasis on reaching people who have limited means; As part of this initiative conducted a survey that assessed voting behavior.

Commission for the Arts



Summary

The Brookline Commission for the Arts (BCA) serves as the Local Cultural Council for Brookline. The BCA is primarily responsible for the stewardship and disbursement of a yearly financial allocation from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) to fund local artists and arts and cultural organizations serving the Brookline community. The BCA also oversees the Town Hall Wall exhibition series, the Poet Laureate program, the Cultural Contributor Award, collaborates on Arts Brookline: A Season of Arts and serves as an approval board for public art requests for the Town, and as an advisory board to the Selectmen on arts-related projects.

Grant-making Activities

31 individuals or organizations applied for grants in October 2015, a 50% increase over 2014. Total amount applied for: \$39,893.00, an increase of \$16,203.00.

BCA allocation from the MCC: \$10,900.00. (\$870 increase over 2014).

Total amount granted to 15 applicants was: \$11,440.00 with an inclusion of \$540 in unencumbered funds.

MCC grants were awarded to the following individuals/organizations in December 2015 for 2016 projects

Brookline Arts Center; Brookline Mental Health Center; Brookline Music School; Brookline Open Studios; Brookline Symphony Orchestra; Brookline Teen Center; Coolidge Corner Library; Dance Caliente; Gateway Arts; The Genki Spark; Marble Collection; Mistral Music; NewRep; Puppet Showcase Theatre; Studios Without Walls

Town Hall Walls project continued to thrive under the direction of four commissioners; Mori Insinger, Susan Mulski, Anita Jamieson and Erik Hansen. The following artists exhibited in 2015:

Diana Birkelund, MA Lasek, Sue Mandelbaum-Cohen, Lucy Sandler, Peg O'Connell, Caroline Bowden, Audra Keefe, Patricia Timothy, Roya Amigh, Alla Lazebnik, Liz Linder, Rich Griswold, Bobby Corenki, Fran Gardino, Georgiana Pagounis, Joe S Perrell.

Other Activities

A Grant reception was hosted in May 2015 by the BCA at the Main Library to give each 2015 grantee the opportunity to make a short presentation about their project. The 2nd annual Cultural Contributor Award was presented to Dana Brigham & Marshall Smith, co-owners of Brookline Booksmith.

A Grant workshop was hosted by the Commission in September for artists and organizations. These were free and publicized online, via email, and in the Brookline Tab.

Brookline Poet Laureate

April 2015 saw the inauguration of Brookline's 2nd poet laureate, Jan Schreiber. Throughout his first term Jan has presented poetry in schools and community venues throughout Brookline and has a full slate of events scheduled for 2016.

Personnel Changes

The following were appointed to the BCA in 2015: Courtney McGlynn, Peter McDonald, Donna Hollenberg, and Ilana Leschier while Jack Curtis, Susan Mulsky, Anita Jamieson, Joe McGonegal and Erik Hansen retired from the commission after their terms expired.

Arts Brookline: A Season of Arts

2015 saw the 2nd annual collaboration of the commission with Open Studios, the town Economic Development Department and the Coolidge Corner Arts Festival on Arts Brookline: A Season of Arts, a spring event to showcase the many talents of the Brookline artist community bringing them together to support and promote one another.

Future

Renana Kehoe became chair of the commission in August 2015. She had previously served jointly with Joe McGonegal whose term expired at that time. We thank him for his six years of service. Renana continues to lead the commission in its support of artists in Brookline.

Brookline Commission for Women

The ***Brookline Commission for Women*** (BCW) strives to support women in all aspects of their lives and to promote the cultural, racial, and economic diversity of Brookline. We accomplish our mission by making ourselves a visible resource for women in the community; collecting and disseminating information on women's issues; cooperating with other town agencies, other women's commissions and service organizations for addressing women's issues; raising

funds in support of our mission; offering programming consistent with our mission; and bringing women in Brookline together.

In January 2015, the BCW held its **6th Annual Children's Clothing Drive** as part of Brookline's 6th Annual Climate Action Week. Hundreds of pieces of clothing and toys were collected during this two-day drive. Clothing was distributed to local families as well as to Cradles to Crayons and to Newborn Necessities, an outreach program at Massachusetts General Hospital.

In March 2015, the BCW held its 23rd annual essay contest among 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Each year, students are asked to write about a "**Woman Who Inspires Me.**" The essay contest winners and the special woman in their lives are invited to a reception to honor these exceptional women who have impacted so many young people. Also as part of this event, the BCW honors one woman from the community who has made a remarkable impact on the Town and people who live here. The **2015 Brookline Woman of the Year** was Doreen Gallagher for her work to combat domestic violence and teen dating violence, as well as offering support for victims of these crimes. This event is held each March in celebration of National Women's History Month.

In September 2015, the BCW held its third **Child Care Forum**, where panelists spoke on the various benefits and challenges of different child care options for children in Brookline.

In November 2015, the BCW held its **11th Annual Dress for Success Clothing Drive**. The Dress for Success program is a not-for-profit organization that offers services to underprivileged women entering the workforce. Each client receives one suit when she has a job interview and a week's worth of separates when she gets the job. Thousands of pieces of clothing, gloves, scarves, shoes, accessories, and winter coats were collected during this two-day drive for the Dress for Success program, as well as women in need in Brookline.

Throughout 2015 and continuing into 2016, the BCW partnered with the Brookline Community Foundation and the Brookline Community Mental Health Center on the "Women and Girls Thriving in Brookline," an action-oriented community initiative with a mission to build strong community collaborations that help women and girls in Brookline overcome life challenges associated with poverty.

Looking forward into 2016, the BCW will further its work to support and promote women in Brookline. The BCW will continue to work with our local partners throughout the Town to identify and address the needs of women in Brookline.

