



**Minutes of Open Board Meeting September 23, 2014  
Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, Room U-2002A**

Board Members Present: John Alekna, Patty Brennan, Dave Crowley, Paul Duffy, Tony Gordon, Betsy Hall, Michael Hall, John Herbert, Gordon Holmes, Ed MacLean, Regina Pyle, Toby Rodman, Marie Schappert, Ellen Sheets, Jane Siegel, Carol Trust, Jane Watt, and Mike Worhach.

Board Members Notified Absent: John Chambers, Bill Gregor, Ha Orbon, and Ken Tutunjian.

Board Member Absent: Kerry Weiss-Pena

Guests: Kathy Emerich, Jordan Deasy, SE Liaison from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, Rebecca Roth Gullo, Kevin Sheehan, Alana Spencer, and Stacy Koeppel, Executive Assistant.

Regina Pyle, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35.

Guest Speakers: Kathy Emerich gave her final report as the Ellis representative to PRUPAC. The last phase of the development at 888 Boylston is going forward. The apartment tower is almost finished. The office building recently found an anchor tenant and is going forward with construction. There is an attached public benefit of \$472,000. Ellis did not apply but supported IBA in their proposal. Other beneficiaries are the Friends of Copley Square and Ellis Memorial. Trinity Place is not part of PRUPAC.

Rebecca Roth Gullo, the new owner of the Hamersley's space, indicated she would be the second largest restaurant employer in the South End. She described progress on Blackbird Donuts at 492 Tremont, which will have a 900 square foot bakery and 50 square foot retail. She hopes to start construction in November or December. The Hamersley's site is leased by the BCA from the BRA. Ms. Roth Gullo will have a 15-year lease. She will close in November or December and hopes to open in the spring. The layout will remain the same, but she plans to renovate the kitchen and double the size of the bar.

**August Minutes**

August minutes were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Michael Hall, treasurer, reported we ended the fiscal year \$606 in the black. We have \$59,403 cash on hand. 41% of our income was from our fundraiser. The budget for the year ending 6/30/2015 breaks even at \$62,000. The largest line item increase is increasing Stacy's hours. The financial report was approved.

### **Executive Assistant Report**

D&O general liability is now in place. Stacy reported that she obtained the lowest amount of liability the insurance agency would write for our organization. She will look into event liability. It was not possible to schedule the gubernatorial forum. Stacy is working on the school forum. BFIT agreed to provide the space for free. Stacy reported on plans for the fall dinner at Cinquecento. Stacy demonstrated the Citizens Connect app.

### **Membership**

John Herbert acknowledged the work Stacy has done on membership. We have 50 members who have not renewed. The committee will look into reasons people do not renew. It was noted that four out of six people who were given free memberships had renewed. Paul Duffy suggested putting what our organization does on the membership application.

### **Packet**

Regina distributed packets containing a button, decal, and cards in an effort to increase visibility. On a volunteer basis directors may wear the button as a conversation starter, place the decal in a car window, and give out a business card when the opportunity presents.

### **South End Forum**

Patty Brennan reported on public safety issues, including the National Night Out and median parking on Warren and Columbus Avenues, which will be for parishioners only. The South End is an official space saver free zone. The South End task force on Homelessness will meet in October. New Urban Mechanics include City Hall to Go and the Citizens Connect App.

### **New Business**

Kerry Weiss-Pena resigned as President. In keeping with the by-laws, the Executive Committee suggested that Betsy Hall be elected as President and John Chambers be elected as Vice-President. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 and the board shared food and drink.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jane Siegel, Clerk