

BROOKLINE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022
(ONLINE VIA ZOOM)
DRAFT MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Rebecca Stone, Felina Silver Robinson, Liz Stillman, Carol Caro, Meenakshi Garodia, Aileen Lee, Nicole McClelland, Homa Sarabi-Daunais, Hadassah Margolis, Lucy Chie

Others present: Caitlin Starr (staff)

1. Administrative details:
 - i. Vote to approve minutes from meeting of Nov. 3, 2021: Moved by Ms. Garodia; seconded by Ms. Caro. Unanimously passes. See chart below.
 - ii. Calendar: MLK Day activities: Inspo/Expo and Welcome Blanket on Zoom at 11 on 1/17 about immigration experience in town. Link is here:
<https://www.brooklinema.gov/465/MLK-Celebration-Committee>
2. Public Comment
No one appeared for public comment
3. Liaisons, Working Groups, Other Updates
 - i. Report on Town Meeting actions relative to BCW endorsed Articles 10, 11, 12, and 22 (memo inserted here):

Article 10: Home Rule Petition to Extend Remote/Hybrid Participation for Town Meeting

BCW Recommendation: Favorable Action (unanimous vote)

TM Vote: Favorable Action

The legislature is unlikely to act on this home rule petition because it is not unique to Brookline, and the House, to date, has not supported extending remote access efforts more generally.

Article 11: Home Rule Petition to Extend Remote Participation in Public Meetings subject to the Open Meeting Law (OML)

BCW Recommendation: Favorable Action (unanimous vote)

TM Vote: Favorable Action

The legislature is unlikely to act on this home rule petition because it is not unique to Brookline and the House, to date, has not supported extending remote access efforts more generally. The BCW should anticipate meeting in person beginning in May 2022.

Article 12: Resolution to have Brookline commit to outfitting public meeting rooms with remote access technology and plan for related staff support.

BCW Recommendation: Favorable Action on the Petitioner's Motion (unanimous vote)

TM Vote: Favorable Action

Article 22: Change the Zoning By-Law to Regulate Retail Firearm Stores in Brookline

BCW Recommendation: Favorable Action (unanimous vote)

TM Vote: Favorable Action

The above means (as to 10,11, and 12) that we must return to hybrid meetings (chair + quorum in person) for May meeting. As to 12, Brookline can opt to do this on their own. This is a step forward.

- ii. Women Thriving Dec. Coat Drive- Ms. Robinson and Ms. Starr were able to help get this done. Ms. Silver Robinson volunteered at the drive and said it went amazingly well. Liora at Women Thriving and Daniela at the Housing Authority coordinated to take any remaining items to 22 High Street's common space for distribution there. 30-50 coats were donated, many brand new; toys were also given out, with remaining toys also taken to 22 High Street. There were a good number of volunteers and they did a great job. Ms. Stone asked if would be an annual event now and Ms. Silver Robinson and Ms. Starr both thought it was the plan if the need was there and it was successful.
4. Plan for 2022 Women of the Year: Working group has not yet met. We have heard that Women at the Center will be on the 9th in March and all-virtual, so we should probably plan to do the same. All agree (no formal vote) that a virtual celebration is best for safety and we have the benefit of a template from last year. Ms. Stillman and Ms. Stone will set up administrative and logistical items to get started for this year. We should send out emails this week to begin nominations next week. Decision to again be open to multiple winners to showcase the amount of work women are doing. Ms. Stone proposed three possible Wednesday evenings: 3/16, 3/23 and 3/30; choice of the 23rd since we have a meeting on April 6th and that is quite close to the 30th. We will likely duplicate what we did last year in terms of timing 7:30-8:30 p.m. The working group will meet and put this together. Ms. Sarabi-Daunais will design a save the date for posting to social media.
5. New & Old Business
 - i. Ms. Stone plans to invite for February Doreen Gallagher, Domestic Violence specialist with the BPD, to discuss 1) Brookline resources for women at risk and 2) collaboration with BCW around adding curricula on consent to social/emotional/sexual health education in the schools preK-12.
 - ii. Working groups should be planning to meet shortly! Ms. Stone will recirculate the minutes with these assignments.

Voting chart for votes at this meeting:

<u>Commissioner:</u>	<u>Minutes:</u>	<u>Women of the Year</u>	
Stone	Y	remote	
Stillman	Y	remote	
Caro	Y	remote	
McClelland	Y	remote	
Margolis	Y	remote	
Chie	X	remote	
Lee	Y	remote	
Sarabi-Daunais	Y	remote	
Garodia	Y	remote	
Silver Robinson	Y	remote	

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.