

Minutes, Pilot Block Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Sat, Oct 25 2008

Treasurer's Report

We have a balance \$2,204.5. \$632.64 of this is ear-marked donations for alley repair. Wreath expenses are estimated at \$750, leaving about \$800 in non-earmarked funds.

Action: In addition to sale of wreaths, we will solicit wreath donations from merchants and residents. Volunteers: Dave Mooney Anita Polli, Scott Mabel, Elizabeth Corcoran-Hunt

Action: All PBNA members are invited to submit proposals for future PBNA spending or donations to pilotblock.na@verizon.net. We will review at a future meeting.

Trash Initiative Update

What was intended to be a quick update and thank you became a highly spirited discussion. While the meeting members applauded the absence of trash at street corners, the inconvenience of alley disposal and problems of alley access were acknowledged.

Action: We need to reconstitute the trash initiative taskforce, focusing on Tremont St and alleys. Volunteers welcome, please respond to pilotblock.na@verizon.net.

Social Events

Halloween, Oct 31. We encourage all PBNA neighbors to stoop-sit and pass out candy to the many, many halloweeners who come through our neighborhood. We also encourage you to decorate with jack o'lanterns and whatever – judges will be coming around with valuable prizes!

SAVE THE DATE, Nov 20. We are having a wine and cheese get-together Thurs, Nov 20 6:00-8:00 at the South End Library upstairs meeting room. We'll provide wine, soft drinks, and cheese, but feel free to bring hors d'oeuvres or other goodies. See you there

SAVE THE DATE, Dec 6. We will be holding our annual streetlight wreath –hanging get-together on Sat morning Dec 6. We will also be selling plain and decorated wreaths and serving hot cider, coffee and doughnuts. More detail to follow, but plan to attend, meet the neighbors, and help get the neighborhood in a holiday mood

Open Secretary Position

Peter Logue has resigned as Secretary due to work commitments. We'd like to extend our warmest thanks to Peter for his excellent work over this last year. Scott Mabel has agreed to be Acting Secretary.

Action: Anyone interested in the position should respond to pilotblock.na@verizon.net. Some computer literacy is essential.

Action: Investigate setting up a PBNA website.

Action: Flier to obtain names, addresses, e-mail addresses

Zoning

655-659 Tremont Development Plans. Sean Wilder and Alejandro Chavez presented plans for the former “La Unica” buildings at the corner of Tremont and w Brookline. The plans call for two street level retail spaces, and 9 residential condos ranging in size from approx. 560 sq ft to 1200 sq ft. They reported that they did not anticipate permitting issues over unit sizes, as they were substantially reducing density in an existing structure. No parking is planned, as the buildings abut the property line on the alley side. The developers have received approval for exterior work from Landmarks. Permits for interior work are in the review process.

Action: Since trash will be picked up on Tremont St, Sean and Alejandro were asked to design an interior collection space for the residents, and provide contracted pick-up, as is done by several larger buildings in the PBNA. They were amenable to this idea.

Prudential Development Update. The PruPac will be voting soon on the Prudential’s revised plans. The Boylston St building has been reduced from 19 to 17 stories, the Exeter Street building from 30 to 27. Neither the NABB nor the Prudential tenants group support the revised proposal.

Action: Elizabeth Corcoran-Hunt was directed to vote against the revised plan at the upcoming PruPac meeting.

Concord Baptist Development Update. Charley Zarkadas updated the group on the revised plans for the Concord Baptist, which is now planned for 9 units, with an interior garage accessed from Warren Ave. Issues were raised about the safety of this plan, the exterior changes that this garage entrance would require, and the proposed demolition and rebuilding of the long alley side wall, and concerns about garage parking accessed by the W Brookline/W Canton alley right of way. The BRA has requested comments by Nov 5.

Action: Those who attended the BRA meeting (Charley, the Wrights, Elizabeth Corcoran-Hunt) will compose a letter on behalf of the PBNA stating our concerns.

With that, the meeting adjourned.