



**Board Attendance**

P = present, A = absent, NA = notified/excused absence					
Leigh Bivings	P	Bill Gregor	P	Mike Nairne	p
Betsy Boveroux	P	Betsy Hall	P	Joe Park	P
Matt Carroll	A	Michael Hall	P	Susan Passoni	p
Paul Duffy	P	John Herbert	P	Bruce Petri	NA
Kathy Emrich	P	Roz Hill	P	Peter Pogorski	P
William Fastow	P	Barbara Hoffman	A	Kimball Robeson	P
Jay Fogarty	P	Gordon Holmes	P	Sandra Silver	P
Beth Freeland	NA	Abby Johnson	P	Carol Trust	P
Jennifer Girvin	P	Mary Lionette	P		
Tony Gordon	P	David Mundel	NA		

**Guests:**

Denise Fisher, Andy Fisher, Susan Scott, Rob Adams, Marleen Nienhuis, Rick Minot, Ron Medina, Tony Tierno, Megan Haggarty

***Welcome***

Leigh Bivings, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM

***General Announcements and Topics of Discussion***

1. **Friends of Library Square** – Marleen Nienhuis and Rick Minot presented conceptual plans to remodel and update the South End Public Library and focus the library’s programs on teenagers. The current goal is to raise \$100,000 for a full planning study. Marleen mentioned that they were unable to get in the State’s capital budget for public libraries for this year but that the Mayor was demonstrating some interest and wanted to meet with the group. They are not currently asking anything specific of the Ellis but would like our support. By an informal nod of heads, the Board unanimously praised the effort.
2. **Executive Committee Update** – Kathy Emrich, President, mentioned a few upcoming events, namely the Festival Betances and a Biosafety Lab meeting. Following Kathy’s comments, the Board approved the minutes of the April 07 Board meeting without modification. Leigh then briefly reviewed the current Treasurer’s report, mentioning that a much more complete end-year report would be out by next month’s meeting.
3. **Groundwater Update** - Peter Pogorski was joined by Susan Scott to update us on recent efforts to draft new legislation governing residential and commercial sump pump usage that lowers groundwater levels. The basic idea would be that those who choose to pump surface water into the sewage system versus allowing the water to replenish groundwater levels should pay for the privilege. The hope is that this will encourage folks to fix leaks or develop dry wells where appropriate and feasible. Susan and Peter explained that the process of developing this new legislation is still in its early days and so they do not have specific material for us to review. They did, however, ask for an informal show of hands as to whether we felt the initiative had merit. The Board did feel the initiative was a good one and looked forward to learning more at a later date.
4. **Membership Committee Update** - Sandra Silver reported that the recent new member party had been a great success with almost 30 new members participating as well as almost the entire Board. All agreed that we need to get back in the habit of having more of these events. Sandra also

presented an end-year report which indicates that by her best estimates, Ellis membership grew by just over 6% (net) during the last fiscal year.

5. **Events Committee Update** – Mary Lionette announced ambitious plans for next year including creating some new events, hosting several public forums and possibly charging for some of the more popular events focused on children (e.g., the Easter egg hunt). She said that as usual, there wouldn't be much activity over the summer. Bill Gregor also thanked the team that had worked to put together the recent, successful event at the Beehive, in which \$25 per ticket (less expenses) were earmarked to help offset the current operational deficit of the association. Approximately x tickets were sold and a full financial accounting would be available at next month's meeting.
6. **Development Committee Update** – John Herbert and others reviewed the status of a few development projects underway within the South End. He also mentioned that the City had investigated the developers of the Bryant and had concluded that the developer, despite all the difficulties the neighborhood had had with the firm, had fully complied with City regulations and that therefore there was not much the City could do to help the neighbors.
7. **Licensing** -- Betsy Boveroux mentioned that the Upper Crust pizza chain was seeking a beer and wine license for a pizza outlet the company wants to establish on 631 Tremont St. While 631 Tremont St. is not in the Ellis neighborhood per se, Betsy planned to participate in upcoming meetings given the local's proximity to the Ellis.
8. **Neighborhood Services** – Jay provided us a summary end year report characterizing the year as one of "modest successes". He mentioned that the Block Captain program had not taken off but that there were a few enthusiasts engaged in the effort. He did underscore the good turnout to the spring cleanup.
9. **Other Business** – Leigh presented Kathy Emrich a departing gift on behalf of the association for all of her hard work, dedication and great efforts as President of the Association during the last 2 years. She received a big round of applause and a very cute little monster fabricated by BostonPottery in the South End.

### ***Conclusion and adjournment***

The next Board meeting will be on July 24, 2007

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

Respectfully submitted,

Leigh Bivings, Chair