

LONGFELLOW AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BIMONTHLY MEETINGS

March 8, 2021

Minutes

Pending Approval

LANA Meeting Minutes 3.8.21

The bimonthly meeting of the Longfellow Area Neighborhood Association was held via Zoom on Monday March 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Board members in attendance: Wayne Beitler, Sue DiMatteo, Sue Forti, Jonna Iacono, Kathy McCabe, Julia O'Brien, Raphael Sulkovitz, Hillary Sullivan, and Rachel Young.

Representatives in attendance were ONS Representative Joe Coppinger, Jordan Frias chief of staff from Councilor Arroyo's office, Yasmine Raddassi, policy director for Councilor Arroyo, and Brianna Millor from Councilor Wu's office, and Representative Nika Elugardo. There were 42 participants.

Contact information provided:

Yasmine Raddassi

Policy and Budget Director for Councilor Arroyo

yasmine.raddassi@boston.gov

617-635-4210

Brianna Millor

Brianna.millor@boston.gov

617-635-3115

Ricardo Arroyo

Ricardo.arroyo@boston.gov

The meeting was recorded.

Councilor Arroyo

He offered assistance for those trying to get vaccinated; reach out to his office. His office sent an letter in support of the wetlands project and is advocating for community members to be involved in the process. He mentioned that this is budget season and is looking at transportation issues including slow streets and specifically mentioned South Street and Poplar Street where there was a recent accident. He is also drafting policy goals including a master plan for Boston and wants to look at projects holistically and in regards to the environment. Concerning schools, his major goal is concerning mental health especially in light of the pandemic.

Inci Kaya asked about BPS facilities. Councilor Arroyo responded that the Cares Act will result in additional money that can go towards upgraded ventilation/HVAC but would like to set some of the incoming money aside so as not to spend it all at once.

104-108 Walter

Wayne Beitler presented updates on the project. The city is currently working on an RFP. There was a public meeting two weeks ago and comments are due tomorrow by 5 pm.

LANA is asking that the RFP be faithful to the community approved site plan.

LANA would also like to make sure there are community meetings to ask the developers that are responding to the RFP questions and have community members on the selection committee.

In addition, its important to ensure that the wetlands remain intact and there is an adequate buffers between the project and abutters and the project and the wetlands.

Kathy McCabe also thanked the city councilors that are involved in the project including Councillors Wu, Arroyo and O'Malley.

Racial Equity

Hillary Sullivan talked about initiatives to be anti-racist. There are four board members that will be meeting next week. She invited anyone who wanted to come to connect with Kathy McCabe or herself to get more information on the meeting details.

Centre and Walter

Julia O'Brien gave an update on the proposed work at the intersection. She touched base with Jeff Peretti the project manager at DCR. He said they had adopted a plan on July 30th and are further refining it. Jeff Peretti said that DCR had met with the city and the city had asked for bike facilities to be extended down Walter Street down to Bussey Street. She shared a slide of the "preferred alternative" plan which is a signaled intersection. She said that she believes there are issues of land ownership as multiple parties including the city and Arboretum own adjacent land.

DCR has met with the owners at the church and Sofia Snow to discuss the possibilities to combine driveways but there has been no agreement as of yet. Jeff would like neighbors' help encouraging the church to consider combining driveways.

Julia was unable to get a schedule going forward or find out whether DCR has a final cost estimate.

53 Tyndale Street

Jim Zigmont and Terry Bouteille presented on the proposed renovation to their existing garage to convert it to an artist's studio. They are asking for zoning relief because the existing garage structure is within 4' of the property line and setbacks are not met. They are not proposing any plumbing but will upgrade electricity and HVAC.

Julia moved that LANA send a letter to the Zoning Board of Appeals of "no opposition." Sue Forti seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

35 Coniston Road

Eric and Jessica Boatright presented on the proposed renovation to their existing home. They do not yet have a rejection letter and have not notified all 300 abutters. The existing home is non-conforming. They

are proposing an addition within the existing footprint. They are proposing enclosing a presumed non-permitted unconditioned addition with a 2-story addition of the same footprint. They want to install a dormer at the front of the home to increase the area on the second floor.

They are asking for zoning relief for a nonconforming lot as the width is narrower than the minimum lot width.

Rachel raised the concern that while not opposed to the project she is concerned with smaller homes being converted into larger dwellings and decreasing the “starter home” housing stock and diversity of housing types in the community thereby making the neighborhood less affordable.

