



NORTH END/WATERFRONT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 130319
Boston, MA 02113
www.newra.org

Date: Thursday, July 9, 2009

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Nazzaro Center
30 North Bennet Street

July 2009 Meeting Minutes

Reports

- President's Report
 - *Mark Paul encouraged members to get involved with the needs of the neighborhood and the importance of supporting all parts of the North End/Waterfront.*
 - *Newly sworn in State Representative Aaron Michlewitz was recognized and offered his contact information which will be posted on www.newra.org.*
 - *A member raised the question of whether MassPike, or its subsequent organization, will follow up on promises made as part of the Central Artery project.*
- Reports from City Hall
 - Nicole Leo, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services - *No report*
 - Kathy Carangelo-McIsaac, Councilor Sal LaMattina's Office - *Rodent Issue - Councilor LaMattina is doing a tour of the neighborhood next week and will be attending NEWRA's Clean Streets Committee meeting on Tuesday. Call Kathy at 617-635-3200 with issues.*
- Membership Committee - *There are now 318 NEWRA members and the Treasury account has \$1,400.*
 - Clean Streets Committee - *Naomi Paul reported that Public Safety put more street trash cans in the neighborhood, but some residents asked them to be removed which is counterproductive. Clean Streets also believes that new trash receptacles need to be closed such as big bellies so they are not used for household trash.*
- Zoning, Licensing and Construction Committee, including updates on Government Center Garage, Harbor Garage and Parcel 9 Redevelopments –
 - *Co-chairs David Kubiak & Victor Brogna reviewed a comprehensive ZLC report that was distributed to members and will be posted on www.newra.org.*

Zoning and Licensing Applications

115 Salem Street, Giovanni Grimaldi, Manager, has applied to the Board of Appeal for change of use to operate a coffee shop with pastry, ice cream and take-out service in the space formerly Dave's Curtains. The Licensing Board recently denied the application for a new malt and wine with cordials license, and the owner has appealed this decision.

The applicant did not appear at the meeting.

5 North Hudson St., Chad Wolfson has filed an appeal seeking zoning relief to construct a raised deck at the rear of the residential building's first-floor unit.

Vote: 43 support, 1 oppose – NEWRA supports the application

12 Unity St., Tara Shea and George Collins have filed an appeal seeking zoning relief to replace an existing rooftop headhouse with a penthouse and replace an existing deck. The roof will have private, not common, access.

Vote: 44 support, 3 oppose – NEWRA supports the application

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Updates

Greenway Park Use Guidelines and Special Events, Review and discussion of the Greenway Conservancy's new guidelines for holding events, including staging for large scale, multi-day events with up to 2,214 attendees in the North End Parks and up to 2,774 attendees in the Wharf District Parks. This informational report is being presented in anticipation of a discussion with Greenway officials at a NEWRA meeting in the near future.

After attending recent public meetings of the Greenway Leadership Council (GLC), Matt Conti distributed draft guidelines for the use of the Greenway and started a discussion on the Conservancy's plans to hold events on the parks. Public comments are due before the GLC's next meeting on July 21 (preferably before July 15) when the governing body will look to finalize the guidelines. Matt and other members identified several concerns relating to the damaging impacts of semi-private, sponsored events on the Greenway and the neighborhood. Most participants remarked on the desire to have the parks protected for free and open public use. Matt offered his written letter to other members that would like to send in their own comments. State Representative Aaron Michlewitz asked members to copy him on their comments because he has a meeting with Conservancy officials. Additional information will be posted on www.newra.org.

8:30 PM – 8:45 PM

Update on the Armenian Heritage Park, on Parcel 13, Rose F. Kennedy Greenway, by Donald Tallelian, Architect *Mr. Tallelian was asked by the BRA to postpone his presentation until after BRA review. ZLC Co-Chair Victor Brogna provided background and an update for the membership. Clearly, there continues to be broad and strong support by our members, as well as growing anger over continued delay. There was clear direction and consensus that NEWRA send a letter to the BRA asking it to expedite any further city review and approvals so that the North End community and the public at large can enjoy the park as soon as possible. The NEWRA Executive Committee will follow up soon.*

***Mark Your Calendar: NEWRA's Summer Party
Wednesday, August 19, 6:30pm, Pilot House, 2 Atlantic Ave.***