

Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council

October 23, 2018 Minutes

JPNC Attendance: Kevin Rainsford, Michael Reiskind, Vicky Arroyo, Robin Cheung, Brianne Connelly, Max Glikman, Omer Hecht, Bruce Marks, Samantha Montano, Kyle Smith, Emily Tabor, Esther Tutella-Chen, Trevor Wissink-Adams, and Priscilla Yang.

Other attendees: Dana Gonsalves, Dar Sandler, Kevin Flakes, Marie Kim, and Richard Heath (Boston Bulletin).

Meeting called to order at 7:13pm by Kevin Rainsford at Farnsworth House.

1. Introductions: Council members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of September minutes: Motion by Max Glikman to approve the September 25, 2018 minutes. Seconded by Priscilla Yang. Passed 11-0-0 (3 came late).

3. Announcements:

- The 15th annual Canine Costume Parade will be on Saturday, October 27. Registration is at 12noon at the First Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain, 633 Centre Street. Dogs will parade down Centre Street to the Loring Greenough House where their costumes will be judged on a red carpet in front of three judges.

- The 2nd annual Growler Gala fundraiser for JP Centre/South Main Streets will take place at the Loring Greenough House on Thursday, October 25 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Twelve growler works of art made by local artists and celebrities will be auctioned off.

- Election Day is Tuesday, November 6. Remember to get out and vote.

- A community meeting on the Boston Public Schools BuildBPS Phase Two Master Plan will be held on Wednesday, October 24 starting at 6:00pm at the West Roxbury Education Complex, 1205 VFW Parkway.

- Dana Gonsalves announced that Lisa King, Senior Property Manager at the JP Neighborhood Development Corporation (JP NDC) has resigned and the JP NDC is interviewing for the position. In other JP NDC news, Mr. Gonsalves has been named Facilities Manager at The Brewery.

- A community meeting on the 50 Stedman Street project will be held on Monday, October 29 starting at 6:00pm at Doyle's Café, 3484 Washington Street. Sponsored by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA).

- Kevin Rainsford announced that the licensing fee for the JP Neighborhood Council website (www.jpnc.org) is due at the end of October. The cost goes up to \$10/month. He asked for contributions from JPNC members.

- Kyle Smith announced that the annual Pie in the Sky fundraising event for Community Servings is happening again this year. It is a massive bake sale to benefit Community Servings. Sign up to donate a pie or buy a pie. Last year, 18,000 pies were sold. Sign up at www.pieinthesky.org.

4. Election Committee Report: Michael Reiskind reported that the JPNC neighborhood election was held on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00am to 5:00pm at three polling locations - Stop & Shop, JP Licks and Harvest Co-op. The counting of ballots was in the evening on April 28 at Farnsworth House. The election went very well. The results of the balloting is listed at the end of these minutes. There was no dispute of the announced results nor any request for a recount, so the filled-out election ballots are no longer needed. Motion by Kevin Rainsford to accept the results of the balloting and destroy the filled-out election ballots. Seconded by Max Glikman. Passed 13-0-0 (1 late).

5. Committee Reports/Recommendations:

5.1. Housing & Development Committee (H&DC): (Carolyn Royce was not present - she was attending a Plan:JP/Rox meeting.) The H&DC met last week on October 16. The City Realty development at 197 Green Street was discussed. At the meeting, Jenny Nathans passed out a report on the history of the residential building at 197 Green Street. The City Realty proposal complies with all Plan:JP/Rox guidelines, except for the height which is 1 foot higher - this was at the request of the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) in order to match the brick building next door at 191 Green Street (4 Union Avenue). There was a lot of talk about the contentious history of City Realty and the high profits at its other Jamaica Plain developments. At this project, only 17% of the units are affordable. The draft comment letter the H&DC would like to send is asking for more affordable units. Gert Thorn sent in some written suggestions to strengthen the draft. During discussion on the letter, JPNC members spoke extensively about the process question of proposals going to both the Zoning Committee and the Housing & Development Committee - two different JPNC committees with two different focuses. **There was JPNC agreement to revisit the affordability guidelines of Plan:JP/Rox.** Motion by Kevin Rainsford to send the comment letter to the BPDA on 197 Green Street after strengthening the wording to emphasize affordable units be 25% of total, incorporate Gert Thorn's suggestions, and the developers should meet with Union Avenue neighbors. Seconded by Kyle Smith. Passed 13-0-0 (1 late).

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 20 at 7:00pm at the Bowditch School, 82 Green Street.

5.2. Environment, Parks & Energy Committee (EPE): Priscilla Yang said that the next meeting will be this week on Thursday, October 25 at 6:00pm at JP Licks. Susan Cascino (Director of Recycling for the City of Boston) will be attending to answer questions on Zero Waste Boston. The next Fixit Clinic will be on Saturday, November 3 from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the JP Branch Library.