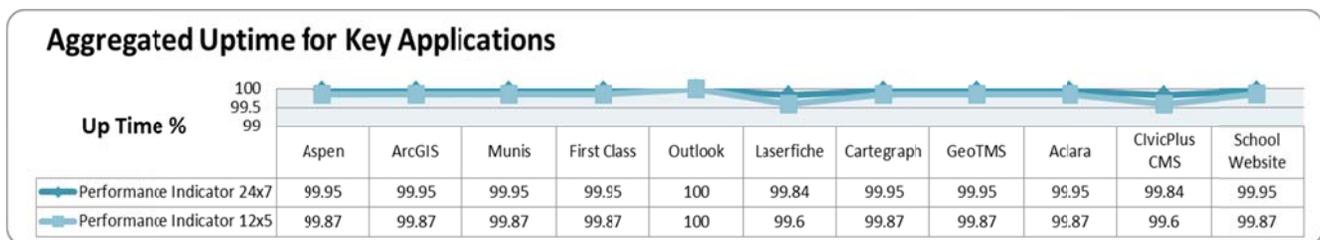
We look forward to celebrating our **24th Annual Women Who Inspire Us Event** in March 2016. We continue to use social media to reach women in the community and share important news related to women, thereby making us more accessible and more informative to our community. New and ongoing initiatives have been added to our agenda which include forums on child care options in Brookline, raising awareness of the importance of early childhood education through programs with the Brookline Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations, partnering with the Brookline Health Department for a program during National Public Health Week in April, co-sponsoring programs with the Brookline Interactive Group on domestic violence, holding forums with the Justice Resource Institute on sex trafficking and commercial exploitation, running our annual women and children's clothing drives, holding forums for women on important topics such as child care options, women's health and money management, and working to address hunger and food insecurity in Brookline.

Information Technology Department
Kevin Stokes, Chief Information Officer

It has been another hectic and productive year for the Information Technology group under the guidance of the CIO, Mr. Kevin Stokes. Collectively, the Information Technology Department manages the entire suite of Town & School Enterprise Applications, network connectivity to 34 locations and facilitates the introductions of new technology to improve process, efficiencies and public access to information.

The applications group, working together with our help desk and network and infrastructure groups, supports 17 enterprise applications, three multi-department applications, 19 departmental applications, and 15 infrastructure applications, 10 of which are now cloud based.

We continue to apply best practices in managing application life cycles, keep all major enterprise and cross-departmental applications up to date for security and for feature enhancements, and fine tune preventative measures to maximize uptime. In addition, we closely monitor application performance and perfect change management practice. The following chart shows the aggregated uptime for key applications.



This year we have also implemented new applications, and new functionalities to existing systems.

The following are a few of the highlights of our accomplishments.

New Operations Management System

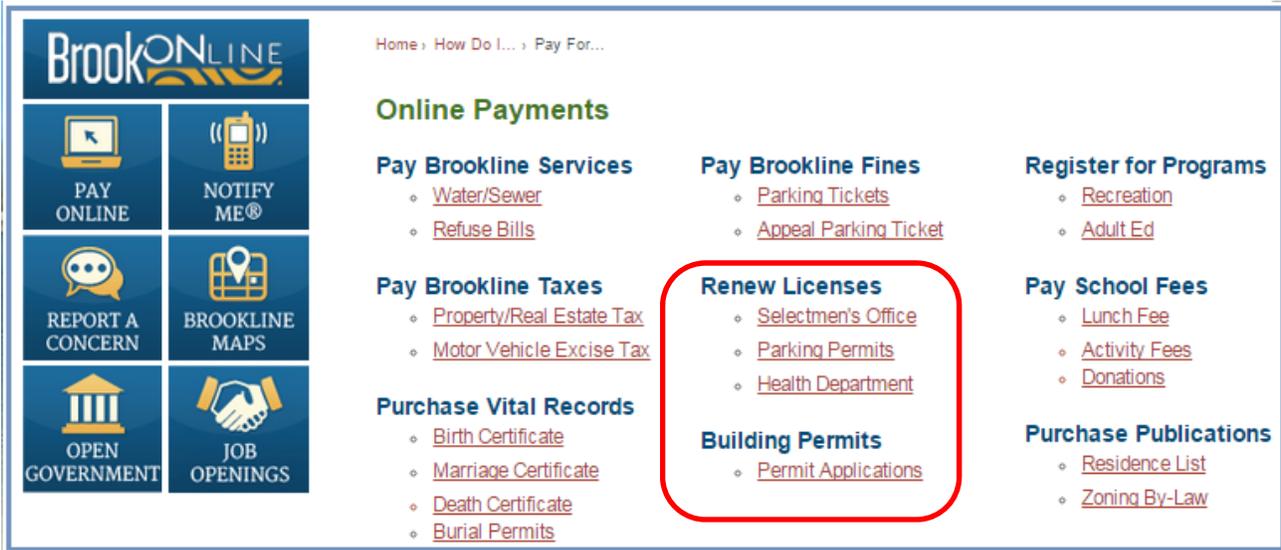
Working with the Department of Public Works, Phase I of a new operations management system has been implemented to manage assets such as signs, parks, trees, hydrants, storm inlets, pavements, pavement markings and more; track requests and work orders; and manage resources such as materials, labors, and equipment. Throughout the implementation process, many training sessions were provided; online videos and cheat sheets were made available via the Town’s intranet.

This new system is fully integrated with Geographic Information System (GIS). Phase II of the implementation will happen in 2015 and include mobile applications and additional assets.



