**BVNA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

December 3, 2018

**EC Present:** Bethany Patten, Grant Simpson, Trish Gillis, Jo Campbell, Roque Dion, Danny Moll, Jamie Brewer, Diane Rooney, Sarah Herlihy, Gay Bok, Neil French, Allie Fitzgerald, Alex Balukonis, Nancy Morrisroe, Judy Komarow

**Other:** Faisa Sharif (ONS), Councilor Ed Flynn, New Reporter (Boston Sun), Steve Dunwell, Sue Buta

**Start:** The meeting commenced at 7:00 PM

**Community:** Mayor Walsh: The Mayor stopped by the meeting to re-connect with the neighborhood after missing the block party due to an unavoidable schedule conflict. No agenda to his visit, just wanted to update the community on the state of the city and provide some updates on key priorities for 2019. He talked about plans to get us to 2030 (“[Boston 2030](https://imagine.boston.gov/)”), reported our financial position is strong with a triple AAA rating for five consecutive years; we are on pace to have fully funded pension; we added 20K jobs/year; by end of 2018 will have set a record for providing income-restricted housing. In the coming year, he hopes to build Boston Public Schools, including determining if we should bring a school to downtown area. And finally, he commented on the master planning of Boston – Considering questions like: how are we servicing people? How to move ourselves forward? Finally, he said in order to serve the population we will need a federal partner for housing, transportation, etc.

Sarah Herlihy commented on Bay Village’s position on development, stating we have been supportive to growth, however worry about the limits of that and stated that as new projects are presented that may threaten the neighborhood, we may need to push back, but we are open and only pushback when we have to. And asked that the mayor consider that support when reviewing new projects. The mayor answered that part of the reason to change to BPDA was because planning needed to be part of the process. Mayor asked BPDA to go to the neighborhoods to communicate the process when there are not projects on the table. He expressed his believe that there needs to be a discussion, and gave the example of the Winthrop Square garage as being an open, transparent process. Good things can come out of projects that are complicated.

Nancy Morissroe brought up the issue of growing traffic congestion in the city. Wanted to know how the city is thinking about regulating ride share and/or offering less parking in the newer buildings. She stated that currently, there is no regulatory authority – no drop-off/pick-up, for example. Four million trips a month in Boston. She asked if Boston looks at other cities, not just US cities? The mayor answered that mobility will be a focus, and that we share information all the time with other cities.

Bethany Patten pointed out that resiliency and mitigation are separate issues. That we need to be considering both updates to our cities infrastructure to be resilient to climate change, as well as pass measures and regulations that mitigate our effect on the environment in the long run. That to only talk about resiliency without also talking about mitigation is only addressing 1/2 the problem. The mayor clarified that there is a comprehensive plan out of the environment department that addresses both and that transportation emissions will be a focus, and that new rules for buildings, for instance at minimum, all new development must be LEED silver, community choice program, plastic bag ban (begins December 14)

Gaye Bok asked about the city’s plan for aging in place, stating it’s a great city to be 25, but not so easy for the older generations. The mayor responded that the city is a lead city and age friendly. Boston has an active elderly commission. And while it also is the 3rd youngest city, there is a growing older population. He hopes to provide a connect to services so people can stay in home and provide affordable senior housing.

Other questions included (1) Safety – car break-ins and the mayor answered that many of them are heroin addicts, reiterated the advice to not leave valuables in cars; tie-in to the civic group; meet with police; create a crime Watch. (2) Neighborhoods with heroin addicts … the mayor answered that the goal is to get people off the street. More councilors to encourage to people to get help; much of this has its origin in mental health issues.

**Social/Member:**   Holiday Party: Jamie Brewer & Diane Rooney reminded neighbors that the Holiday party will be on December 9, 2018 - 6:30PM at MJ O’Connors, 27 Columbus Ave. Neighbors to meet at the Church/Melrose garden, then sing carols en route to the restaurant at the Park Plaza Hotel; please join – free party for members. They will be taking donations for Catie’s Closet – winter coats and hats. (check NextDoor for details to participate in this program)

**Lic/Planning:** 212 Stuart St: Sarah Herlihy reported that the legal issues with 212 had been resolved and the developer will be moving forward with construction. The project will go before the Historic Commission on December 11 at 4PM.

67-69 Church St (Erbaluce location):The developers are looking to go up 2.5 stories.

114 Berkeley: No new developments

Motor Mart: No new developments

Isabella St Church: Needs an butters meeting

Nahita: Agreement is almost done

**Adjournment:** The EC voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned.