

## Eight Streets Neighborhood Meeting

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Project Place Common Room (1145 Washington Street)

Guest speaker: Lauren Prescott, Executive Director, [admin@southendhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:admin@southendhistoricalsociety.org)

Executive Director of the South End Historical Society

Presenting the History of Eight Streets and Neighboring Points of Interest

- Eight Streets was formed in 1835 but no houses built until the 1850's
- Alexander Rice lived on Union Park, Republican
- Rice School : Appleton and Dartmouth named after him
- 1880's large Syrian community moved to the South End: Christian immigrants
- Eight Streets is one of the first neighborhood associations
- Shawmut likely the first street built in the Eight Streets

This and much more can be viewed by opening the attached Microsoft Word document. Many great historic pictures were included in this presentation but to optimize delivery of this riveting historic biography of the South End we eliminated the pictures from this document. If you are keen to see the full presentation with pictures please contact Lauren Prescott at the number above. I assure all that view this presentation that you won't be disappointed!

Please do consider being a member of the South End Historical Society!

Membership benefits:

1. Lectures and programs about your neighborhood's history
2. Historic walking tours through the South End
3. Special events and trips to historic, architectural and cultural sites
4. Access to our collections and archives including the library, street survey, deed research and historic artifacts
5. Informative newsletter
6. Invitation to community events, including the South End House Tour

<http://www.southendhistoricalsociety.org/become-a-member/>

The purpose of this organization shall be to engage in historical research; to collect and preserve data and real and personal property that may have value for the future; to encourage historical research and protect and promote interest in historical buildings, monuments and sites, all with particular regard to the South End of Boston, to conduct educational and other events, to create and foster education and public awareness of the South End of Boston's history and architectural significance, and to preserve the architectural integrity of the South End through outreach, advocacy, intervention and special projects.

Guest speaker: Jordan Padnuk, Territory Development Associate of Starry - New wireless internet provider for Boston

High speed internet: Starry Internet: founded three years ago

- Boston based company
- Claims to deliver faster & better internet through the air waves
- Claims to be quick and affordable to install compared to infrastructure-heavy fiber and cable.
- Claims their touchscreen router minimizes troubleshooting and comes with 24/7 Expert Help
- Plan offers alleged 200 Mbps download and upload speeds allowing you to watch your favorite shows and movies in crystal clear HD
- Infrastructure requires an antenna on your roof to capture the signal, antenna weighs 18 pounds and requires a line from the rooftop to the basement
- For more information visit the website [starry.com](http://starry.com) or contact Jordan Padnuk at [jordan@starry.com](mailto:jordan@starry.com)

Guest speaker: Marcus Springer Architects - 1 Ringgold Street Renovation

- Springer Architects, representing the Grossman family of 1 Ringgold Street, Boston, MA 02118 presented plans to extend their property into their rear yard. This meeting followed a series of meetings with individual abutters in April of 2017 and an Abutters Meeting hosted by the Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison Office on May 8, 2017.
- While it was noted that the proposed 2-storey addition would add to the built-up nature of rear yards in Ringgold Street, it was also noted that the extension faces onto a brick wall on Shawmut Avenue and that abutters on Ringgold Street have signed letters of support after a number of concerns, including the removal of a roof deck, were addressed by Springer Architects. 10 letters of support from immediate and neighborhood abutters have been shared with ESNA.
- The other main discussion point concerned the installation of the storm water retention system mandated by the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD). It was noted that other recent installations in the neighborhood have resulted in water damage to the properties of immediate abutters. To allay this concern ESNA adopted a motion of non-opposition contingent on: (i) the architects working with their civil engineers to determine the basement levels of abutting properties, (ii) the retention system being set below those basement levels, (iii) the design and installation of the system being supervised by a civil engineer, (iv) that the overflow lines be connected to the Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) lines, (v) for all this information to be shared with direct abutters in a timely fashion.
- A final issue concerned the choice of deck fencing materials. Given the risk of fire from cooking grilles, the vote of non-opposition was also contingent on the use of non-combustible deck fencing materials.

- The representatives of 1 Ringgold Street assured the meeting attendees that they understood the necessity of these measures, would adopt them, and share appropriately at their coming Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hearing.

Guest speaker: Don Weber and Maureen Foley Introducing the New AC Hotel by Marriott at the Ink Block

- AC has already opened 2 other hotels in Greater Boston
- Positioned as upper tier: rates likely \$200-300 per night
- 6 storeys with approx. 200 hotel rooms
- Underground parking with approx. 60 parking spots
- Fitness center with swimming pool
- Scheduled to open in November/December of 2017

Peters Park Fundraiser sponsored by Old Dover Association

- June 8 from 6 - 8pm
- Thayer Street at 460 Harrison Avenue
- Suggested Donation for Improvements at Peters Park: \$20-\$50
- Hamburgers from b-good
- Beverages from Aquitaine
- Hosted by GTI
- Raffle tickets will be sold for gift certificates to local restaurants and merchants
- RSVP: [www.olddover.org](http://www.olddover.org)

Friends of Watson Park and Ringgold Park on the South End Garden Tour on June 17

Berkeley Gardens Plant Sale weekend of May 13

ESNA Officers re-elected to serve another full term (September 2017-August 2018)

Next Meeting June 13. Scheduled guest speakers: Ed Flynn and new owners of The Wine Riot