Expanding Online Permit/License Renewals

In 2013 working with the Selectmen's office, we successfully made available Selectmen's liquor, food, antique, entertainment and other license renewals online via our website. In 2014 even more permit and license renewals and applications were made available, which include electrical, plumbing, and mechanical permits from the Building department, parking stickers from the Transportation department, and food service licenses from the Health department. This information can be found under the PayOnLine section of the Town's website at <https://http://www.brooklinema.gov/865/Pay-For>



Open Data

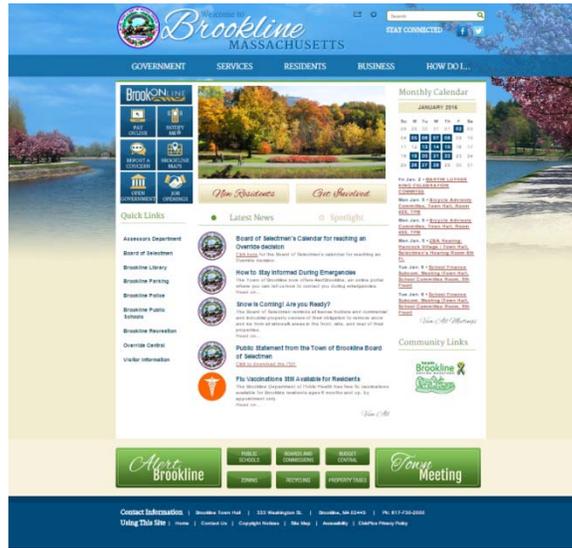
The Town is committed to using technology to increase accessibility to and transparency of information owned by the Town. Leveraging existing resources and technology, we soft launched Brookline Open Data Portal providing raw data in various formats and API to foster engagement and collaboration with the Town's citizenry. Our overall goal is to make government data available in easy to find and usable formats, therefore creating meaningful opportunities for the public to help solve complex challenges. There will be more data identified and published as it becomes available, and the portal will be refined in 2016.

The Brookline Open Data Portal can be found under the Open Government section of the Town's website, or directly via the following link:
<http://data.brooklinema.gov>



New Town Website

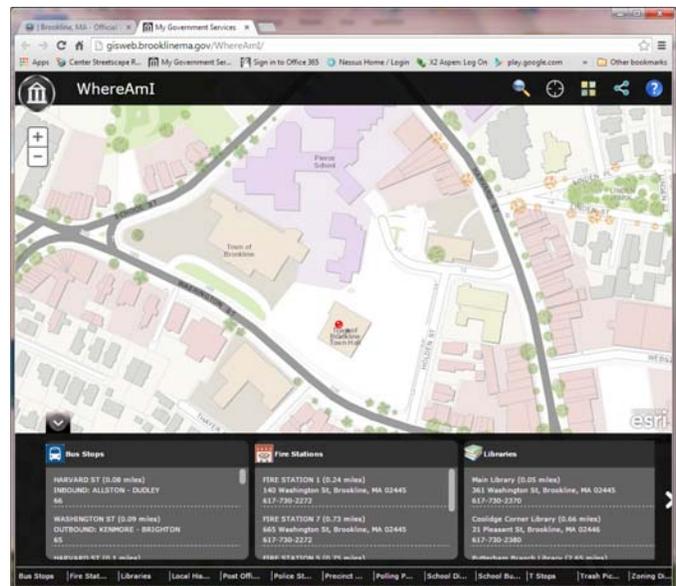
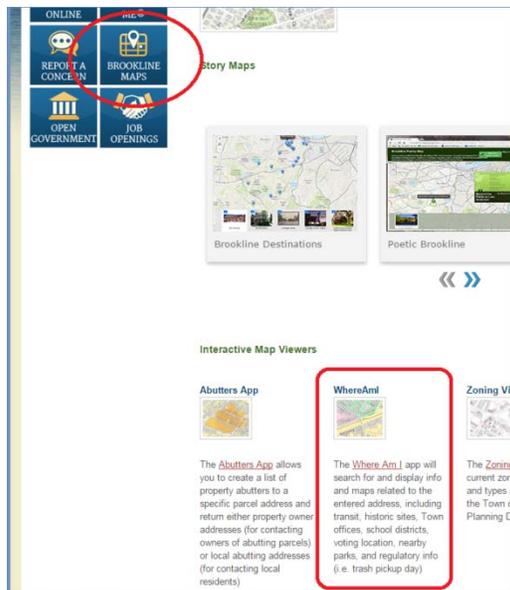
This year we launched a newly designed website content management system with integrated notification and list management functions.



New “Where Am I” Mapping App

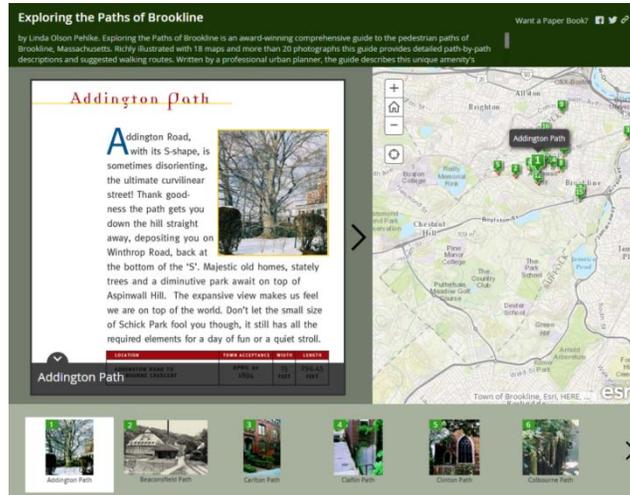
The popular “Where Am I” app was over 10 years old. While we got a great deal of mileage out of it, it was time to give this app a facelift using new technology. This application has now been re-developed using ArcGIS Online and the ArcGIS Government Service template. This web mapping application is designed with a more responsive design that keeps mobile users in mind. This new app consolidates the old web app and the Android and IOS mobile apps together into one cohesive program. The “Where Am I” app now utilizes the beautiful community based map in ArcGIS Online, enabling the search and display of tabular information and maps related to any given address. This includes the nearest MBTA bus or subway lines and stops, historic sites, Town offices, school districts, voting locations, parks, refuse pickup dates, and parking meters and rates. The new “Where Am I” app can be found under the Brookline Maps section of the Town website, or directly via the following link:

<http://gisweb.brooklinema.gov/WhereAMI> .



