

LONGFELLOW AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
November 8, 2021  
Minutes  
Final Approved 1/10/2022

The bi-monthly meeting of the Longfellow Area Neighborhood Association was held via Zoom on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Due to technical difficulties the meeting was not recorded. A slide deck with the agenda and presenters is on file. Board members in attendance were: Wayne Beitler, Joe DeMasi, Susan DiMatteo, Brendan Fogarty, Jonna Iacono, Kathleen McCabe, Joel Neiditz, Julia O'Brien, Raphael Sulkovitz, Hillary Sullivan, David Wean and Rachel Young. Board members absent: Sue Forti.

Representatives in attendance were Uju Onochio-Chinonye, Roslindale & African Community Liaison, Office of Neighborhood Services for the City of Boston, Yasmine Raddasi, Director of Policy and Research, Office of City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo.

Residents in attendance were Jim Taff Coniston Rd, Cynthia Poor Eldon St., Ann Marie and Matt Lawler Basto Ter., Mike Fitzgerald Hewlett St., John Mahony Primrose St., Mary Flaherty Ardale St. Susan Ballmarsh Walter St., Carol Waldvogel Mendum St, Paul Kelly and Linda Ferrano South St., Tim Sullivan, Deb Beatty Mel, Katie Theodoras, Maureen Rodriguez, Judith Robichaud, John Freeman, Jeff Sullivan, Suzzane Gail Marsh, Celeste Walker, Gerry Patton, Ruth McArthur, George Marsh, R. Nazarro, Rebecca, J. Maho, Alidaska South St., Lisa Beatman of *Save Crane Ledge Woods* Coalition

### **Ecological Restoration at the Wetlands**

Paul Sutton, Program Manager, Urban Wilds Initiative, Boston Parks and Rec Department gave a progress report with photos of the restorations to date: new paths, new native plantings, invasive species and detrimental debris removed and Spring 2022 timeline for completion of a meadow on Coniston St. entrance and a boardwalk bridging the Eldon St. and Hazelmere Rd. pond sections. Additional funding is being procured for the Spring improvements. Eldon St. abutter Cynthia Poor asked where the boardwalk placement and what the length will be. Paul stated it would be the most direct and least intrusive link over the water and he would get back to her/LANA when funding and scope are finalized. Abutter Jim Taff asked if there is a list of the native plantings. Paul will obtain that from the contractors and posted his contact in the chat inviting any to reach out to him.. Many attendees expressed positive and grateful sentiments about the improvements and all involved efforts.

### **Transportation Committee**

Joel Neiditz reported that communication is slow on Walter Street restoration sequencing. All agreed elevating concerns in a letter to new Mayor Michelle Wu is a good idea. Brendan offered to draft it.

### **104 Walter Street**

James Kastaras, President of Habitat, reported that they had a meeting with BPDA and other city project reps and asked for an expedited plan review and permitting process. He is optimistic this will happen.

### **Neighborhood Liaison Report**

Uju Onochio-Chinonye reported that BWSC contractors would be replacing water pipes on select streets and was asked to provide a schedule and list of streets. Concern was expressed for repeated and uncoordinated utility work leaving residents uninformed and street and sidewalk surfaces cut up and paved with different materials and poor mobility.

### **Membership Report**

Brendan Fogarty reported that he is exploring social media platforms to enhance LANA's community connections. More on that later.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Joe DeMasi, Treasurer presented the FY22 Budget. A motion to accept the budget was made by Sue Forti at the December 13, 2021 Admin meeting and seconded by David Wean. The motion passed. No objections or abstentions. The approved budget was circulated via email by Joe DiMasi on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 and filed in the LANA google drive.

### **Zoning Issues**

#### **21 Walworth St.**

Owners and their architect presented renderings of their proposed home and day care renovations heading to the Zoning Board of Appeals to seek zoning relief. The long-time owner occupant's intent is to expand their living space for their growing family without compromising their day care business that they run out of the property. One immediate abutter expressed concern about closer proximity to their property and possible fencing. Another abutter expressed support for the project. Discussion among attendees ranged from the misapplication of zoning laws, over expansion of original property design in the neighborhood, the shortage of daycare providers in Roslindale and support for the home and business limitations /circumstances causing the owners to seek zoning relief. A motion for LANA to write a letter of no opposition was made by Susan DiMatteo and seconded by Brendan Fogarty. The motion passed with one member abstaining.

#### **8 Mendum St.**

Owner and their architect presented renderings and photos of their proposed home renovations requiring zoning relief from the Zoning Board of Appeal and seeking a letter of no opposition from LANA. Two abutters present expressed no opposition to the project. A motion to write a letter of no opposition was passed with one member abstaining.

### **Save Cranes Ledge Woods Letter of Support**

A robust discussion about LANA supporting the large coalition advocating for the no build city acquisition and preservation of the 14 acres of privately owned land slated for market rate rental

development off of Cummins Highway known as Cranes Ledge Woods in Hyde Park. Concerns pro and con were raised about the need for open space in this housing dense lower income neighborhood balancing affordable housing needs with open space preservation needs on this large tract of land, some of which is buildable. A suggestion was made by Kathleen McCabe to continue discussion at another meeting and explore language that would accomplish support for both preservation and housing.

Meeting Adjourned

 Yasmine Raddassi	 Kathy McCabe	 David Wean	 carol	 alidaaska	 Brendan Fogarty	 cynthia.poor@comcast.net
 Jim Taff	 Raphael Sulkovitz	 James Kostaras	 Joe DeMasi	 judith	 Deb Beatty Mel	 Paul Sutton
 r.nazzaro	 Joel Neiditz	 Ana & Philip	 Celeste Walker	Uju	cynthia.poor@c... Connecting to audio ...	Eileen Rosa
Susan	anthony papand...	Jonna Iacono	Lisa Sankowski	Julia's iPhone	jmaho	John Freeman
 Susan	 anthony papandrea	 Jonna Iacono	 Lisa Sankowski	 Julia's iPhone	 jmaho	 John Freeman
Ann-Marie and...	Jeff Sullivan	Katie Theodoros...	 Hillary Sullivan -she/her	 Gerry Patton	Maureen Rodrig...	 Ruth McArthur
 Ann-Marie and Matt La...	 Jeff Sullivan	 Katie Theodoros (she/h...	 Lisa Beatman	Tom Sullivan	Robert Torres	 Suzanne Gall Marsh
Riaz Ahmed	 Rebecca	 George Marsh	 Lisa Beatman	Tom Sullivan	Robert Torres	 Suzanne Gall Marsh
		Mike Fitzgerald	David Dangler	 Jane Staunton		
		 Mike Fitzgerald	 David Dangler	 Jane Staunton		

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