Sue Forti asked if there is any problem constructing so close to the wetlands? Jessica Boatright said that they had taken measurements but weren't 100% certain. Joe DiMasi said they would need additional approval from the Parks Department.

Hillary moved that LANA send a letter to the Zoning Board of Appeals of “non opposition.” Jonna Iacono seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

1580 Centre Street

Tom Conniffe presented plans for his 2 family home. It has a renovated attic space (renovated in 2006) which cannot be rented currently as a separate apartment. It was initially rejected for lack of offstreet parking and because the property is zoned two family and not three family, minimum lot size for a three family and insufficient open space.

Tom Conniffe reached out to neighbors and didn't encounter any opposition.

Jonna moved that LANA send a letter to the Zoning Board of Appeals of “non opposition.” Raphael seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Office of Neighborhood Services

Zoning tracking map has gone live. The Inspectional Zoning Services is holding a meeting this Wednesday at 4:00 as an introduction to zoning. Three family homes don't qualify for the subcommittee process and has to have a community meeting.

Love Your Block is coming back this year. It would be for smaller projects, trying to limit larger groups.

Kathy asked if there was any interest in doing a spring clean-up. Sue Forti thought it would be a waste to work on the pocket park until the new multifamily project there is going to be done.

Julia asked if Fallon playground would be a good recipient. Kathy proposed further conversations about potential green space that could be maintained. Jonna suggested replacing trees that were cut down along the railroad tracks.

Nika Elugardo

She mentioned bond money for the commuter rail stop. She also mentioned she is looking to buy a home in her district including Roslindale.

Kathy will follow up concerning Centre and Walter.

Meeting Minutes

Pauri was in attendance. With that amendment, Sue Forti moved to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Julia accepted. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Forti reported that LANA has \$2,563.21 in bank. LANA received \$10,800 in income, the remaining CEDAC grant. Expenses are \$10,800 for the architect. LANA has 51 paying members. LANA has received its tax exempt status.

Susan DiMatteo moved and Julia seconded to approve the treasurer's report. All approved.

The image is a screenshot of a Zoom meeting grid. At the top left, there is a green checkmark icon and a red recording icon with the text "Recording". At the top right, there is a "View" button with a grid icon. The grid consists of 15 individual video feeds arranged in a 5x3 layout. Each feed shows a participant's video and their name below it. The participants are: Kathy McCabe, Rachel Young, Sue Forti, Ricardo Arroyo, Jim Taff, Sarah Freeman, Linc Boatright, julia obrien, Jordan Frias - Arr..., Nika Elugardo, Hilary Sullivan, Cynthia Walat, Raphael Sulkovitz, Joe Coppinger, and Leah Barcan. The video feeds for Sue Forti, Ricardo Arroyo, and Linc Boatright are highlighted with a yellow border. The video feeds for Linc Boatright and Jordan Frias - Arr... have a "1/3" indicator and navigation arrows.



 Jonna Iacono



 Mark MacCallum



Joanne Ruddy



 Wayne Beitler



 Sharron Sawyer



 Brendan Fogarty



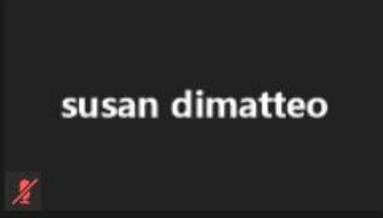
 Linda Perrotto



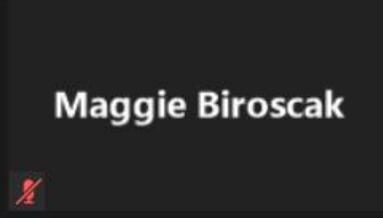
 Diane Carter Dugan



 Tom Cunniffe



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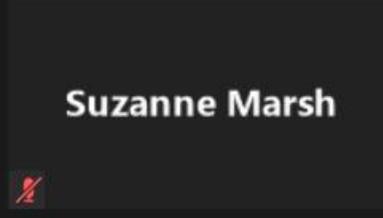
Maggie Biroscak



Jim Zigmont



Rebecca Phillips



Suzanne Marsh



Michael Fitzgerald



Suzanne Marsh 	Michael Fitzger... 	Deb Beatty Mel 
Judith 	Cathy Kurczak 	Yasmine Raddas... 
 Gerry Patton 3/3 	Ann-Marie Lawlor 	Celeste Walke  3/3 
Emily Grilli-Scott 	JOHN MAHONY 	Maureen Rodrig... 
john covert 	Brianna Millor 	Inci Kaya 