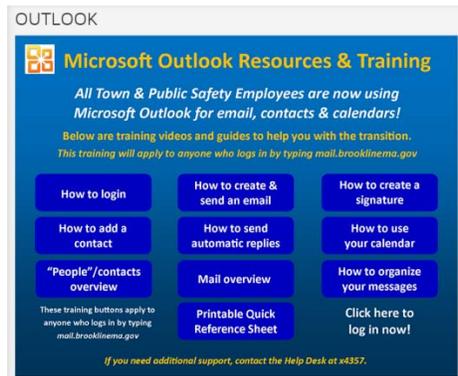
Brookline Story Maps

Starting in 2013, we have been using a set of multi-media tools called ArcGIS Online Story Maps to tell stories about many different aspects of this wonderful town. We now have 37 story maps consisting of a variety of topics, including demographics, trees, parks, water play stations, poetry and Green Dog programs. This year we created two new story maps: Brookline Paths and Brookline Destinations!



Microsoft Outlook

In the summer, with methodical preparation and careful planning, IT rolled out Outlook email program to Town users. Training docs, cheat sheets and videos were developed to help users transition from the old system to the new easily. IT admin provided a great deal of training sessions as well.



Online Payment for Burial Permits

We assisted the Health Department in their transition from using our in-house system for Burial Permits to a state-wide system, and created a payment portal for accepting fees to compliment the State's system.



Finance

Stephen Cirillo, Finance Director
Treasurer / Collector
Pension Board Member
OPEB Board Member

Overview

The Department of Finance was created by MGL Chapter 25 of the Acts of 1993. The purpose of the Act was to consolidate all of the fiscal and financial related activities of the Town into a single department in order to attain efficiencies and economies of scale, to reduce or eliminate duplication and overlapping of services, responsibilities and functions, and to improve the communication and coordination between and among the various offices and agencies of the Town.

Treasury Division

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 35 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Treasurer is pleased to submit this annual accounting of the total cash receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. In addition, I have also included a summary of the highlights of the activities and accomplishments of the Department of Finance's Treasury, Collecting, and Payroll Sub-Divisions for the year. Details of cash transactions and debt activity are also contained in the Annual Audit Report, which is found in the Town Comptroller's Office, the Library, the Town Clerk's Office, and the Brookline web-site at www.brooklinema.gov. I believe that this approach provides more relevant information to our readers.

This Department of Finance was created in 1994 with the consolidation of several independent departments. The reorganization has continued and has strengthened. The functional workgroups that were initially created to provide more effective service and internal cross training are working out very well. Internal coverage for periods of peak needs was expanded. The specialized tax administration units continue to demonstrate their value to taxpayers. Indications are that public service has significantly improved. As will be noted below, with the use of electronic commerce techniques and an after hours Town Hall mailbox, we have developed a 24 hour/7 day per week service capability to our taxpayers.

Payroll Sub-Division

The Payroll Sub-division continues to streamline processes to ensure accurate and timely payments to employees, payment of associated payroll taxes and various payroll deductions. The Sub-Division is a function within the Treasury Division of the Finance Department and works under the direction of the Town Finance Director.

The Green initiative called "Green Payroll" has increased the volume of paperless checks for Town and School employees. Direct deposit has also expanded with the School Department having 87% and the Town Department's having 74% of their staffs being paid by this method. In addition more departments are sharing information in Laserfiche, the image documentation system, eliminating the need for duplicate copies of the same information. Both initiatives have not incurred any additional costs to the Town.

The Sub-division took the lead on the Pay Roll software conversion from our prior vendor, Harpers, to our new vendor, MUNIS. The initial conversion was completed on January 1, 2014. The project took fourteen months to complete and Town and School employees worked countless hours at night and on weekends to finish the task. Though out calendar year 2015, the staff learned and executed processes that had previously been completed by Harpers. Bring activities "in house" created the need high levels of overtime work. It is hoped that some of the extra work level will be reduced due to familiarity with the processes. A second piece of the conversion is Employee Self Service which is in the process of being implemented.

The Sub-division is responsible for the oversight of all payroll activities including accurate and timely payments to 1,363 Town and 2,406 School employees, along with the related employee and employer deductions, taxes, wage reporting, and collective bargaining compliance issues. This unit oversees and audits payments of over \$145.6 million in payroll along with the related \$26.9 million in a vast array of deductions and \$25.7 million in several payroll taxes.

The Sub-Division has expanded services provided to all departments with training programs, monthly drop-in seminars and easy access to department specific reports. The payroll section of Brookline's new intranet has been updated to include more information to keep employees informed with easy access to all payroll forms and any payroll changes.

Cash Management Sub-Division

This division is responsible for the collection and maintenance of all revenues from all sources, as well as the management and safeguarding of all funds, the administration of all debt and the proper disbursement of all funds. In summary, the aggregate receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year that began on July 1, 2014 and ended on June 30, 2015 are as follows:

Cash & Invest 7/1/2014	\$ 98,374,774.20
FY 2015 Cash Receipts	295,100,746.63
FY 2015 Disbursements	(301,238,625.23)
Town Cash & Invest 6/30/2015	92,236,895.60
Library Cash & Investments	5,869,172.00
Retirement Cash & Investments	257,742,137.00
Total Cash & Investments	\$ 355,848,204.60

\$228,602 in investment income was earned during the year. This was a decrease from the prior year and was the direct result of the numerous reductions in interest rates that the Federal Reserve Bank voted during this period because of the poor economic climate. We continued to exercise the aggressive cash management program that was instituted during the latter part of 1994. This enabled us to continue to maximize the rates of returns despite the economic recession and helped mitigate the reduction in earnings that was being experienced throughout the world. Use of an automatic "sweep" account that invests funds each night, along with a weekly interest rate bidding request program, have insured that we are able to obtain the highest rates available while maintaining safety and liquidity throughout the year. Higher risk type investments, such as derivatives and similar devices, are specifically avoided. The Town has now implemented the "Prudent Investor" standard. Finally, the Town has changed its primary bank from RBS Citizens Bank to two other financial institutions, Brookline Bank and Century Bank.

