



**Minutes of Board Meeting August 26, 2014 at 6:30 PM
2 Clarendon Street**

Board Members Present: John Alekna, John Chambers, Dave Crowley, Tony Gordon, Betsy Hall, Michael Hall, John Herbert, Elsa Hill, Gordon Holmes, Regina Pyle, Toby Rodman, Marie Schappert, Ellen Sheets, Jane Siegel, Jane Watt, Kerry Weiss-Pena, Mike Worhach. Also present: Stacy Koepfel, Executive Assistant.

Board Members Notified Absent: Patty Brennan, Paul Duffy, Bill Gregor, Barbara Hoffman, Ed MacLean, Ha Orbon, Carol Trust, Ken Tutunjian.

Regina Pyle, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:50. There was a shortened agenda as the intent of the meeting was to be social.

Chair report

Regina Pyle re-introduced the new directors. She expressed her vision of expanding the scope of the Ellis, including having speakers from the community at every board meeting and expanding the number of public forums sponsored by Ellis. Currently Stacy is working with the Boston Public Schools to explore holding a forum on the school selection process in the fall.

Treasurer's report

Michael Hall, Treasurer, presented an oral financial statement. A written statement will be available at the September meeting. As of 6/30, we had \$59,403 in three banks. The fundraiser was a financial success. Our income for the year was \$56,632 while our annual expenses, including Stacy's salary, sponsorships, donations, website expenses, and event expenses, were \$55,000.

Development report

Tony Gordon presented current issues in licensing. Hamersley's has been sold to Rebecca Roth Gullo, who will attend the next board meeting. Rebecca owns Gallows and is planning a gourmet donut shop at Castle Square. Tony met with the new owners of 40 Berkeley who were requesting a change in common victualer's license, and encouraged them to hold a public meeting. He reported the neighbors were very concerned. Ellis was not informed of the meeting, but the new owners promised to keep us in mind. Tony wrote a letter of non-opposition regarding the proposed bike storage shed at 625 Tremont. There has been no action on Tasty Burger. The Francesca's site may become a sandwich shop. The plan for a Peet's Coffee shop at the site has been abandoned.

Membership Committee

John Herbert, Membership Committee, reported he and Stacy sent out 155 membership renewals and had received 65 renewals. Stacy sent an electronic reminder.

Executive Assistant's report

Stacy Koepfel reported that she, Betsy, and Regina met with personnel from Ben Franklin Institute of Technology (BFIT). BFIT is looking to become better known in the community and would like help from Ellis. Tony Gordon suggested their optometry, auto work, and oil changes as services from which the community would benefit.

Events

Michael Hall and Stacy are working on a patio dinner at a restaurant. Information will be emailed in late September.

June Minutes

June minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business

Kerry Weiss-Pena submitted her resignation as President. Her resignation was accepted with thanks for her work for Ellis and hope that she would remain as director.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM followed by refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Siegel, Clerk