

Minutes the of meeting of the Friends of Bay Village Parks and Elliot Norton Park
Home of President Richard Junghans
July 9th 2012

Attending were: Tom Kauycheck, Nan Rubin, Jo Campbell, Judy Kamaron, Daniel Krulewich, Kathleen McDermott, Mary Teeven, Barbara Warren, Anita Reiner, Bernice Broyde, Bill Nigreen, Aoife Austin, Barbara Gaffney, Nancy Ham, Ricardo Baratto, Adam Webster, Mark Slater, Nancy Morrisroe, Ken Ham, Eric Cordes, Brain Boisvert, Sarah Herlihy, Carole Palmer, Tim Kacich, China Altman, Richard Junghans, Rocque Dion.

President Richard Junghans declared the meeting officially opened at 7:05 PM July 9th 2012.

The minutes from the previous meeting were not available so they were tabled until the next meeting.

On Going Business

First on the agenda was an update on the irrigation system for the Elliot Norton Park. In 1993 when the old park was demolished because of high walls creating problems with drug dealers, the sprinkler system that was there was not reinstalled. Dick Junghans told the members of The Elliot Norton Park (ENP) that a new proposal would need to be submitted for the irrigation system with the City of Boston through the Small Changes Program. This new proposal with the City of Boston through the Small Changes Program to install a new sprinkler system was for the city to pay \$20,000 and ENP to pay \$20,000. With the current economic conditions Dick suggested that we ask the city to pay \$10,000 and ENP would pay \$30,000. Adam Webster, representing Councilman John Connelly, met with Dick the previous week and they took a tour of the park talking about ways to get the funding for the irrigation system. Adam informed the Friends of ENP that the current city budget had just been passed and any commitment by the city would need to wait until next year's budget. There also was much concern by many of the members of the ENP as to how much research had been made on this proposal for the irrigation system. Many wanted more information on the type of irrigation system, just how badly it is needed to warrant a \$30,000 investment and operating cost once installed, all this to be answered before a vote would be taken. Bill Nigreen asked Tom Kauycheck, the person that takes care of the ENP, what his thoughts were on just how urgent the installation of this sprinkler system was. Toms reply was he would have loved it "yesterday" and he would like it but it was not something that we need to have done tomorrow. After concerns raised by China, Brian and Mark, a motion was made to postpone a vote on the installation of the irrigation system until more information became available. 20 votes in favor and 2 oppose. A follow-up motion was made that Dick would look into getting more information about the installation, the maintenance, and the cost. 20 votes in favor, none oppose.

Second on the agenda was the installation of a Stele to honor Elliot Norton. The concept was originally proposed by Shirley Thorne, who has since moved out of Bay Village. Several people have already done some work on getting information to put this project together. A sketch of a Stele was drawn up, a photo of Elliot Norton was found by Barbara Warren, wording that would be inscribed on the Stele was prepared by Shirley Thorne, Dick Junghans and Mark Slater, and Rocque Dion contacted a monument company on an approximate cost (\$10,000). Dick emphasized that the Friends of Elliot Norton Park would not pay a single penny for this Stele. Dick feels that the Boston theatres and surrounding organizations should contribute more than enough money to pay for the Stele. Several members of the Friends of ENP voiced concerns and opposition to the Stele. Tom Kauycheck does not feel that the theatre district has done anything for the park and feels no need to honor Elliot Norton with a Stele. Mary Teeven asked if in fact the city has given permission to erect this Stele and Dick said that at the

present time the answer was no but that he would talk to Ryan Woods on the process to get permission. Dick felt that once we had permission it would help to raise the funds to erect the Stele. China Altman was totally against the Stele. She stated that she knew Elliot Norton very well and this is not the way to honor him. She felt that something that was alive would be the course to take. Jo Campbell was not thrilled with the Stele. She felt that the Friends of ENP need to consult an artist and/or contact people that have erected this type of monument before and have experience with memorials. Sarah Herlihy suggested to Dick that he ask for volunteers to help with the process of finding a way to honor Elliot Norton. A motion was made to defer consideration for a something to honor Elliot Norton , but it was felt that a motion was not necessary, so the proposal for the Elliot Norton Stele was tabled.

Third item on the agenda was the whiskey barrels. Eric Cordes reported that the plastic barrels are no longer being made. We currently have 20 plastic barrels in storage. There are currently 30 wooden barrels on the street of Bay Village, 2 are falling apart and at some point 28 will need to be replaced. This means that we need to find at least 10 of the plastic barrels somewhere. So when you are out and about and you should see some plastic barrels would you please let Eric know and he would buy them.

Fourth item on the agenda was Dick who reported on the compose pile that he has created from gathering the leaves around Bay Village. Dick reported that 16 large bags of leaves makes 1 cubic foot of compose. Mary Teeven reported that the city also recycles the bags of leaves that they pick up from Bay Village. These bags are taken to a place in Dorchester where they are incorporated into a very large compose area. Dick brought in a container filled with the rich compose, created from all these leaves, for everyone to see and feel. We need to think green.

