

## **BFSNA General Meeting Minutes for 3/08/05**

7:04 PM

Meeting called to order

Welcome and introduction of attendees

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from 2/8/05 General Meeting accepted.

### **Guest Speakers:**

#### **1. *David Hacin-Peter's Park Dog Run***

- The City is putting in place a plan for the implementation of dog runs. David Hacin will be looking for a letter of support for the Peter's Park Dog Run.
- Boston is the only major city in North America to not have a policy regarding dog parks. Although Peter's Park has been used as a dog run it has not been officially sanctioned. Some residents (especially many who live on Bradford Street) are unhappy with the dog park. Peter's Park will have a buffer zone to hopefully address the issue.
- Money has finally been released for Peter's Park. In the next 6-12 months they will have a landscape architect and it will be rezoned.
- The Dog Run acts a major community gathering spot. Its presence helps make the park safe. The dog run will have to be built with private mney.
- There is a procedure to propose a dog park. 10 people can come together and propose a dog park. It needs the support of the local neighborhood association. They must then submit a DRS (Dog Run Space) application. The application is still being developed by the city.
- David believes the park is a major reason why many residents chose to locate by Peter's Park. Those interested can go to [www.peterspark.org](http://www.peterspark.org) to learn about what is happening with the dog run.

#### **2. *Carla Richards, Peter Schneider and Kevin Tuohey-Bio Lab/BUMC***

- BUMC team gave a history of the 3 researchers that were infected with tularemia. Tularemia is not spread from person to person. Tularemia is characterized as a terror agent by the Feds. Two of the three infected spent time hospitalized. The workers were working with bacteria that were supposed to be harmless. As soon as it was determined that the bacteria was not what they thought it was the research was halted and material was collected. Immediately the authorities were notified.
- BUMC is starting a system to verify the material that will come in to the lab. Training and procedures will be increased. There will be new inspections that will be both regular and surprise inspections.
- Sherwood Hughes mentioned that he was disappointed in the lack of communication by BUMC. BUMC countered that a memo went out to 600 people at BUMC regarding the incident.
- To this day it is not certain where the contamination began.
- Carla Richards said the NIH will be creating a supplemental draft. Once it is filed there will be an additional public comment meeting and hearing. Mid March is the expected completion of the draft. There is a City Council hearing set for March 28<sup>th</sup>. City Councilor Turner wants to ban Level 4 Labs.

### **Announcements:**

#### **A. *Groundwater Educational Forum***

- At the last Executive Committee Meeting the head of the Groundwater Educational Forum spoke about the issue of groundwater levels in the Back Bay and South End. They have a website and additional information was included with today's agenda. On April 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a forum to be held at the Boston Public Library

#### **B. *Youth Art Auction***

- Sandy Martin is looking for volunteers.

#### **C. *Nominating Committee***

- Need for new officers for the 2005-2006 term. Nominating Committee to be formed at the next meeting.
- Harrison Gardens/PenMark project is finished with pouring concrete foundations. Father Gilday was closed last weekend to put up crane.

**D. Teen Empowerment**

- Teen Empowerment wants to host a Community Safety Forum.
- June 4<sup>th</sup> is the tentative date of the meeting

**E. BHA, Villa Victoria, BPD April Meeting Postponed**

- Meeting postponed due to a conflict with the Neck Ties event.
- Karen Fried is planning the event now.

**F. Trash Meeting**

- Sherwood is seeing 1-2 volunteers to represent the Neighborhood.

**Treasurer's Report:** A full report will be given at the next meeting. There is currently a balance of approximately \$4600 in the association checking account.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:26 pm

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