

FHNA
Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:08. Joe Smith read the minutes and they were approved as read by the membership. He also read the treasurer's report that was likewise approved.

Police Report

Sgt. Manning reported on assorted incidents in the neighborhood since our last meeting. The good news is that there were no house breaks or robberies. Incidents included scratched cars, an assault and battery, 2 pit bull incidents (one dog has been relocated to Maine), and a fraud issue on Farwell Ave that is under investigation.

Joe Smith attended the kick off ceremony at the Strand Theater on Tuesday, February 21. The event was attended primarily by stakeholders such as; representatives from city agencies, community groups such as the CDC's; neighborhood groups and the like. There was a call for members for an advisory committee to oversee the development and groups like the FHNA are encouraged to recommend members. This group will consist of 20-30 members appointed by the Mayor. Membership was asked for an interested party by the chair.

There were no reports from the Social or Quality of Life committees. The zoning committee introduced neighbors from 122 Summit St, who are looking for FHNA support for an upcoming variance request. It seems that this family has already added three bedrooms and a bath to their basement illegally. Abutting neighbors, who were present, had concerns around this issue and about the increased parking in a shared driveway as well as an entrance door that abutted the driveway. FHNA will make a decision regarding support of the variance.

Inspectional Services Department

Latina Zahid-Ali and Bryan Glascock gave membership an overview of the city department. Members had presented the chair questions for the representatives to respond to. They described the activities and responsibilities of some of the department's areas. Suggestion was made to look at their information on the City of Boston website (www.cityofboston.gov/isd). Our Hyde Park liaison for the ISD is Latina Zahid-Ali and the help line number is 616-635-5300. Another alternative for assistance is the Mayor's 24 hour Help Line. Michael Yanowich is Hyde Park's building inspector and David McNulty, Hyde Park's liaison to the Mayor's Office, is another option for action and support. We discussed 56 Williams Ave. Unfortunately, this address was unknown to our guests despite the ongoing and repeated emphasis by FHNA on this

issue. We did not get a clear answer on 66 Highland St or the Montessori school as well. Additional concerns about the Hyde Park Ave. burnt-out church were mentioned and Lewis Chemical was again presented as an outstanding issue. Another member asked about parking of a flatbed truck on Beacon St each day and who was responsible for follow-up. As it was getting late, it was agreed that ISD would get back to us on public hearing notices policy, status of the Hyde Park Ave. church and Lewis Chemical.

Joe Smith introduced the App entitled "Citizens Connect" to the membership. This APP connects Boston residents to city departments and the work order process for things like graffiti, potholes, streetlights, etc. Photos can be included and a status of the repair is noted and updated. You need an iPhone, iPad or Smart phone to access this APP.

Pat Tierney introduced a new FHNA EMAIL campaign that gives membership information on social, athletic and other neighborhood events for both young and old. Marie-France is designing attractive bulletins for circulation on such events. Pat expressed the belief that the FHNA should be a leader in forging neighborhood relationships and bringing residents together.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted

Joseph Smith