Dick reminded everyone about the ParkARTS concert on the following evening, July 10th at 7 PM at the Elliot Norton Park. Dick asked if anyone had ideas on activities for use of the ENP, such as having a Saturday garden center, an arts fair, flea market, something to make more use of the park space.

An update of the parks captains: Elliot Norton Park (Tom Kauycheck), Bay Village Park (Tom Kauycheck), Lyndeborro Enclave (Dick Junghans), Bay Village Garden (Jo Campbell & Rocque Dion), Isabella Street Park (Rocque Dion), Fayette-Marginal Nook (John Shope & Steve Sampang), Tremont-Marginal Corner (Steve Sampang).

Dick made a request to the members of the Friends of ENP to authorize a \$400.00 contribution to the Student Summer Jobs program. Questions were asked as to how this money will be spent and who exactly benefits from these funds. Sarah Herlihy and Judy Kamaron (Judy actually has knowledge of the program) volunteered to look into the program and report back at the next meeting.

Annual Business

President Richard Junghans reported that the organizational filings to the appropriate State and Federal agencies were current and up to date.

Membership chairperson Barbara Warren report that the current membership is at 22 people. There were several people at the meeting that forgot their checks and she will update the membership at the next meeting.

Daniel Krulewich, treasurer, reported that the \$72,000 balance on the account earned \$28.00 interest for the first half of the physical year and \$181.00 on the second half. He will look into why the large difference from the first half to the second half.

Election of the Board Members and Officers.

There are only three (3) members of the current board left in Bay Village and the current number authorized in the by-laws that can serve on the board is six (6). It was felt that, first you cannot have an even number of board members and you needed more than six (6) members on the board. So Sarah Herlihy suggested that the current board, Jo Campbell, Brian Boisvert and Richard Junghans vote to change the by-laws so that you would have at least three (3) members but no more than fifteen (15) members. It was voted on by the current board and passed. The membership then voted to elect, Richard Junghans, Tom Kauycheck, Daniel Krulewich, Bill Nigreen, Mark Slater, Rocque Dion, Sarah Herilhy, Jo Campbell, Brian Boisvert, Nancy Morrisroe and Kathleen McDermott, to the board of the Friends of Elliot Park.

Since there were two members running for the office of President, each was given five (5) minutes to state their case. 1st was Bill Nigreen with his presentation, see attached DRAFT 7/8/12 and then Richard Junghans who surprised everyone by simply endorsing Bill Nigreen for President.

Election of Officers:

President: Bill Nigreen, Treasurer: Daniel Krulewich and Clerk: Rocque Dion,

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM and refreshments were served.

Friends of Elliot Norton Park / Friends of Bay Village Parks Annual Meeting July 9, 2012

“The **purpose** of the Corporation is to improve public parks in and adjacent to Bay Village, ... to help make green spaces in and around Bay Village thriving urban oases for plants and people, and thereby to help educate residents concerning the benefits of green spaces and uplift them and improve the quality of their lives, by lessening neighborhood tensions and protecting against community deterioration... .” from the **2007 By-Laws**

Candidate for Director and President: Bill Nigreen

- 7 Fayette Street (617) 338-5368
- Founding President of Friends of Elliot Norton Park/ Friends of Bay Village Parks, June 21, 2002
- My Greenspace experience may be found at www.Nigreen.com

Vision

Elliot Norton Park is a precious but underdeveloped urban park space. It is a Bay Village park, almost one acre in size, bordered by the Theater District, Chinatown, Back Bay, & the South End. I propose a multi-year open public process, working with neighbors, design professionals, and artists to create a “thriving urban oasis for plants and people.” Landwave, a similar place-making project in Peters Park on Washington St., near Berkeley, resulted in a wonderful addition to Boston’s parkscape (see Landwave.org). Elliot Norton Park has historical and geographic significance, as well as cultural and recreational uses. It is a crossroads and meeting place. I want to help transform it into one of the best parks in the city.

Objectives for 2012-2013

1. Initiate a public process to significantly improve Elliot Norton Park
2. Improve communications by holding regular meetings and publishing Minutes

Operating Practices for 2012-2013

1. Encourage neighborhood initiative regarding care for Bay Village neighborhood parks and spaces. Continue current practices of funding local plantings
2. Coordinate activities with the Bay Village Neighborhood Association and consider merger once BVNA becomes a 501 (c) 3
3. Coordinate activities with park owner, City of Boston Parks Department
4. Continue collaboration with ParkArts for summer concert
5. Continue neighborhood communication through the Bay Village News and use website to publish Minutes of meetings
6. Increase transparency by regular financial reporting
7. Begin use of debit card for pre-approved neighborhood projects
8. Establish policies as voted on by Members

Proposed Next Steps

- Members meeting on last Monday of each month: July through November and report out at BVNA Executive Committee