



Board Attendance

P = present, A = absent, NA = notified/excused absence					
Leigh Bivings	NA	Betsy Hall	NA	James Lionette	A
Matt Carroll	NA	Michael Hall	P	David Mundel	P
Glenn Copley	A	Kyle Hancock	P	Susan Passoni	P
Paul Duffy	P	John Herbert	P	Peter Pogorski	P
Kathy Emrich	P	Elsa Hill	P	Gary Patronek	NA
Jay Fogarty	NA	Karl Hinsch	P	Sandra Silver	P
Beth Freeland	P	Barbara Hoffman	P	Carol Trust	P
Jennifer Girvin	P	Gordon Holmes	P	Elizabeth Xanthopoulos	P
Tony Gordon	NA	Abby Johnson	P		
Bill Gregor	P	Maureen Lamb	P		

Guests: Ronna Woodward and Alix Carey, Boston Medical Center, Tabitha Bennett, South End Liaison to the Mayor’s Office, Stephen Vowler, Appleton Bakery and Café, Betsy Boveroux, Bruce Petri

Welcome

Abby Johnson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

General Announcements and Topics of Discussion

1. Boston Medical Center Presentation

Ronna Woodward gave an overview of the work being carried out at the Boston Medical Center (BMC). The mission that drives the BMC is “to provide exceptional care, without exception”. It has the busiest Level 1 Trauma Center in New England and has many highly ranked programs in such areas as cardiac care, geriatrics, Parkinson’s Disease and HIV/AIDS treatment. The Preventive Food Pantry provides groceries to nearly 5,000 low-income patients and their families every month. The BMC welcomes tours of the facility by individuals or groups. Their website is www.bmc.org.

2. Executive Committee Update

Susan Passoni, President, referred the Board to the Inter-Committee FY09. She emphasized the necessity to build our presence in our community. We need to improve communication between committees and must ensure that our activities are posted on the website. The website contains a wealth of information about the South End and is particularly helpful to new residents.

Paul Duffy mentioned that the South End Business Alliance has a new website:

www.southendbusiness.com.

Susan congratulated the Green Committee on a very successful Tree Forum. Jennifer Girvin, Co-Chair of the Green Committee reported that as a result of this forum a pilot program is to be run in our area teach residents how to prune trees. This program will be organized by the Parks Department.

Appleton Street Café, Tadpole store and the Ellis are sponsoring a Halloween Party on October 29 on Appleton Street.

The South End Library is also having a Halloween Party on October 31.

Casa de la Cultura is holding a "Rock en Español 2" concert on December 12. See www.claboston.org for more details.

Posh store has kindly offered to host a Holiday Party again this year for all Ellis members. Details will be posted on our website as soon as the date is firmed up.

The minutes from the prior Board meeting were discussed and accepted with minor modifications. Sandra Silver, Treasurer, reported that membership dues are continuing to come in.

3. **Committee Updates**

-Development

John Herbert reported that the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority (MTA) expects to hear by November 15 from the Beal Companies if the Columbus Center Project is still financially viable. It is not clear who will take responsibility for restoring the sidewalks and parking places in that area. The Board requested that Tabitha Bennett, Liaison to the Mayor's Office, should report to the Mayor the strong disapproval voiced by the Board at the lack of progress in replacing these sidewalks and parking spaces.

-Licensing

David Mundel reported that the committee is working on several requests for licensing.

-Membership

Beth Freeland reported that a batch of new resident welcome letters will be sent out soon.

-Events

Bill Gregor reported that the Wine Committee is hosting a Holiday Party on December 13. Contact Bill for details at winegroup@ellisneighborhood.org.

-Communications

Maureen Lamb announced that we now have a photographer for the website. The committee is n and welcomes suggestions from Ellis members. Some ideas so far include having bulletin board discussions and conducting surveys on topics important to our neighborhood. Newsfeeds from local papers are to be posted.

-Nominating

Elizabeth Xanthopoulos, reported that the committee is working on contacting former members who are no longer involved in Ellis activities to see if the makeup of the Board had anything to do with their lack of continued support. Their comments may help the nominating process.

4. **Other Business**

Kathy Emrich, reported that Dave Crawley is to be her alternative at PruPAC meetings when she is unable to attend. The BRA has been collecting public comments about the proposed developments at 888 Boylston and on Exeter Street. A full PruPAC meeting will be held on November 10 to make recommendations.

Bill Gregor mentioned that the Pine Street inn has been successful in purchasing three houses on Upton Street that will be renovated as studio apartments for the previously homeless and will be administered by the Pine Street Inn.

Conclusion and adjournment

The next meeting will be on November 25, 2008, 6:30 P.M.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Barbara Hoffman