Bank Service Charges

Through an on-going competitive bidding program and compensating balance agreements, we continued to attempt to minimize bank service costs while the level of bank services increased. Our costs were \$80,261 in FY2015, which was directly attributable to our Electronic Commerce, reduction of interest earnings to offset expenses, and credit card acceptance initiatives that were introduced during the second half of fiscal 2001. In the last decade, bank service charges were costing us about \$150,000.

Debt

As of June 30, 2015 the Town had debt obligations of \$79.5 million in principle and \$16.2 million in interest payments. During 2015, the town financed \$4.4 million for several projects. The projects receiving new borrowing included the Landfill Closure, the Municipal Service Center, Waste Water System Improvements, the Lawrence School, a Fire Truck and Golf Course Improvements. In future years the Town will borrow significant amounts for school space expansion.

Accounts Receivable Sub-Division

For Fiscal Year 2015, this Sub-Division was responsible for the billing, collection, recording, and reconciliation of annual property taxes (\$178.8 million), Personal Property taxes (\$3.5 million), Motor Vehicle Excise taxes (\$6.0 million), Water & Sewer Utility Fees (\$26.1 million) and Refuse Collection and Disposal Fees (\$2.7 million).

In 2003, this Sub-Division was reorganized under the leadership of an Assistant Collector. In FY2004 the Sub-Division began to reconcile accounts receivable on a monthly basis, providing a more efficient year end closure of the Town's financial books. In 2005 the sub-division assumed responsibility for posting all water and refuse payments.

Another accomplishment of the Sub-Division was to shorten the age of accounts receivable. The accounts receivable of six prior fiscal years within the Personal Property Tax receivables class have been collected and closed out. Prior year Excise tax receivables have also been collected, abated and closed out.

In FY 2013 year the Sub-Division implemented a new internet payment system. The new system includes voluntary paperless billing, automatic payments, scheduled payments and the ability to view payment history.

Property Taxes

The aggressive delinquent collection campaign that was initiated in 1994 continued during the year. Unpaid taxes remained among the lowest they have been in over 27 years. The collection program described in the 1994 Annual Report has been very effective. Uncollected real and personal property taxes as of June 30, 2015 were \$2,250,977, representing a 99.0% collection rate.

Municipal Lien Certificates

An important responsibility of this Office is the timely and accurate issuance of municipal lien certificates (MLC's). This document is required before buyers and sellers of property can finalize any agreements for the transference of any real property. Lawyers and Mortgage Lending Institutions depend upon this service. The owners of property about to be conveyed generally require immediate attention. We issued approximately 1,431 MLC's during FY2015, some for Town use. This reflects a significant decrease from prior years. Improvements in automation have reduced the completion time to approximately two days. General Law requires these documents to be completed within ten working days of receipt. We continue to receive many favorable comments for timely and accurate service from the various legal firms in the area.

Motor Vehicle Excise

We continued to participate in the Registry of Motor Vehicle license renewal and registration renewal marking program. The failure to be able to renew these two important permits has proven to be a very effective collection stimulus. Uncollected excise at the end of the year was \$411,246. We continued to collect over 96% of the more than 33,996 bills issued each year on a timely basis.

Summary

Again, your Treasurer/Collector presents these accomplishments with pride. They signify our collective efforts on behalf of our community. One of the most significant messages subliminally contained within this report is that the staff is a team of professional public sector employees. A strategic initiative of cross-training has created a dynamic yet flexible staff that can address any issues that are presented. They take pride in providing a high level of quality service for their constituents. As the manager of the Division, I express my genuine appreciation to this exceptional staff of dedicated people who continue to make this all happen. My very personally satisfying job and our many successes are a direct result of their exemplary performance. I remain forever grateful to each and every one of them.

I also wish to thank the Community for their continued support and response to all of our appeals. Tax collecting is never a "fun" task, but the vast majority of our taxpayers understand what we need to do in order to keep our financial house in good condition and this understanding is what enables us to present these accomplishments. We really are grateful to all of you.

Finally, I will be retiring from Town service as of April 1, 2016. In this, my last Annual Report, I wish to offer an opinion regarding the financial health of our Community. The Town of Brookline's financial activities are well managed. Its financial condition is strong. The strategic reserves are adequate, but must be maintained at sufficient levels. The internal controls are appropriate for a community of this size. Constant vigilance is required to maintain these controls. There are financial policies in place to address the Town's unfunded liabilities (Pensions, Retiree Health Insurance, Debt, and unused Vacation balances). These policies must continue to be monitored and adjusted as needed. Continuing these strategies will allow the Town to remain financially strong for the foreseeable future.

It has been my privilege to begin and end my professional career with the Town. Thank you.

Comptroller's Division

Michael F. DiPietro, Comptroller

The Comptroller's Office is responsible for the timely and accurate processing of vendor payments, cash receipts and general ledger transactions, and numerous federal and state reporting functions, including the Commonwealth's Schedule A and Free Cash certification. In addition, the Comptroller serves on the Brookline Contributory Retirement Board.

Accounts Payable personnel, in conjunction with input from a variety of Town Departments, continued to service nearly 5,000 active vendors, processing approximately 40,000 invoices during the calendar year.

The Accounts Payable personnel routinely audits all invoices before the payments are processed and then matches up the resulting checks with their supporting documents for archiving in-house. In addition, the accounts payable team has spent considerable time and effort training departmental users throughout the School and Town in the appropriate use of the accounts payable system.

Financial Reporting

The Comptroller's staff worked closely with the auditors to ensure compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures and the promulgations of the Government Accounting Standards Board in the daily financial activities of the various Town departments and in the preparation of the Town's annual financial statements.

