

**Brookline Commission for Women
Community Support Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes: DRAFT
Monday, January 11, 2020 – 12:00 PM**

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

A quorum being present, Commissioner Margolis called the meeting to order at 12:00pm. First, Commissioners voted to approve the minutes of November meeting and reviewed the calendar for next months' meetings through June 2021.

The subcommittee changed our virtual meetup from Thursday, February 11, at 7:30 p.m. to Wednesday, February 10, at 7:30pm due to Lunar New Year Eve. The remaining times are the same: Thursday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m.

Commissioner Silver Robinson reported that Women Thriving is meeting on Sunday to discuss a partnership on these virtual meetups, and she will report back to the subcommittee at our next subcommittee meeting. If Women Thriving wants to partner, there is the option of starting with our April meetup, or waiting until Fall 2021 to give us more time to plan.

The subcommittee then debriefed the past few virtual meetups and discussed next steps. Some questions:

1. Do we want these virtual meetups to continue as an open space, or do we want to have certain themes (e.g., how do single women find housing in Brookline)? Ultimately, the subcommittee decided that we can ask the participants whether they want— a freer open space or specific topics.

2. How can we improve the marketing/promotion of these virtual meetups? Discussed physical flyering at library, parks, stores.

3. How can we improve the flyer?
- catchier name: everyone to brainstorm
- add QR code to flyer

4. Do we want more specific group guidelines? Subcommittee debated whether we want to have some preemptive guidelines or just have commissioners aware if a situation arises, that we deal with it in the moment and then bring guidelines to the meetup moving forward. Subcommittee decided on the latter.

Commissioner Silver Robinson volunteered to start a google doc for catchier names and possible prompting questions/topics to have on hand for the virtual meetups.

We then moved on to other ideas and projects for this subcommittee to focus on, including a women-led book club idea. Commissioner Lee recommended the subcommittee create a platform with suggested resources for existing book clubs to use and then connect them to it. Commissioners want to explore this more in the next subcommittee meeting, as well as think about it more between now and then.

Meeting adjourned at 1pm.