



Board Attendance

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

Guests: None

Welcome

Leigh Bivings, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

General Announcements and Topics of Discussion

1. Executive Committee Update -

Leigh Bivings, Chair announced that the Boston Civic Summit is to be held on May 3rd at the South Boston Convention Center. Organized by the City, it will be an opportunity for civic and community leaders to meet and exchange ideas with the aim of engaging more neighborhood leaders in city government. Experts in civic leadership will hold workshops and discussion groups. Registration is due by April 25th.

The Executive Committee received several suggestions for the Arthur Howe Award and decided on Freida Garcia, former Executive Director of United South End Settlements(USES). It was moved, seconded and voted to accept the Executive Committee’s recommendation.

A petition from the South End Welcoming Committee, designed to welcome Pine Street Inn as a new owner to the neighborhood, has been organized by former Board members of the Union Park Neighborhood Association(UPNA). The petition was available in the room for those who wanted to sign it.

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

Sandra Silver, Treasurer, reported that a check for \$1000 has been sent to South End Baseball. Revenues from the Casino Night are beginning to come in. South End Baseball is to host a wine tasting fundraiser on April 30th, 6p.m.-7p.m. at Brix, 1284 Washington Street.

2. Committee Updates-

-Nominating Committee

Gordon Holmes reported on the slate of officers to be presented for the upcoming year. Abby Johnson has been nominated as Chair and Susan Passoni has been nominated as President. The other members of the Executive Committee are unchanged (Barbara Hoffman, Clerk; Sandra Silver, Treasurer; David Mundel and Beth Freeland ,Vice Presidents).

Six existing Board members are not continuing: Betsy Boveroux, Will Fastow, Roz Hill, Bruce Petri, Kimball Robeson and Mary Lionette (previously resigned when she moved out of town). Six members have been nominated to replace them. They are Glen Cople, new owner of Appleton Bakery, Elsa Hill, Dartmouth Street, Karl Hinsch Appleton Street, Maureen Lamb, Tremont Street, James Lionette, current owner of Garden of Eden on Tremont Street, and Elizabeth Xanthopoulos, Appleton Street.

This slate will be submitted for approval at the Annual General Meeting. There are 28 people on the slate. Bylaws permit 30 members on the Board. Nominations may be made at the Annual Meeting or can be filed during the coming year.

-Neighborhood Services

Jay Fogerty reminded the Board that Spring Cleanup is this Saturday, April 26th and will be coordinated by Matt Carrol. There was some discussion about the problem of dog owners who are leaving the plastic bags of feces on the street. Jay would welcome suggestions on how to deal with this problem.

-Development

John Herbert reported that there is no clear sense of what will happen next at Columbus Center. If financing cannot be arranged then they will "secure the site". It is hoped that the sidewalk and parking spaces will be put back.

David Mundel reported that the City wants to create a Citizen Advisory Board (CAC) for the proposed 45 storey building to be located in the open space in front of Neiman Marcus. The developers are proposing to add space to the store to match their existing floors and to build 300 high end condominiums on the floors above. He is working with other neighborhood associations in close proximity to the proposed building including Tent City, St Botolf, NABB and Cosmoplitan. He is looking for a candidate from Ellis to recommend to this Board. The deadline is April 25th, but may be extended.

-Membership

Beth Freeland reminded all Board members that they have 10 tickets each to sell for the Casino Night on May 3rd. She mentioned that a new member party is being planned for mid-June.

-Groundwater

Peter Pogorski reported that the MBTA will invest \$3 million to wall off the leak, which is believed to be under the track. This will permit closing the current recharge wells that are using potable water to restore water levels.

-Green Committee

Ellis Green Bags are ready and will be sold during Spring Cleanup at \$2 each.

-Events

Bill Gregor reported that the Wine Tasting Group will have a soiree on April 29th at 6:30 p.m. at the Berklee Performance Center, Mass Ave. There will be six different wines and a performance by Berklee students.

Gay Pride Parade will be on Saturday, June 14th beginning at noon. Bill Gregor and Susan Passoni are coordinating the Ellis contingent. Sign up sheets were circulated.

Union Park Neighborhood Association (UPNA) is planning a Young South Enders event for May 20th. Ellis will be a co-host.

The Board was reminded that Meghan Haggerty, Liaison to the Mayor's Office has office hours at the South End Branch Library every Thursday from 3p.m. until 6p.m.

3. Other Business-

Paul Duffy reported that he has taken the lead in his block to repair the sewer line, which runs down the alley and is therefore privately owned.

Conclusion and adjournment

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on May 27, 2008, 6:30 P.M. at the Franklin Institute, Berkeley Street.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Boveroux and Carol Trust, clerks pro temp.