

BVNA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 2, 2015

Attendees: Nancy Morrisroe, Trish Gillis, Brian Boisvert, Tim Kacich, Grant Simpson, Sarah Herlihy, Jean Quintal, Kendra Mar, Judy Komarow, Kathy Hull, Gaye Bok, Diane Rooney, Christiana Mecca, Daniel Krulewitch, Paul Buta, Nan Rubin, Ben Beck, Jo Campbell, Rocque Dion, Steve Dunwell, Megan Castro

Meeting begins at 7:06PM

Jo Campbell motions to accept minutes from February 2, 2015 meeting, Brian Boisvert seconds motion – one abstain

A Boston University student, studying journalism, attended the meeting. She is developing a story on Bay Village.

Representative Aaron Michlewitz reviewed his legislative priorities:

Any questions at any time, Patrick from the Representative's office is available. Also – follow on Twitter at @RepMichlewitz and Facebook at [faceb0ok.com/RepMichlewitz](https://www.facebook.com/RepMichlewitz).

8 of 20 filed this legislative session – handout provided. Representative discussed three of the proposals. Committee assignments – finance. Starting Committee Meetings. Reviewed Legislative Proposals for 2015-2016:

1. *Short-term residential rentals:* under 30 days thru online portals (i.e. Craig's List, AirBnB) will have to register with the State as "open for business" – City will have a record once registered; Rentals will pay State and City hotel taxes

Question: "collect tax vs, pay tax" – is it an honor system? Answer: The owner would decide who pays the tax – guest or owner. Trying to give City some flexibility – you have to be the primary resident of the property.

Question: Is it subject to back-tax? Answer: Unlikely. San Francisco implemented this 2/1/2015. New York tried previously.

Question: Statewide – issues: safety, liability need to be addressed (more than revenue)? Answer: Initially, safety is the issue of focus.

2. *Boston Olympic Commission:* State Commission to oversee 2024 Olympic bid. Rep. Michlewitz has not determined his position on Boston hosting the Olympics in 2024, but proposing the State agencies need a seat at the planning table; Commission will oversee and gather info relative to public safety, economic and social impacts. If they use public funds, they will require a mandate to post funds and expenditures online for public to view. Also, the Commission will limit eminent domain. Deadline for the Commission: end of September when bid goes final. Executive Director of the Commission would be a paid position.
3. Car Rental Fees – eliminate surcharge to BCC for Boston and Cambridge residents

Safety Committee - Kendra and Judy

Lowest # of crime in our district:

January 31: report of Larceny at 32 Church

February 11: sudden death on Cortes

February 14: report of assault at Revere Hotel and a hit and run (auto) on Fayette

February 27: report of damage to car from snow clearing on Fayette

A pedestrian was hurt on Melrose due to ice issues - head and arm injuries

An MBTA officer joined the February Safety Meeting. Encouraged people to download MBTA's app (MBTA see say)

... and report issues. Also call 617-222-1212, if app not available. An MBTA officer to attend future meetings.

Boston Police will check with people walking through the neighborhood in the middle of the night. For example, in February, a patrolman stopped someone at 1:45AM, and arrested the person due to an outstanding warrant in western MA.

Membership

Tim Kacich – 501c3 application is in progress.

By-Laws: Proposed changes to review 20 days in advance, then the Executive Committee votes. The change: rolling membership. Paul Buta asked about reviewing the by-laws ... Sarah Herlihy will review.

Planning - Sarah and Ben

Strega Strip has liquor license ... from Tantric. Hearing is Wednesday for a 2AM license, as we agreed. No objection to. Egress after a certain hour is through the Park Plaza

Billy's: EC voted to oppose. On the eve of hearing, lawyer contacted Sarah Herlihy. Creating a "working group" discussed in planning meeting. Sarah found it "is a pattern." No history of compliance. Proceed on objection at the continued – support of Mayor Walsh and Representative Michlewitz offices. One abutter would like to continue with Billy due to lights and safety. Uncertain what will happen. March 24th is the date of the hearing.

62 Melrose Street: came back to us responding to feedback from the neighborhood ... not proceeding at this time. Building is rented out. John asked for details about the changes ...

Sarah: they bought building. After a discussion with the Planning Committee, new owners were told to talk to William Young regarding historical requirements in their development of the property. The owners attended an EC meeting to propose a large plan. It was explained if the EC was asked for a vote at that time, the plan may have been declined. The new owners returned with new plan – abutters attended second meeting. The plan revisions did not include William Young review. Sarah followed up – they are not sure what their next steps are at this time. Sarah told them we would vote on any plan they would like voted upon.

Paul Buta suggestion: it is best if developers go thru William Young first for his opinion. The architect was unfamiliar.

President's Update

ADCO -- Nancy initially was hesitant but the people in the meeting are plugged into what is going on in the City on issues relevant to all downtown neighborhoods Will continue attending. The meetings are open for all to attend

Space savers and Street sweeping

Ban on space savers. All downtown neighborhoods are proposing. Vote at next meeting.

Street sweeping ... enforce the towing; but 2x a year – would like to enforce.

Includes discussions of how associations are structured – can be leveraged.

Meeting ends 7:58PM ... Eric (missed last name) motions to close meeting, Brian Boisvert seconds the motion.