

# East Berkeley Neighborhood Association

## General Meeting Minutes

### MEETING DETAILS

**Date:** January 7, 2020

**Location:** Project Place, 1145 Washington Street

**Time:** 6:30 – 8:00 PM

### ATTENDANCE

**Board Members:** Ken Smith (President), Bradley St. Amand (Secretary), Stuart Rose (Treasurer), John Connelly, Frann Bilus, Geoff Palmer, Leslie Fine

**City Representatives:** Sophia Wang (Councilor Ed Flynn's Office)

**Press:** Boston Sun – Dan Murphy

## AGENDA ITEMS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Tonight is the "State of the City" address by Mayor Walsh
- Renew your membership for 2020
- Chris Johnson will be resigning from board, plus one additional seat open – elections to follow
- Next meeting: Tuesday, February at Project Place – special guest Annissa Essaibi-George

### SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE

**Presenter:** Officer Chris Schuler

#### **Notes:**

- Drug unit has been making arrests on Fay Street.
- Large number of unclaimed stolen bikes at the station – reach out if missing yours.
- Alex's Pizza went through zoning and abutters process to be open until 3pm. Neighbors have expressed concerns about a lack of notification to abutters and late night noise.
  - Ken Smith spoke with the owner regarding the noise and the cleanliness in front of the store. Owner said he will focus on fixing these – but noted a number of Ubers around which are out of his control.
  - Joan from Wilkes (1313 Washington) noted that they never received notification, confirmed by their building manager and concierge. The list of folks attending the abutters meeting included 3 individuals with an address at 1313 Washington, but that

do not live on the premises, in addition to other non-abutters. Joan confirmed late night noise, including bread deliveries, trash pickup, and Ubers.

- Arthur Coe noted that Savoy to Perry Street was filthy. Cars are not towed to allow for proper street cleaning.
- Ken Smith confirmed there would be an opportunity to revisit this situation with the City.
- Eileen noted a break-in to the garage at 1154 Washington Street – stolen bike.

**Actions Taken:** Officer Schuler would like to speak first with Alex's to discuss cleaning of area in front of the store. Sophia Wang will bring this concern back to Ed Flynn.

### **UPDATE ON CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION BY MING'S MARKET**

**Presenters:** Ken Smith / Arthur Coe

**Notes:**

- The rescheduled hearing by the Zoning Board of Appeals on December 17 was again reschedule at the request of Ming's.
- Comments and observations from Arthur Coe – whom attended the hearing:
  - The attorney for Ming's waited until that morning before mentioning their request for another extension.
  - Their attorney admitted to Arthur that Ming's has not cleaned up or addressed concerns.
  - The ZBA was not happy that they requested another extension, however they still granted it.
  - Faisa Sharif, Mayors South End Liason, scolded their attorney privately for failing to inform her of the extension request and for not addressing neighborhood concerns.
  - Attendance is very important. Multiple cases with no verbal opposition sailed through with approval.
- New hearing is set for April 17. It is not expected that another extension would be granted.
- They will have to justify a hardship to get approval, but the bar for approval is lower under a conditional use (rather than forbidden use).

**Actions Taken:** Ken to invite Ming's Market manager to February meeting. EBNA to send reminders in lead-up to the April hearing.

### **EBNA Board – 2020 Elections**

**Presenters:** Ken Smith

**Notes:**

- Board of Managers is comprised of (up to) 11 members.
- Chris Johnson is stepping down from the board and 1 seat has been vacant.
- Bradley St. Amand and Sarah Hutt have agreed to remain on the board for a new term - unopposed.

- No nominations were made to date – open call to members for nominations
  - Steve Berns nominated. Vote taken – unanimous approval.
- Officers will be selected by the Board at the upcoming Board meeting.

**Actions Taken:** Steve Berns elected to the Board.

### **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT – BDY SQD**

**Presenters:** Katie Wason

**Notes:**

- Located at 34 Traveler Street – behind Core Power
- Open to all ages and abilities, not just athletes
- Can pay for individual items, packages or memberships
- No covered by insurance, but take HSA
- Not considered physical therapy
- Specialties:
  - Localized stretching
  - Detox – compression to aid recovery and saunas
  - Mobile squad – for company wellness
- Coaches are largely athletic trainers
- 2 current locations, looking to expand

**Actions Taken:** None