

**LONGFELLOW AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
May 11, 2015**

Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Longfellow Area Neighborhood Association was held at the Longfellow House on Monday May 11, 2015 at 7:30PM. Those in attendance were: John Covert, Mike Fitzgerald, Mary Flaherty and Rob Orthman. Also in attendance were Eric White of Councilor Pressley's office and Councilor Matt O'Malley.

The meeting began with a call for additional items for the agenda. The agenda was approved as distributed.

The meeting continued with a report from the Transportation Committee. Rob reported that the city may institute 2-hour parking at the Walter Street gate opposite the Hebrew Senior Life facility to stop all-day parkers from blocking those spaces from use by visitors to the Arboretum. He said this change should have no impact in the re-working of the intersection, which is still slated for some time this year. Mike again raised the issue of cars parking with wheels up on the sidewalk, mostly to get the message to Matt O'Malley and Councilor Pressley's representative.

The meeting continued with a report from the Green Committee. John reported that the pocket park was cleaned and mulched as part of Boston Shines activities. John also replaced the perimeter fences that were destroyed by the harsh winter. The cost was \$43. The city hauled away the trash and provided the mulch.

John also noted that the city has expanded yard waste pick-up. In addition to every other week during the spring, the city will pick up one week per month during the summer. Weekly pick-up in the LANA area will be the week of the third Monday.

The meeting continued with a report from the Wetlands Committee. John reported that the wetlands continue to be supported by the parks department. Janet and some volunteers did some clean-up of leaves and other small debris that will be sent to the city composting facility. A grant was provided for some ongoing maintenance and they hope to get a grant to purchase a small boardwalk.

The meeting continued with a report from the Zoning Committee. Mike reported that a neighbor approached him with a concern about a plan to bump out the city sidewalk adjacent to the Weld American site as part of the development proposal. There is a concern that this will restrict traffic on Centre Street and cause backups behind cars waiting to turn left onto Weld Street if the street is reduced to one lane at the intersection. There was also a concern about the project being too large and that the city even suggested bumping the unit count up a few more. That was explained as part of the city's "complete streets" program that tries to avoid gaps between buildings. John reported that he could not locate any DEP information for the site, nor could he find any results for test borings. Some neighbors expressed a concern that overflow parking would spill over onto Knoll, Hazelmere and even Robkin Road. Matt mentioned that Exxon has discontinued

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use of the former Larry Palmer Mobil station on Centre Street near Spalding Rehab. Expect a development proposal for that site in the future. Matt also mentioned the WR lateral pipeline project. The major concern is a facility proposed across Centre Street from the quarry. Many believe that it is an inappropriate location given its proximity to ongoing blasting activities. Spectra Energy was given the go-ahead by the federal government, even with those objections. The City was given the right to appeal. The court issued a tolling order, which is the worst possible result from the court. Matt filed an ordinance to deny all other permits related to the project. Matt also reported that there was money allocated in the city budget for infrastructure repairs within the Arboretum.

Rob continued with a report on the renovation of the Tot Lot at Fallon Field. The final design decision is close. The renovations to the basketball court look good. Matt gave credit to Chris Kollett, Adam Rogoff and all others who have been leading this issue.

Rob reported for the Membership & Outreach committee. Rob noted that the pot luck dinner has been moved to the fall. We need to build a committee to help put the event together and do the planning during the summer.

The clerk indicated the bank balance of \$1378.83 and no other activity since the previous meeting. The minutes of the March 9th meeting were approved as distributed.

The meeting was drawn to a close with a reminder of our next meeting:

Annual Meeting - Monday, June 8, 2015 at 7PM at Longfellow House