Personnel, Schools, DPW, Water & Sewer, Building, Fire and Police Departments are utilizing the General Billing module.

The Comptroller's staff continues to provide training and support for the departmental users in General Ledger queries and reports and Accounts Payable, General Billing and Cash Receipts input and processing and reporting of departmental financial data via in customized Crystal Reports developed in the Comptroller's Office. Over 200 users in the Town and School offices have been trained in the Town's MUNIS Financial system and basic Crystal Report running.

Closing

The Comptroller and his staff worked closely with other key departments to enhance internal controls and financial processing and reporting with the Town. The Comptroller gratefully acknowledges the fine efforts of his staff, in conjunction with the efforts of other Town Departments, which have contributed to another successful year.

Assessors Division



*Board of Assessors
L-R: Mark Mazur, Gary McCabe and Harold Peterson*

The mission of the Board of Assessors is to assess all property in the Town of Brookline in a fair and equitable manner and in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Our purpose is to promote the fair and equal treatment of all taxpayers in the Town of Brookline in the administration of the property tax, motor vehicle excise tax and related exemptions; to assess all property at its full and fair cash value as of January 1 of each year and to employ valuation methods and techniques appropriate for each class of property and to maintain public records necessary to administer the taxes of the Town of Brookline and to objectively review the petitions and concerns of taxpayers. We also want to recognize the valuable contributions of Harold A. Petersen, Ph.D., who has served on the Board of Assessors for the last 25 years.

Accomplishments

- In 2015 the Assessing Division completed a restructuring of its staff by creating two new positions; Assistant Assessor/ Data-Analyst and a part-time Senior Office Assistant. The position of Senior Assistant Assessor for Commercial Property was eliminated. The new positions are designed to lead the Assessors' efforts toward increased reliance on digital records keeping, data management, and expanded use of town owned technologies. An example of these efforts can be found on the town's web-site, where an interactive map of all one, two and three family, and residential condominium sales used to update the assessments town-wide, are displayed with a summary of the assessment data.
- Following the successful implementation of a major update to the Assessor's computer-assisted mass-appraisal (CAMA) system to the Patriot Properties' AssessPro dot-Net version 5.0, the Assessors have developed a market adjusted replacement cost new less depreciation model for all properties that will be used as a value check to the primary models: multiple regression analysis for residential properties and the capitalization of income for apartments and commercial properties. The market adjusted cost model variables will also be used in the comparable sales, market model to be developed in 2016.

2016 Objectives

- Complete the development of a comparable sales market model within the existing CAMA system for all residential properties to be used in review of assessments under appeal and to provide taxpayers with a more familiar explanation of valuation components.
- Continue to develop a program for on-line filing of certain assessment forms, including Personal Property Tax Returns (Form-of-List), Form 3ABC – Return of Property Held for Charitable Purposes, and Commercial Property Income & Expense Statements.
- Expand use of the Town's integrated GIS-CAMA capabilities to include all residential properties in the current on-line sales (story) map application.
- Continue to explore ways to expand use of the Assessor's database in combination with other Town record systems and GIS mapping capabilities.
- The Assessors will also continue to be diligent in the discovery of taxable property and allowable levy growth for fiscal year 2017 and beyond using the town's technology resources and sound assessment practices.

The table below contains a comparison of the FY2015 and FY2016 total assessed values by major property class.

Property Class	FY15 Valuation	FY16 Valuation	Δ
Residential	16,146,706,900	17,723,210,800	9.8%
Commercial	1,612,812,500	1,748,141,400	8.4%
Industrial *	16,298,900	12,993,500	-20.3%
Personal Property	198,236,540	207,182,076	4.5%
Total Taxable Property	17,974,054,840	19,691,527,776	9.6%
Tax Exempt	2,104,768,800	2,183,749,900	3.8%

*Former Red Cab site changed to commercial class

Purchasing Division

The Purchasing Division is responsible for the procurement of all goods & services for all Town and School Departments. The Division's role is to ensure that all Departments are getting the best value, by using the appropriate process: good business practice, quotes, bids and proposals, in addition to established state and cooperative contracts. The procurement process complies with applicable laws, such as M.G.L. Chapter 30B, which was enacted by the State and adopted by the Town in 1990 and updated more recently.

Purchasing also manages all contracts and agreements resulting from procurements that are entered into by Town and School Departments. General Services is part of the Division, providing printing and mail support for Town and School departments.

Personnel

The Purchasing staff includes: Chief Procurement Officer David Geanakakis, Procurement Officer Richard Saville, Buyer Bill Pappas, and Senior Office Assistant Arlyn Zuniga. General Services staff includes: Supervisor of Mailing & Printing Timothy Sullivan and Mail Clerk Morgan Laing-Buckland.

David thanks all Purchasing and General Services staff for offering a high level of service, attention to detail and continuing to provide informed, accurate, and pleasant service to Town and School Departments on a daily basis over the past year.

Purchasing Activity

During the past year, the Purchasing Division issued nearly 10,000 purchase orders and conducted nearly 80 public procurements, for the various departments. Procurements are done using the appropriate open and competitive process. With the assistance of the requesting department, Division staff develop specifications, investigate and seek out potential vendors, evaluate & award contracts, and monitor vendor performance.

