

BFSNA General Meeting Minutes, October 14, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Andrew Parthum at 7:05 p.m.

Treasurer's Report -- General Funds -- \$4185.37
Scholarship Funds -- \$3711.35
Plus over \$1200 from Saturday's tag sale

Secretary's report -- The minutes of the September meeting were accepted.

Program:

Officer Jorge Diaz from District 4 of the Boston Police Department spoke about safety in the South End. His safety tips include:

1. GPS systems are the items most frequently stolen from cars. Don't leave these in your car, and rub off the circle that their suction cups leave. Use a pin number when using them so that, if stolen, they will be useless. If enough people do this, they will be no longer profitable to steal.
2. Look at people as they approach you. Be aware of who lives in your neighborhood.
3. Call the police if anything looks suspicious. Dial 911 from a land line or 617-343-4911 from your cell phone.
4. Make sure that all windows and doors of your home are very securely locked.
5. Only walk in well-lit areas at night.

Officer Diaz said that there is a large drug problem in the area, and "We can't arrest our way out of this."

J. Devin Cole from One in 3, an organization for the 1/3 of the city residents who are between the ages of 20 and 34, spoke about the activities of the group. There is an advisory council that meets regularly with the mayor to advise him of the concerns of young adults. There is a monthly entrepreneurs' group that meets to discuss business plans. They also have neighborhood groups that sponsor social events and foster a sense of civic engagement. The neighborhood group is currently planning a meet and greet with Sonia Chang-Diaz and volunteer activities for Thanksgiving.

Julio and Lara from Estragon Tapas Bar requested that we support their efforts to obtain a cordial license for their restaurant. The motion passed unanimously.

Dorothy Keeney asked that we support a plaque noting the residence of the first school nurse in Boston at 1521 Washington Street (Stella building). The motion passed unanimously.