



**Minutes of Board Meeting June 23, 2015  
Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, Room U203A**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35. Members Present: John Alekna, Patty Brennan, John Chambers, Tony Gordon, Betsy Hall, Michael Hall, John Herbert, Gordon Holmes, Ed MacLean, Ha Orbon, Regina Pyle, Toby Rodman, Marie Schappert, Jane Siegel, Carol Trust, Mike Worhach.

Members excused: Dave Crowley, Paul Duffy, Ellen Sheets.

Members Absent: Bill Gregor, Elsa Hill, Barbara Hoffman, Ken Tutunjian, Jane Watt.

Guests Present: Stacy Koeppel, executive assistant, and Aaron Michlewitz, State Representative and his chief of staff, Blake Webber.

May minutes: unanimously approved.

Treasurer Report: Michael prepared and reviewed a one-page summary indicating that we are in strong financial shape. A 3% CD at the Hingham Savings comes to maturity in about one year. Michael read a very gracious thank you note from Alphonse Litz of Boston Explorers.

Executive Assistant report: The fundraiser raised \$27,460 with a net profit of \$19,618.

Guest: Aaron Michlewitz is chair of financial services for the House of Representatives. He outlined his legislative proposals for the 2015-2016 session, including regulating short-term residential rentals; creating a commission to oversee the Boston 2024 Olympic bid and mandate they post funds and expenditures online for the public to view; preventing wage theft and promote employer accountability; exempting Boston and Cambridge residents from paying a surcharge on rental cars that goes to the Boston Convention Center; tunnel safety; supporting efforts to increase physical activity opportunities; creating a gun offender registry list; and allowing the Licensing Board to level fines on businesses as well as other penalties at their disposal. Aaron said he was still gathering information on the BRA proposed extension and planned to attend the informational meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Membership: Mike W. suggested the membership committee have a budget to reach out to members. The board approved (with one dissention) his suggestion that Ellis sponsor the summer music series in Childe Hassam Park. The \$1500 donation will be reflected in next year's budget.

DLZ (development, licensing, and zoning): The DLZ has been meeting on a regular basis. Stacy is working with John A. to develop a monthly summary which will be posted. He hopes this will be a template for other committees. Craig Speck is researching the proposed

BRA 10-year extension of the right of eminent domain. Warren apartments has requested Ellis oppose architectural changes to their buildings. The DLZ will prepare a letter of non-opposition to increase the seating at the former Hamersley's site. Cliff Long will reach out to Betsy for a letter of non-opposition to increasing seating at the Trophy Room based on a 10:00 PM closing. Sidewalk permits must be renewed annually. It was noted they have a history of non-compliance.

Review of Ellis events: Postponed due to lack of time. Directors should come prepared at the next Board meeting to discuss. People who are interested in working on the Yard Sale should email Betsy.

Committee assignment updates: The Community Outreach and Communications committees have been merged in the Community Relations Committee. The proposal was distributed and to be voted upon via email. Committee roles will be discussed at the planning committee June 29.

Outgoing Directors: We thanked Ha Orbon and Jane Watt for their service to Ellis.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jane Siegel, Clerk