The November meeting will be on Thursday, November 29 at 6:00pm at JP Licks.

5.3. Public Service Committee: Michael Reiskind said that the Public Service Committee met on October 2 at Curtis Hall. On the agenda was a request for transfer of the package store all-alcohol license of Centre Liquors at 391 Centre Street to a new owner at the same location. Pascual Tejada, who has owned centre Liquors since 2008, is selling to a new corporation owned by Govindbhai Patel. Mr. Patel will also be the new manager. Mr. Patel has been the manager of a package store in Louisville, Kentucky for the last six years. There was no community opposition. The Licensing Board hearing was on October 3, and it was sent to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee recommended approval. The next Public Service Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, November 6 at 7:00pm at Curtis Hall. On the agenda will be continued review of the initiatives of the Committee for 2018-2019.

5.4. Zoning Committee (ZC): Max Glikman reported that the Zoning Committee met once on October 10. There were four matters heard by the Zoning Committee, but only one matter needs a vote - 3162 Washington Street. Two matters came before the Zoning Board of Appeal on October 16 and had to go through the Executive Committee: A) 35-37 Pond Circle, a request by Ronald and Elena Loukas, trustees of Rhe Loukas Family Trust, to consolidate parcels and subdivide into 21,154 square foot and 10,000 square foot parcels, with existing single-family house on 10,000 square foot lot. The recommendations of the ZC and Executive Committee were to approve. B) 16 Marmion Street, a request by Dave Anderson to demolish an existing single-family house and replace it with a five-unit residential building with underground parking. This matter was well-received by the ZC. The recommendations of the ZC and Executive Committee were to approve. Also on the agenda was 46 Sheridan Street, a request by City Realty to construct a rear addition to an existing four-family dwelling and renovate the building, including the installation of a sprinkler system. The ZC comments were mostly negative on this proposal. City Realty withdrew the proposal in order to meet with the Eggleston Square Neighborhood Association (ESNA) and Sheridan Street neighbors. The only matter needing a vote is 3162 Washington Street, a request by Gustavo Terrero to establish an outdoor fruit stand. Motion by Max Glikman to approve the ZC recommendation on 3162 Washington Street. Seconded by Kyle Smith. Passed 13-0-1.

The next Zoning Committee meeting will be on Wed., October 24 at 7:00pm at Farnsworth House. On the agenda will be 26 Clive Street, 6 Parkside Drive, 63 May Street, and 31 Bardwell Street. After that, the next meeting will be on Nov. 7.

5.5. Ad-Hoc Education Committee: (Kevin Rainsford, Trevor Wissink-Adams, Vicky Arroyo and Priscilla Yang, plus two community members) The Committee came up with two areas to focus on: 1) Work with the Boston Public Schools (BPS) on BuildBPS, the ten-year Educational and Facilities plan. Jamaica Plain will have a community meeting on the issue on January 10. BPS wants help from the JPNC on outreach. 2) Work on enrollment, the lottery, and with parents on school uniforms. There are now two vacancies on the Boston School Committee. Folks can apply to the City of Boston to be appointed. Because the Ad-Hoc Education Committee is an ad-hoc committee, it will dissolve in December 2018.

There will need to be a vote in November to continue the Committee.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 8 at 7:00pm at Curtis Hall.

6. Old Business/New Business:

- There was a question about the lack of activity of the Outreach Committee. They have not met since July. Carmel Levy will be encouraged to hold a meeting. There is a long list of things the Committee can do, but it needs to be refined. Kyle Smith has been doing the Facebook posts.

- SPARK Boston Council will be having a neighborhood social on November 29 at 6:30pm at Frogmore, 365 Centre St.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.

Minutes submitted by Michael Reiskind

Next JPNC meeting: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 7:00PM at Farnsworth House
No Executive Committee meeting in November.

Election results for the JPNC Election on Saturday, April 28, 2018

(301 ballots were cast) (8 ballots were disqualified)

At-Large

Vicky Arroyo 186 votes
Michael Reiskind 166 votes
Carolyn Royce 163 votes
Dave Baron 147 votes
Carmel Levy 144 votes

Area B

Priscilla Yang 73 votes
Samantha Montano 64 votes
Emily Tabor 63 votes
Esther Tutella-Chen 61 votes
Max Glikman 58 votes
Kyle Smith 43 votes

Area A

Brianne Connelly 48 votes
Kevin Rainsford 45 votes
Bruce Marks 39 votes
Trevor Wissink-Adams 38 votes

Area C

Gert Thorn 66 votes
Kevin Leary 64 votes
Robin Cheung 57 votes
Bernard Doherty 54 votes