



NORTH END/WATERFRONT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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Email: info@newra.org Website: www.newra.org

Date: **Thursday, October 8, 2009**

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Nazzaro Center
30 N. Bennet Street

Annual Meeting Minutes *October 8, 2009*

Reports

- President's Report

*President Mark Paul thanked his fellow NEWRA executives & committee chairs for their service
Problem Properties Committee – Email problems to exec@newra.org
Check NEWRA.org Calendar for upcoming meetings, including Gov't Center IAG*

- Reports from City Hall

- Nicole Leo, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services – *No report*
- Kathy Carangelo-McIsaac, Councilor Sal LaMattina's Office – *No report*

- Membership Committee – *Welcome to 2 new members this month*
- Clean Streets Committee – *Watch for promotions for the Green Ticket Bill*
- Zoning, Licensing and Construction Committee

Written report distributed and available on NEWRA.org under the ZLC tab.

Highlighted changes to Cross St sidewalk plaza, including license granted by MassPike for outdoor tables and seats for Nick's Deli & DePasquale's Pasta Shop. Other licenses to come later. Parking will also be prohibited along inner bollards (by Martignetti's building).

Zoning and Licensing Applications

"Go Bananas" Market, owner Frank Scire plans to relocate from 65 Salem Street to the first floor commercial space at 64 Salem Street (across the street) and has applied to the Board of Appeal for change of use to allow take-out related to the deli service. The new space at 64 Salem Street is approximately twice the size of the existing space at 65 Salem Street. Business operations will not change. Hours will be 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM, seven days.

Attorney Toscano presented.

No eating inside premises, no tables outside, same closing hour, 7am-9pm (1 hour earlier open)

Deliveries coming in through Cross Street around 9:30am

Takeout was specific to Dunkin Donuts. New takeout condition will be specific to Go Bananas.

Location is now vacant and will be double the size to 1600 sq ft

Vote 42 support, 2 oppose -- NEWRA supports the application

7:25 PM – 7:40 PM

115A Salem Street, Saponi Di Napoli, Inc. (Giovanni Grimaldi, Manager), has applied to the Licensing Board for a C.V. 7-day Malt and Wine License for his new café on the first floor and storage in the basement; midnight closing hour, seven days. An earlier application for a new license was denied by the Licensing Board but reinstated by the state Alcohol Beverage Commission on appeal. By NEWRA's count, there are 89 pouring licenses in the North End/Waterfront.

Currently, operates the location as a gelateria café ... Looking for beer/wine license

Agrees to condition closing hour as Sun-Thurs 11pm with Fri/Sat midnight

Cordials? – Gets beer/wine now and then in 6 months can apply for cordials

44 Prince St – Thanks for putting up the curtains. Supporting the application.

ZLC Committee – Clarifying that this would be a new license bringing total to 90 in neighborhood

Vote - 27 support, 19 oppose - NEWRA supports the application

Neighborhood Presentation

7:40 PM – 8:30 PM

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, Nancy Brennan, Executive Director, will make a brief presentation and answer questions on the management of the parks, events and capital improvements regarding the North End and Wharf District Parks.

Ms. Brennan responded to a list of North End/Waterfront interests provided in advance and distributed to the membership. Residents and members of the Greenway Leadership Council, Francine Gannon and Dan Nuzzo, were also present at the meeting.

Conservancy has been operating the parks for 7 months. Prior to that, the organization was raising money since 2005 for its endowment goal of \$20 million. The endowment stands at \$12 million.

North End Parks – Maintenance

There was a water problem harming the boxwood hedges.

Parcel 10 is 7 inches deep. Parcel 8 is 10 inches deep. Will be composting this Fall.

Fountains

Last spring, discovered that vault had filled with water for unknown.

Conservancy, as a non-profit, can have insurance

Partially working with new motors – still waiting for parts

Changes?

Vines not growing fast enough on pergola - Will put in seasonal shade structures

Signage is a problem – doesn't have the money

Wharf District - no changes other than addition of Armenian Memorial Park

Events

Did talks, walking tours, storytelling hours, family games, treasure hunt

Zipcar Film Night in September

Circuit breaker – took over an hour to fix

Residents bothered by noise and lights

Follows up to 70db City noise ordinance - Will ensure they have a db reader next time

Fees to use a parcel, up to \$5,000 (discount for non-profits)

Does not anticipate having any multi-day festivals

Resident Question – Read a famous quote from Sen Kennedy about having grass in North End. Are having movies with tents consistent with that intent?

Resident Question – broader problem – risk of outdoor convention center

Nancy: “over my dead body”

Resident Question – Zipcar said it was going to be weekly

How many events? Nancy: Doesn't know ... will know more in February 2010

Resident Question – Need water fountains; Would rather have no advertising

Chiofaro concert 12-1:30pm in July 2009 in Wharf District Park

Shirley and the Rondells – 800 people attended

How much did Chiofaro pay? \$1200

Resident Question – Why do we want events?

Versus only 1% of spending on horticulture and maintenance

Resident Question – Transparency is important, Survey neighborhood to show they want events

How do you choose these events?

Resident Question – What are you doing about the skateboarders?

Development

Armenian Heritage Park – finished in 2010 (breaking ground next spring)

Harbor Islands Pavilion – breaking ground this fall or next spring

Parcel 14 – construction will take 8 months

Urban Nursery – will have potted young trees on Parcel 12

GLC will review on October 14th

Parcel 9 & 7 – no comments

Finances

Park operations for maintenance, operations and design was \$900k last year

FY10 – spend \$2.6mm, 54% of budget (vs 28% last year)

Education programs - \$1.0 million in FY09, will be down to \$790K in FY10

Development/Administration was \$600k last year ... will spend same \$600k FY10

Resident Question – lived here for 2 weeks - likes the Greenway, likes corporate partnerships

Resident Question - Public process is important; Millennium Park is great because it is next to Grant Park

Francine Gannon – Commercial St – member of GLC - 13 people appointed by public officials

Francine is expressing these concerns to the GLC

NEWRA Officer Annual Elections

8:30 PM – 8:40 PM

The Nomination Committee recommends the following members for election as officers of NEWRA for the period October 2009 - October 2010:

President: Mark Paul, Prince Street (for a second term)

Vice President: Stephanie Hogue, Henschman Street

Treasurer: Sanjoy Mahajan, Jackson Avenue

Secretary: Katie Kulikoski, Charter Street

Sergeant of Arms: Paula Noukas, Fleet Street

Victor Brogna, chair of the Nomination Committee, presented the above. There were no nominations from the floor. The vote was made by acclamation. Applause.

NEWRA members were invited to celebrate another successful year with cake, cookies and coffee after the meeting. Boston Police Captain Bernie O'Rourke and Sergeant Lema also joined the residents.