



Board Attendance

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

Guests: Tabitha Bennett, South End Liason to the Mayor’s Office, Stephen Vowles, Appleton Bakery and Café, Jordan Tse, Berkeley Perk Café, Pamela Adams, Betsy Boveroux, Bruce Petri

Welcome

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

General Announcements and Topics of Discussion

1. Executive Committee Update -

“On the Move”, the Greater Boston Transportation Justice Coalition, will host a town meeting on public transportation on October 22 at the Copley Square Library from 6 p.m-8 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to find out how people feel about public transportation, what concerns they have and suggestions for improvement.

United South End Settlements will host a 90th Anniversary Celebration of the Children’s Art Centre on October 16 from 6 p.m.-8 p.m.

The minutes from the prior Board meeting were discussed and accepted.

Sandra Silver, Treasurer, reported that all the committees have submitted proposed budgets for this fiscal year and that an overall budget has been agreed upon. The budget was voted on and accepted.

2. Committee Updates-

-Communications

Maureen Lamb reported that the committee has the following objectives for 2008-2009:

- Update the Ellis website on a weekly basis to reflect events in the neighborhood.
- Work with individual committees to help advertise and raise awareness of Ellis South End Neighborhood Association sponsored events.

-Development

John Herbert reported that there was a meeting on September 17 between the developers of the Columbus Center and the Columbus Center Community Construction Committee. The developers are particularly focusing on the deck, now called a “platform” due to a different and cheaper engineering technology. They are still hoping to build it all at once. The entire project is to be looked at to see if it is economically viable. Related Properties of New York and the Beal Companies of Boston have been hired by the project’s owners to evaluate this and a viability report is due on November 15.

Tony Gordon reported that he attended a recent meeting of the Citizen Advisory Board (CAC) for the proposed 45-story building to be located in front of Neiman Marcus. There is still some concern about such issues as shadowing, and both pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow.

John reported that the committee has the following objectives for 2008-2009:

- Post updates of neighborhood development projects on the website.
- Work with developers prior to commencement of construction.
- Clarify the guidelines given to architects on questions of deck building.

-Green

Jennifer Girvin reminded the Board that the Tree Forum is to be held on October 20 at the Lyric Stage. Press releases have been sent out to all the local media.

The Resources Guide will be available next month.

Tabitha Bennett, Liaison to the Mayor's Office, said that it was possible to request a second day of recycling pickup. The Board agreed that this would be advantageous, and a letter will be sent from the Ellis to the City to request this. She also noted that if a resident would like a tree for an empty tree well on their street, they should call the Parks department at 617-635-PARK.

-Neighborhood Services

Leigh Bivings reported that the committee has the following objectives for 2008-2009:

- Motivate, organize, and enable residents to clean up trash, tend to the areas around their homes, and report problems to the appropriate authorities.
- Test new initiatives that bring improvement to chronically problematic area in the neighborhood (using both volunteer and paid services).
- Learn from other cities and see whether steps they have taken can be implemented here.

The committee will continue to support the policy of towing to aid street cleaning. Also, they will contact other cities to see how they are able to continue cleaning streets during the snow season. Fall Cleanup will be on Saturday, November 15.

-Nominating

Elizabeth Xanthopoulos reported that by November it is hoped to have a list of possible Board nominees that will reflect the changing demographics of our neighborhood.

-Wine

Bill Gregor announced that a goal this year is to host events with other neighborhood associations. It is also hoped to host another event with the Berklee College of Music. An email of upcoming events has been sent out. If you would like to be included in these mailings, contact Bill at:

elliswine@mindspring.com

3. Other Business

Kathy Emrich reported that although the Silver Line Phase 3 project does not directly impact us, we should continue to support our neighbors, who still have many questions about this project. The proposal can be viewed on the MBTA's website at www.mbta.com. Comments are due by October 10.

As our PruPAC representative, Kathy announced that as a result of further studies, new proposals for the developments at 888 Boylston Street and on Exeter Street will be discussed at the next meeting on October 2. The Board reiterated that any votes she casts should be in accordance with the motion passed at our last meeting, supporting the neighborhood associations that are directly affected.

Abby reported that a block of West Canton Street will be closed on October 25 for use as a film set. The film company has agreed to the requests made by the Executive Committee that the company should pay for parking alternatives for those residents affected and that flyers should be distributed ahead of time as a reminder.

Conclusion and adjournment

The next meeting will be on October 28, 2008, 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hoffman