

Blackstone / Franklin Square Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box
Boston, MA 02118

Minutes of June 17, 2014

Location: District 4 Police Station, 650 Harrison Ave.

Meeting was called to order at approximately 7 p.m.

Current Board

Nancy Farrington, Vice President (acting president)

Erica Rice, Treasurer

Justin Rice, Secretary

Donald Goris-Kolb

Sherwood Hughes

John Wolfarth

Minutes

-Will be posted online from now on. These minutes and the minutes from the April business meeting will be voted on in the fall.

Treasurer's report

Scholarship fund and general fund are now two separate accounts.

\$3,685.28 in the general fund

\$10,828.42 in the scholarship fund

\$7,000 allocated for scholarships tonight

Holland Development presentation on 46 Wareham St.

John Holland of Holland Development presented the group with his plans for the redevelopment of 46 Wareham St. The project will get rid of the loading docks on the north side of Wareham St. and will include 42 residential rental units and 22 live/work units that feature 12 by 18 workspaces. The ground floor will be the gallery, retail, and office space for the Society of Arts & Crafts, which is currently located on Newbury St. The Society of Arts and Crafts will be purchasing their space from Holland Development.

There will be a garage under the building with 50 parking spaces, though the space has capacity for 60 spaces. Some of those spaces could go to ZipCar. Everything on the project is by right with the exception of two common variances, including ground water and residential.

The building will undergo a partial demolition, including the back and side walls – the front façade will remain substantially intact to preserve the architectural and industrial character of the block. The interior of the building will be gutted and first floor lowered to accommodate higher ceilings.

After John Holland's presentation, the association voted in favor of writing a letter in support of the project. Only one member voted against the project. Donny Goris-Kolb did not exercise his vote.

Citizen's police Academy

Boston Police Department's Director of the Neighborhood Watch Unit Carolyn MacNeil told the group about the upcoming Citizen's Police Academy at the Police Academy in Hyde Park. The project is open to Boston residents and will be held on Wednesday nights. The program will show the inner workings of the police department and show what recruits go through at the Academy, including a shooting simulation.

MacNeil also said there will be a National Night Out event at the D4 Police Station on Aug. 4 and that Coffee with the Cop will take place at Wholly Grain on Aug. 13. The Police Commissioner will be there.

Friends Group update

Friends Group Chair Courtney Trautman said that new trash cans will be installed in the Squares this summer. They will be similar to the ones on the Comm Ave. mall. He also said folks should continue to discourage dogs and people from going into the fountains. Also the boards on the benches in the parks will be replaced soon.

Announcements

-Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services meeting to discuss design plans for Harrison Avenue. Monday June 23. 6:30pm Community Room D4 Police Station

-South End NAs are asked to compile list of vacant/long-term abandoned properties within their boundaries. Please email addresses of such properties and details to bfsna@blackstonefranklin.org

-Effective July 1 Sunrise Scavenger will be Boston's new trash contractor. Tuesday and Friday are pickup days. *Both* are also recycling days. Trash can be put out at 5pm the night before but it must be out by 7am Tuesdays and Fridays. Boston Public Works will distribute a brochure outlining changes and guidelines this month.

-There are 150 Level 3 sex offenders living in the South End. Information on them is available by visiting bpdnews.com. Click on Safety at top of page, click on Sex Offenders Registry in dropdown screen, click on Level 3 sex offenders search which will link up to the MA Sexual Offender Registry Board web site.

-Please help people understand their dogs and children should not be in the fountains. It is unsafe for both. Should you see unleashed dogs, dogs in the fountains, children in the fountains, nefarious activity in either Franklin or Blackstone you can call 617.635.PARKS or report through Citizens Connect. It helps Parks and BPD build statistics toward additional budgetary help for our neighborhood.

-As an Association we will be serving dinner to residents of the Pine Street Inn on Friday, October 3 from 4:45-6:00. Please let us know if you'd like to participate.

-In order to prevent bike riders from attaching their bikes to private fences etc, the City will take requests from residents for bike racks. "Rack Requests cannot be in a residential neighborhood". Please email bfsna@blackstonefranklin.org for details.

- No July/August meeting. See you in September!

Adjourn 7:50