

## **ESNA - October 9, 2018 - Meeting Notes**

### **Councillor Ed Flynn**

- Councillor Flynn took a number of questions on: (i) traffic congestion, (ii) repainting of bus lanes on Washington Street, (iii) enforcement of speed limits, (iv) Waltham Street informal valet parking, (v) Long Island shelter, (vi) electric scooters.
- He said he was in favor of a comprehensive transportation planning study to address the congestion issues in the South End on the back of recent new building developments.
- He said he would consider a surcharge on ride-share journeys to help fund the reconstruction of Long Island Bridge.
- He advocated reducing the city-wide speed limit to 20 mph from 25 mph.
- Charlie Levin from Councillor Flynn's Office had asked for 5 minutes on our ESNA agenda for Nurses in favor of Proposition 1. There was some push back on this proposal from various members in the audience.

### **275 Shawmut Avenue**

- Mr. Socrates Abreu, the owner of Chilacates Mexican Street Food, did not show at the meeting although he had accepted the invitation. Michael Almond will follow up with him.

### **Other Neighborhood Updates**

- Peters Park: Ted Pietras (President of FoPP) provided an update on the \$360K improvements. Construction started earlier in the day on the Shawmut Avenue side of the park.
- Watson Park: Ramy Rizkalla presented a petition to have a number of trees removed and trimmed. With an appropriate number of neighborhood signatures the petition will be submitted to Chris Cook, Parks Commissioner. The cost is \$9K and expected to be funded by neighbor donations. Colleen Fitzpatrick (President of FoWP) said that the fence will be repainted by HarborVest a corporate partner of the Community Music Center of Boston on October 10th and 11th.
- Berkeley Community Gardens: John McLachlan said that the garden gates are presently locked due to a number of recent thefts.
- Ringgold Park: Don Weber said that his company, Brownstone Gardens, had recently pruned and cleaned the park. Halloween is planned on October 31st at 5.00 p.m. The trash barrel on the Waltham entrance will likely be removed to help mitigate rat issues.
- Love Your Block: The Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services will host the Annual Fall Clean Up in partnership with Public Works and the Boston Parks Dept. on Saturday,

November 10th. Please keep in mind that this falls on Veterans Day weekend. Please send an email to [faisa.sharif@boston.gov](mailto:faisa.sharif@boston.gov) if you would like to register for the clean up. The annual clean up runs 9am-12pm for South End. Tools can only be picked up by a registered participant and must be returned before the end of the event. All participants must register by 5pm on Wednesday, October 31st, 2018.

- East Berkeley Street: Faisa Sharif said that the parking permits had been removed on the right hand side between Albany and Washington. From 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. there is no parking. From 6.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m there will be 2 hour parking only. Once the pilot has been conducted, recommendations will be made on next steps.
- Rat Sightings: Michael Almond detailed a recent walk-through of the neighborhood with Chris McNally of Inspectional Services and handed out some informational brochures. Everyone was encouraged to call Inspectional Services on 617-635-5300 for any rat sightings, and to put trash out the morning of, not the night before, trash pick up.
- Fall Membership Campaign: Colleen Fitzpatrick said an email campaign to renew membership has just begun.
- Annual Seasonal Eagle Party is planned for December 11.

**Next ESNA meeting is November 13, 2018 at Project Place.**

**Speakers: Inspectional Services, Capital One and Chilacates**