Various contracts for goods and services are managed by the Division staff and used by all Town and School departments. Establishing good working relationships with vendors, providing goods and services is also an important task. Examples are: office supplies, copiers, information technology, school lunches, telecom, furniture, consultants and insurance. Significant items from the past year were:

- Town Department Bids and RFPs
- Historical Study for Planning, Sand for DPW, Signs for DPW, Building Program Consultant for the Coolidge Corner Library, Air Quality & AHERA for Building & Schools, Pierce School Playground for DPW, Trees & Shrubs for DPW, Old Lincoln Air Quality Health for Building & Schools, Master Lease Purchase Financing for Public Works equipment, Golf Maintenance Equipment lease, Lease & Occupancy of 27 Ackers, Building Service Bids.
- Continued to prepare issue, award and manage cooperative bid and contract for heating oil, gasoline and diesel for 11 regional Cities and Towns. Obtained fixed prices for FY16.
- Town and School contracts were rebid or renewed with ongoing improvement of products and services.
- Continue to manage the annual computer leasing process, with the assistance of the Information Technology Department. Ongoing program has standardized models, single vendor, consistent annual payment & low interest rate, below market prices, faster ordering process & deployment.
- Scanning feature included in all Town and School photocopiers to reduce paper use and cost of maintenance and storage.
- Continued to expand purchases from other cooperative contracts, such as Mass Higher Education Consortium, as appropriate.
- Purchased additional hybrid and fuel efficient 4 cylinder vehicles such as: Chevrolet Cruze, Ford Transit, for various Town and School Departments.

Support to the School Department

Procurement Officer Richard Saville and Senior Office Assistant Arlyn Zuniga are the Division's primary contacts for the School Department. They dedicate most of their time to supporting School Department purchases and projects, but all staff support School purchases. Significant items from the past year were:

- School Department Bids, RFPs and renewals.
- Sushi, bagels, burgers and chicken sandwiches, paper products, registration system for Adult Education, and School Space Options (2 locations).
- Supported past and upcoming School construction projects with planning for bids and contracts: telecom, furniture and fixtures, peer review, and testing.
- Continued to use office supply vendor online ordering for School Department.
- Continued using Purchasing Card (PCard) program with School Departments for appropriate purchases.
- Continued using Home Depot card with School Departments for appropriate purchases.
- Continued participating in several purchasing cooperatives (Somerville, Waltham, Methuen, Medford and Quincy) for increased savings in food services.
- Continued to upgrade the majority of the photocopier fleet within both the Town and School departments, taking advantage of a cost-saving offer of free maintenance service, resulting in significant savings.
- Bid contract for paper towels, toilet tissue and hand soap for the School, and included Town Department requirements.
- Renewed snack and beverage vending contracts, receiving commission from soda and snack machines amounting to \$3,999.17 in FY15. For the first half of FY16, commissions generated \$1,784.92.
- Renewed several school bids: rental of tables and chairs, student bus and METCO transportation services, printing of Adult Education catalog.
- Continue to use state contract vendors who offer competitive prices.

General Services Activity

General Services provides centralized printing and mailing services for all Town and School departments. Services are done in the most economical manner on site, using outside vendors only if necessary. Pick-up and delivery of mail and offset high quality printing are done by the mail room and print shop staff.

- Worked with the IT Department to continue to review existing telephone carriers' bills, to eliminate lines and modify service as required to reduce costs.
- Continued to review current cell phone provider and reviewed plans and phones, to lower costs and improve service.
- Used in-house print capabilities to reduce the costs of outside printing. The Annual Report, Financial Plan, Financial Trend Monitoring Report, Contract Specifications, Town Meeting Combined Reports, Town Meeting Member Newsletters, Council on Aging Newsletters and other materials continue to be printed internally.

Norfolk County Registry of Deeds

William P. O'Donnell, Register

The Registry of Deeds is the principal office for real property records in Norfolk County. The Registry receives and records hundreds of thousands of documents annually. It houses more than five million land documents dating back to 1793. The Registry is a primary and indispensable resource for title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipalities, homeowners, and other individuals with a need for land record information.

The Registry operates under the supervision of the elected Register, William P. O'Donnell. In continuous operation for more than two hundred years, the Registry's mission has remained the same; to maintain and provide for accurate, reliable and accessible land records to all residents and businesses of Norfolk County.

2015 Registry Achievements

- Register William P. O'Donnell and his staff continue their direct outreach to town halls, senior centers and civic groups across Norfolk County to provide Registry services. Register O'Donnell held office hours at Brookline Town Hall on October 22nd.
- The Registry of Deeds newly renovated walk-in Customer Service and Copy Center continues to provide residents and businesses with quality service in all areas of Registry operations. You can contact the Customer Service and Copy Center at 781-461-6101. Hours of operations are 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.
- Electronic recording which is recording documents over the internet continues to expand with 39,604 documents recorded electronically and \$4.4 million in recording fees collected in 2015.
- The internet library of images, accessible to the public through the Registry of Deeds' online research system at www.norfolkdeeds.org continues to expand. Today all documents dating back to the first ones recorded in 1793 - are available for viewing.
- This year, numerous technological improvements were implemented including upgrades to the registry server and network infrastructure. The Registry's website www.norfolkdeeds.org is routinely updated and enhanced to include the latest resources such as real estate statistics and news, answers to frequently asked questions and the newest consumer programs available to the public.
- The Registry of Deeds publicly rolled out its Consumer Notification Service. This consumer/public safety program allows any county resident to opt in to this free notification service and be alerted when any document – fraudulent or otherwise – is recorded against their name. For more information, please see our website at: www.norfolkdeeds.org.
- Register O'Donnell hosted several free computer seminars at the Registry to provide hands-on-training to the public, including trade groups, on how to access land record information using the Registry's new website technology.

Brookline Real Estate Activity Report January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

During 2015, real estate activity in Brookline saw increases in both total sales volume and average sales price.

There was a 15% increase in documents recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds for Brookline in 2015, resulting in an increase of 1,440 documents from 9,310 to 10,750.

The total volume of real estate sales in Brookline during 2015 was \$1,251,189,568, a 23% increase from 2014. The average sale price of homes and commercial property was up 14% in Brookline. The average sale was \$1,357,038.

The number of mortgages recorded (2,259) on Brookline properties in 2015 was up by 26% from the previous year. Total mortgage indebtedness also increased 9% to \$1,655,498,257 during the same period.

