

Minutes PBNA Planning Meeting - October 3, 2017- 6:30pm – 8pm

Attendance: Jim Batty, Mary Carroll, Jeff Holland, Lisa Lavallo, Peter Lavallo, Scott Mabel, Nicola Truppin, Charles Zarkadas

Absent: Nancy Downer, Chip Huhta, Etta Rosen

This was a follow-up to our efforts to revitalize the Pilot Block Neighborhood Association, which started a well-attended kick-off meeting in February and a very successful social gathering last May. The group remains committed to the association and hopes to renew the neighborhood activities, communications, and assistance that have been a part the PBNA for its many years.

Governance/By-Laws/Finance

- Consensus: to have interim officers who will serve until elections can be held sometime in May 2018.
- Discussion about current by-laws: Agreement that we should move ahead to revive the neighborhood association and deal with possible changes to by-laws at a later time.
- Motion to have Scott Mabel as Interim President, leveraging his historic role and current commitment, and Jeff Holland and Jim Batty as Interim Co-Vice-Presidents accepted by group present. Chip Huhta has agreed to remain Interim Treasurer and Nicola Truppin has agreed to be Acting Secretary.
- Discussion about finances: Current state: is \$5,213.48; General fund \$2,913.59, Alleys \$2,299.89. Tiller gave out 10-2-17 plus an unreimbursed stone expense to Chip, so deduct \$660+/- from the alley fund for an alley balance of \$1,640 +/-.
- Money received: contributions from neighbors, wreath sales (flyers request donations in addition to wreath purchase)
- Where the money goes: alley upkeep, wreaths, small gift for Anne in library (TY for hosting our meetings and staying late), Refreshments for social(s), printing, web-hosting every couple of years.
- Discussion of whether to form a non-profit corporation – 501.c3: Would require establishment of an entity with accounting, recordkeeping and tax requirements. Consensus was that it would be too onerous.

Long-term planning

- Fall Meeting Date: Aiming for early November. Suggestion to have drinks somewhere after meeting. Flyer (email and around neighborhood) to have Halloween info, Wreath info in addition to details about the meeting. **Jeff to check with Anne at SE library about possible meeting dates. TBD**
- Other meeting dates for the year: **Feb/Mar and May/June**
- Halloween: in past years we've had a pumpkin decorating competition with a few PBNA representatives walking around the neighborhood on Oct. 31 handing out ribbons for "best pumpkin." Agreement by group that we can collect new member names at the same time. **Mary volunteered to find 2 – 3 people to help her with this. Jim offered to get names of K9 clients in the neighborhood who are interested in the PBNA and send them to Mary.**
- Wreaths: Did not have them in 2016 – neighbors missed this! Our usual source no longer exists. Jeff contacted Bill Jacobson (usually supplies bows and wire) and he agreed to sell us the wreaths, as well.
 - Will need enough for 92 lampposts per Chip's email of 10-4-17
 - Total order in 2015 was **150 12" wreaths.** We had a few left over which were put in Harriet Tubman Park.
 - Discussed adding on-line ordering/donations – there was some skepticism about how this might work – **Nicola to research possibilities and get back to group.**
 - **Jeff to follow up for price and other details. Jim volunteered to oversee and organize wreath effort, with assistance of the rest of us.**
 - Who will help?
 - Schedule dates for ordering, adjusting order, flyer, assembling, post hanging and pick-up, etc.

- Newsletter: Consensus was that 4 times a year would be sufficient. Nicola, with a few other volunteers, will oversee this.
- Other neighborhood issues: Speeding cars down Pembroke & W. Brookline – discussed possible responses – Braddock Park and Union Park have “please slow down” signs - no consensus at this time. Tremont St. speeding issues being addressed by SE Forum, the city, and other NAs.
- Social: Discussion of options for May 2018. Block Party on W. Brookline, Stoop Sit on W. Brookline, and Pot Luck in Hiscock Park, Hayes Park, Harriet Tubman Park with closure of Columbus Sq. **TBD**
- W. Brookline Church construction ending and suggestion to have a gathering for neighbors: **Peter to reach out to Michael Grant, Site Superintendent with suggestion that Wadleigh Associates might like to host some type of social event, thanking the neighborhood and/or transitioning from the completion of the West Brookline church project.**
 - Response from Mike: “I spoke with Peter Zagorianakos and he told me that this does sound like something we would be interested in. I’ll work with him on the details” ...”the trailer will be gone within a week.”
 - “I also invite neighbors who may be interested that I am always willing to give tours of the building. Understandably I can’t promise that I will be available at all times, but they can reach me via email to set up a time or stop by and I may be able to take 20 minutes to show them around. We are currently set up in the basement garage, which can be accessed through the back stairs. It may be easier for them to let me know when they want to take a tour and I can meet them in the lobby. I’ll be the one probably wearing a Red Sox shirt.”
 - “I want to express my appreciation for the patience of those most affected by the duration of the project and truly cannot wait to show off the incredible work the crew has done.”

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.