

**LONGFELLOW AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
May 12, 2014**

**Minutes**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Longfellow Area Neighborhood Association was held at the Longfellow House on Monday May 12th, 2014 at 7:30PM. Those in attendance were: Wayne Beitler, John Covert, Mike Fitzgerald, Mary Flaherty, Chris Kollett, Kathy McCabe, Julia O'Brien and Rob Orthman. Also in attendance were Tim from Matt O'Malley's office and Lee Blasi of Tim McCarthy's office. The meeting was also attended by 19 neighbors.

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

John began by noting that the tenants of Longfellow House have presented a letter in opposition to Henry's Market obtaining an expanded liquor license. It was also noted that Silva's Market on Belgrade Ave is also going after a liquor license and the neighborhood seems opposed to that as well, especially with the Home Market at the same intersection that already holds a liquor license.

The meeting continued with a presentation regarding renovations at 43 Knoll Street. John noted there was no plot plan available to show the proximity to the neighboring properties.

Jeff Sullivan, the owner of 43 Knoll stated that he was looking to enclose an existing flat-roofed porch for 3-season use. He does not plan to wire it with electricity. He applied for, and was granted a short-form permit but that permit was later revoked. He then was granted a long-form permit which was also later revoked. There are three variances required. 22 neighbors support the project but one, a direct abutter is opposed. That neighbor raised concerns that the property is zoned for 2 floors but 3 floors are in use and that there are also over 2000 sq/ft on a lot of 2400 sq/ft. Neighbor Anne Coakley asked what was the hazard? Many people have and use attic spaces.

Rob asked why Jeff wanted to do the project. Jeff responded that his family needed more space, better light and it will also provide a buffer for the living room in the cold weather.

The opposing neighbor complained of not being notified. He found out about the project when the hammering began. The owner replied to a complaint about the blue tarp by saying it is only there due to the stop work order and will be removed when the permit issue is resolved. The LANA board will discuss this and convey its stance to the City.

The meeting continued with a presentation by Dan Barcan, of 37 Knoll Street. Dan presented a very complete set of documents for his project. It entails enclosing an existing porch by incorporating it into the living space and then adding a new porch at a slightly different location. This triggers a variance issue because the enclosed porch would now

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be considered living space and would technically be too close to the rear setback, even though the structure will be no closer to the line than the existing porch is now.

Kathy stated opposition to 43 Knoll, stating she felt it was not designated as proposed. She would support a rebuilding of the open porch. Kathy further stated that she supports Dan's project and thanked Dan for his thorough documentation. Anne Coakley noted that houses across from 43 Knoll have enclosed porches that look fine.

The meeting continued with a report from the Transportation Committee. Kathy noted that there is still activity around the Casey overpass project at Forrest Hills. People should continue to pursue their concerns. John noted that he sent an email in to the City to get the pedestrian light cycle extended outside of Longfellow House. The current cycle is far too short for the seniors to cross. Mike noted that there were two street lights out of service. One is located across from 15/17 Hewlett and the other at the intersection of Hewlett and Walter. He also noted that the cover plate was off and lying against the base of the traffic light on South Street in front of Longfellow House. A repair request will be filed via the on-line web site on these issues.

The meeting continued with a report from the Green Committee. John offered thanks to everyone who assisted with pocket park maintenance. He also thanked Dave McNulty for arranging for mulch. He asked about purchasing a fence to try to keep dogs from fouling the park. Kathy motioned to approve the purchase, Mike seconded and the motion as approved by all. Plant donations are always welcome!

The meeting continued with a report from the Wetlands Task Force. It was reported that Paul Sutton brought in a group of volunteers to clean the wetlands. It was noted plastic bags were killing the garlic mustard. We should invite Paul to the annual meeting to get an update.

The Zoning Committee had nothing more to add beyond the issues addressed earlier.

Chris provided a report from the Friends of Fallon Field. He noted the article in the Bulletin. He also noted that some structures at the Tot Lot had been replaced. Not necessarily by new equipment, but better than what was replaced. Chris also noted that the 2015 budget lists \$500k for improvements to Fallon Field but nothing is allocated at this time. It may be pushed to the 2016 fiscal year. There is a budget hearing 6/10/14. Chris noted that he has metrics on Roslindale and how it lacks playgrounds. He plans to renew the email campaign which was previously successful. He's also trying to meet with Tim McCarthy but that meeting has been put off so the interim parks commissioner can attend. The target is May 29<sup>th</sup> at 4pm with a plan to meet at the square and then walk to both Fallon and Healy Fields. Kathy suggested getting the state delegation involved for

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possible funding. Chris wrapped up by noting that the Mayor's Coffee event at Fallon Field was scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30AM, weather permitting.

The meeting continued with a report from the Clerk. Mike called for the approval of the minutes from the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. John noted that the minutes should be corrected to show that there was no DEQE permit posted at the gas station site at Robert and South Fairview. He also noted that the building permit was issued to the owner's son and not the partnership developing the property. The minutes were approved as amended.

Mike noted the bank balance was \$1251, with one new member since the previous meeting.

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

Board Meeting - Monday, July 14, 2014 at 7:30PM at Longfellow House