

LONGFELLOW AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
May 9, 2022
Approved July 11, 2022

The bi-monthly meeting of the Longfellow Area Neighborhood Association was held via Zoom on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was recorded. Board members in attendance were: Joe DeMasi, Susan DiMatteo, Brendan Fogarty, Sue Forti, Jonna Iacono, Kathleen McCabe, Joel Neiditz, Julia O'Brien, Raphael Sulkovitz, David Wean and Rachel Young. Board members absent: Wayne Beitler

Representatives in attendance were Uju Onochio-Chinonye, Roslindale & African Community Liaison, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, Jordan Frias, Chief of Staff for City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, Paul Sullivan, City Councilor Michael Flaherty, Kenya Beaman, Community Engagement Manager Boston Planning and Development Agency, Mary Ellen Gambon Bulletin News Reporter, Deb Asbrand, Wetlands Task Force Nora McManus Vincent, Councilor Kendra Lara's Office, Sean Henry Office of Senator Rush, Lisa Searcy, Office of City Councilor Erin Murphy, Jeff Sullivan, The Bulletin

Residents in attendance were Meri Bond, Prospect Hill, Judith Robichaud, Ardale St., Linda Stern, Sheffield St., Ann-Marie Lawlor, Basto Terrace, George & Suzanne Marsh, Walter St., Jeff Sullivan, Jane Staunton, Knoll St., Rebecca Phillips, Tappan St., Kevin Schofield, Walter St., Eva Jermyn, Fletcher St.

ONS

Uju Onochie reported that a Mayor's Coffee Hour will be held on June 9, 9:30 at Fallon Field. New coffee hours with the City's Chief of Engagement will be held on May 20 at 11:00 at Green Tea. Kathy mentioned the Mayor's Office of Small Grants offers \$500-\$2,000 for charitable purposes, adorning and embellishing public spaces, nature trips for children etc. She asked for feedback if anyone has thoughts for an application in time for the June deadline.

104 Walter St

Jim Kostaras reported that the schematic plans are currently in design review w/ Boston Planning and Development Agency and the Mayor's Office of Housing. The Project is in phase 1 of the 3 phase process required and are revising drawings to meet comments recently received from BPDA/MOH. The main issues are the parking scheme, unit layouts, fencing and fire lane. The last issue will be determined by ISD and the Boston Fire Department. Once the design revisions are approved Habitat will be able to file for a "turndown letter" from ISD which denies permit application due to variances needed. This triggers the need to go before the ZBA. Kathy added that the Wetlands Working Group has looked at the preliminary drawings and feels strongly that parking should not be in the front of the lot. She also added that the State fire code allows for two 2-family buildings to be built on one lot and that a 20 foot fire lane would be

excessive for this property. Jim said he is not worried about the fire lane and interprets the project to be exempt or that sprinklers would satisfy the code if necessary. He will send the updated schematics to LANA for review. No timeline update. Depends on City. Kathy asked the city councilor representatives to ask their councilor's to support the project at ZBA and help move the process along.

Councilor At-Large Erin Murphy

Lisa Searcy reported that first term Councilor Murphy held a hearing about mental health crisis awareness for young people in our city on May 6 viewable here: boston-gov/city-council-tv. There are youth summer employment opportunities for waterfront ambassadors. All of this is in Councilor Murphy's newsletter found at <http://erinforboston.com> There is an uptick in 311 calls on rodent sightings and residents are reminded to cover their trash. The Kite Festival will be held at Franklin Park on May 14. Brendon invited Lisa and/or the councilor to join LANA on a street walk of Walter St. to learn the issues LANA is working on there.

2022 LANA After Parade Party

Rachel reported that LANA is at an inflection point on this event. Volunteers, fundraising and partnership with the parade committee are three challenges in doing the After Party this year. She posed the question: do we want to skip this year and regroup for 2023? Sue Forti added that she and Rachel attended a zoom conference call with the Parade Committee and the takeaway was it would not be a compatible partnership this year. Other members' responses were: fundraising without a partnership would be difficult; the new parade committee is concerned about resources so let the parade be the sole focus this year despite a potential loss of fun and visibility for LANA. The conclusion is to hold off on a LANA After Party for 2022 and re-assess next year while remaining supportive of the Parade Committee. A big thank you Rachel for all the hard work she has done on the event this and last year. Sue made a motion for LANA to buy a \$100.00 raffle ticket to support the Parade GALA. Julia seconded. All were in favor. Susan abstained.

Roslindale Wetlands

Kathy reported that the ecological restoration work is continuing. The Wetlands Task Force is working with Paul Sutton to schedule a community clean up day. There is a lot of asphalt from 108 Walter that has to come out. The Task Force would like to apply for the City's Love Your Block grant to rent a bobcat to remove the asphalt. Brendan asked if it is in the scope of work for the Wetlands clean up. Kathy said we could also include the pocket park at Green T. David motioned to authorize the Board to submit a Love Your Block Grant application for the asphalt removal and pocket park improvement and get input on priorities via LANA's web page and Facebook. Susan seconded. All approved.

Walter Street Transportation, Infrastructure and Mobility Sub-Committee Report

Joel Neiditz reported that the inventory of all the poles along Walter street that are double, He credited Nora McManus-Vincent of Councilor Lara's Office for prodding him to do his homework. Verizon and Comcast have come by and old poles have been sawed off so wires can be moved. The last wiring belongs to the Fire Dept. Joel called Patricia Collins of the city's cable and

broadband office who noted he is pretty far along. They are first doing “hot” poles. Kathy nudged Nora and Jordan to nudge their bosses to get funding in the budget for Walter St. improvements. She also circulated the PIC plans for the sidewalk at 100 Weld St. - the intersection of Weld and Centre Streets -to the transportation committee.

Zoning Items

21 Walworth St. email from South St abutters regarding accuracy of January meeting minutes. Kathy will respond that we appreciate their concerns but it is a settled matter.

19 Arborough St. deck extension had an abutter meeting and a ZBA hearing on May 24

36 Robken Road attorney emailed about the owner’s proposal to build a small addition. They had an abutter’s meeting and are scheduled for ZBA on May 29.

LANA Records

Raffi had been working on archiving LANA newspaper records collected by Michael Fitzgerald over the years. He has completed a 3 leaf binder. There remains the work of scanning news clippings from *Boston Globe, Bulletin, The Parkway Transcript* for years 2003-2021, minus the 2011-2018 years. Joe offered to help. Julia wondered if the Roslindale Library or the Historical Society would be the keeper of neighborhood records. Raffi, Joe and David will follow up.

January 10, 2022 Minutes

Susan motioned to accept. David seconded. All approved. Sue abstained due to absence.

Treasurer’s Report

Joe DiMasi reported that LANA has \$9761.62 in the bank.

Centre & Walter St. DCR Intersection Project

Kathy thanked Senator Rush’s Office for his support in the past and asked Sean of his office to have the Senator push DCR on moving this project along and having a better access management design for it.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn by David. Seconded by Julia.