There were two foreclosure deeds filed against Brookline properties during 2015, representing a 33% decrease from the previous year when there were 3 foreclosure deeds filed.

Homestead activity increased 11% in Brookline during 2015 with 882 homesteads filed compared to 797 in 2014.

Finally, our objective at the Registry will always be to maintain, secure, accurate and accessible land records for the residents and businesses of Norfolk County. It is a privilege to serve you.

Retirement

Frank Zecha, Director



Brookline Retirement Board

The Brookline Contributory Retirement System (System) administers the defined benefit plan for most Town of Brookline employees, with the exception of teachers and school administrators whose program is administered by the Teachers' Retirement System. The defined benefit plan, governed by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32, provides retirement, disability, survivor, and death benefits to members and their beneficiaries.

The System has a five member Board that is responsible for ensuring that the system is operating in compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 32. The Chairman of the Board is James (Chet) Riley one of the two elected members and Rob Ward, Chief of Operations for the Brookline Fire Department being the other elected member. Director of Finance Stephen Cirillo serves on the Board pursuant to an appointment by the Board of Selectman. Brookline Comptroller Michael F. DiPietro serves as the ex-officio member, as required by M.G. L. Chapter 32 and Gary Altman, an attorney who works full-time as a labor arbitrator and mediator, was chosen by the four Board members to serve as the fifth member.

The System is funded through member's deductions, investments and annual appropriations from the Town and Brookline Housing Authority. The Board adopted an actuarial funding schedule to ensure the financial stability of the retirement system. According to the most recent actuarial report, as of January 1, 2014 the system was 55.66% funded.

As of December 31, 2015, there were 3,840 members, 1,702 active members, 885 retired members or their beneficiaries and 1,253 inactive members. During 2015, the Board voted to grant 30 superannuation and four accidental disability retirement allowances. The Board also approved 61 refunds and 68 transfers of member accounts.

The current staff is comprised of: Frank Zecha, Executive Director; Maryruth Capite, Deputy Director of Finance; and Brigid Connolly, Administrative Assistant. The staff is responsible for: financial transactions; reporting of investment activity, comprehensive pre- and post- retirement counseling to employees and their families regarding their rights and benefits; issuing monthly pension payments to retirees and /or their survivors; and other required governmental reporting.

The system has Russell Investments as its OCIO. The Board establishes investment policies, and allocates system assets to various investments.

The Retirement System is valued at \$247.9 million as of December 31, 2015. In calendar year 2015 the System had a .082% rate of return. The 25 year rate of return is greater than 7.800% annually.

TOWN OF BROOKLINE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY
Main Number: 617-730-2000

Emergency Telephone Numbers:

Police 911 Fire 911
 Highway 617-730-2160
 Parks: 617-730-2167
 Water/Sewer: 617-730-2175
 Home Heating: 617-730-2300 (weekdays); 617-730-2222 (evenings and weekends)

DEPARTMENT	TELEPHONE	TTY (phone devices for the deaf)
Assessor's Office	617-730-2060	
Brookline Interactive Group	617-731-8566	
Building Department	617-730-2100	
Comptroller's Office	617-730-2022	
Conservation Commission	617-730-2088	
Council on Aging	617-730-2103	
Diversity, Inclusion and Community Relations	617-730-2777	
Emergency Management	617-730-2105	
Evelyn Kirrane Aquatics Center	617-713-5435	
Fire Department (non-emergency)	617-730-2272	
Health Department	617-730-2300	617-730-2327
HELP Program	617-730-2752	
Human Resources Office	617-730-2120	
Information Technology Department	617-730-2003	
Library (Main)	617-730-2345	617-730-2364
Library (Coolidge Corner)	617-730-2380	
Library (Putterham)	617-730-2385	
Parks and Open Space Division of DPW	617-730-2088	
Planning and Community Development	617-730-2130	
Police (non emergency)	617-730-2222	
Public Works	617-730-2156	617-734-2952
Purchasing Division	617-730-2195	
Recreation Department	617-730-2069	617-739-7698
Retirement Board Members and Staff	617-730-2028	
Robert T. Lynch Municipal Golf Course	617-730-2078	
Selectmen's Office	617-730-2200	617-730-2213
Soule Early Childhood Center	617-739-7598	
Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention for Youth	617-713-5155	
Tobacco Control	617-730-2333	
Town Administrator	617-730-2200	
Town Clerk	617-730-2010	617-730-2572
Town Counsel	617-730-2190	
Transportation Division of DPW	617-730-2177	
Treasurer/Collector	617-730-2020	
Veterans Services	617-730-2112	
Walnut Hills Cemetery	617-730-2179	

TOWN OF BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS

Settled: 1638
Incorporated: 1705
Population: 58,666
Land Area: 6.82 Square Miles

Government: Representative Town Meeting (240 Elected Town Meeting Members and eight at large) with five-member Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator.

Located four miles from downtown Boston, in Norfolk County. Brookline is one of the largest towns in New England. It is primarily a mature suburban, residential community. The primary occupations of Brookline residents are management and professional, heavily concentrated in the fields of medicine and education.

FY 2016 Assessed Valuation: \$19,691,527,776
FY 2016 Tax Rates:
Residential \$10.42
Commercial \$16.99
Residential Exemption \$209,531

Political Parties and Designations

Democrat	17,514
Republican	2,464
Green Rainbow	39
Unenrolled	17,313
United Independent Party	78
American Independent	11
Green Party USA	9
Libertarian	36
MA Independent Party	3
Socialist	5
Interdependent 3 rd Party	4
Working Families	1
Constitution Party	1
We the People	1

Brookline Legislators

United States Senators

Elizabeth Warren
 Edward J. Markey

United States Representative Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy

State Senator

Cynthia S. Creem

State Representatives

Edward F. Coppingier
 Michael Moran
 Jeffrey Sanchez
 Frank Israel Smizik

The Town of Brookline is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. The Town of Brookline does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. The Town of Brookline does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices.