

## **BFSNA General Meeting Minutes for 2/08/05**

7:07 PM Meeting called to order  
7:08 PM Welcome and introduction of attendees  
Secretary's Report: Minutes from 11/11/05 General Meeting accepted.

### **Announcements:**

#### **A. Crime Update**

- Shawmut resident held up at gunpoint. Story related by the landlord. Victim said the police were not interested in the ordeal.
- Second resident spoke about an assault at 2 AM in the Newland Street/alleyway area in mid January. Police were summoned but were quickly called away on another matter.
- Jane Brayton observed that the Shawmut Newland/alleyway looks better as the resident who was assaulted is picking up trash.

#### **B. Dog Park Law**

- During the March meeting David Hacin will be coming to talk about the Peters Park Dog Run.
- Sherwood Hughes will post information about the Dog Park Law in the BFSNA website.

#### **C. Development Updates and Other Updates**

- It was requested that Courtney Walsh ask RF Walsh to remove snow from the construction site around the Harrison Avenue walkway
- 700 Harrison will increase in height by 4 feet. Construction looking to start on or about June 15<sup>th</sup>. Steve Moore asked if 700 Harrison had to go back to various groups regarding changes to project.
- In the old Detox clinic there will be 2 affordable units.
- According to Peter Roth construction to start in mid-March. There was a unanimous vote by members to request \$20,000 in community benefits. Bart Mitchell will be donating \$40,000 to upgrade area around 700 Harrison and will donate \$10,000 to dead tree fund.
- Harrison Gardens/Penmark project is finished with pouring concrete foundations. Father Gilday was closed last weekend to put up crane.
- No BioLab update.
- Jen Grella asked the BFSNA to write a letter to the South End News diplomatically restating in a positive manner the benefits promised to us by various developers.

### **Guest Speakers:**

#### **1. *Sandy Martin-Youth Worker's Alliance Art Auction***

- The last 2 years the YWA has had a very successful art auction. The YWA involves youth from the age of 6-21 and is involved in around 40 programs. YWA acts as a networking facilitator between various non-profits. For the past 2 years their main fundraiser has been the Art Auction. Last year it was held at the BCA and the guest auctioneer was Mayor Menino. Various BFSNA members such as Jen, Rouben, and Piper were key volunteers.
- Sandy is once again asking the BFSNA to be a co-sponsor of the event. She is looking for volunteers and a contribution from BFSNA. The date of the Auction will be May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Sherwood Hughes made a motion to use the mailing list and to sponsor the event. The vote was 10 in favor, 0 against, and 8 abstaining.
- Jane Brayton made a motion to donate \$250 toward the Art Auction. The vote was approved unanimously.
- Sherwood Hughes passed around an Art Auction volunteer list.

#### **2. *Tim Douglas-Zip Car***

- Tim sees Zip Car as a long-term solution to Boston's parking problem. In a study by Zip Cars they estimate that each Zip Car takes between 7-10 cars off the road.
- Members pay \$175 to get started with ZipCar. \$100 of the startup costs is a refundable deposit. There are 200 cars within Boston. Within 1 mile of us there is 19 cars. Cars offered include Toyotas, Volkswagens, pick up trucks, BMWs, and Volvos. Car rentals start at \$8.50 per hour or \$60 per day. It includes gas and insurance. Daily rentals

include \$125 miles. Reservations can be made online and there is 24-7 phone support. Discounted options are available.

- ZipCar is still a private company and they recently became a “for profit” company. It was started by Robin Chase 5 years ago in the Boston area. Currently they serve Boston, New York, and Washington D.C.
- Pets are forbidden in ZipCars. They do not come with car seats. Closet spot is located at 752 Tremont Street.
- A member discount is possible in the future by working with BFSNA.

**Meeting Adjourned.**