

**Charlestown Neighborhood Council
Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2016**

Charlestown Neighborhood Council Chair, Tom Cunha, called the February meeting to order at 7:15 PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall with 19 meeting members present.

Motion to approve the January Meeting Minutes. **Approved**

Shelly Mogul to replace Marion Dancy on the CNC representing the non profit organization, Friends of the Navy Yard.

Motion to nominate the following meeting members to the Executive Board:

Tom Cunha, Chairman
Peg Bradley, First Vice Chair
Richard McCarthy, 2nd Vice Chair
Bill Galvin, Treasurer
Judy Brennan, Secretary

Approved

With no opposition, those nominated were elected to the CNC Executive Board.

Correspondence:

Some contact from presidential candidates to address the community at the Knights.

Several comments received in opposition to the Casella Waste Management proposal.

Motion to suspend with the regular order of business. **Approved**

Presentation

Atty. James Heffernan, **WAGS** proposal to open a dog grooming business

Former employees of Dirty Harry's

227 Bunker Hill St

Minimal work required to move in

Dog grooming is technically a "forbidden use" so there needs to be granting of a conditional use

Also need temporary approval to bridge the gap between moving and final permitting

Large dog population in Ctown

Owner of building owns the salon on the first floor

Has a petition supporting the new location

Lindsay- dog walking

- Currently at 287 Main St.
- Offers dog walking as well as grooming
- Best of Boston for dog grooming
- Dog walking for the past 3 years
- Currently completing study as a vet-tech

- hours of operation Tues-Friday, Saturday but closed Sunday and Monday
- 42 dogs groomed per week/one dog at a time
- only one day per week are there 2 dogs in the building
- 2-3 dogs walking (49 clients) and 28-39 walks per day
- Overnight monitoring done in the home of the dog
- Limited retail on site
- Gives back to the community especially the Animal Rescue League
- Helping out with Charlestown Youth Soccer sponsorship
- Recently met with Charlestown Dogs.com (new group) cleaning up the community
- Looking forward to becoming an integral part of the community

Process at CNC level:

- Public meeting on 2/15/16
- Committee will report back to the CNC
- CNC is always interested in feedback from the community
- If supported by the community, CNC will write a letter of support
- Would have to address any concerns by abutters
- Interested in how the 2nd floor location will work
- Dog waste is managed with the “Diaper Genie”
- Happy to have a 2nd floor location as an insulation from street traffic
- Grasshoppers is in support of this proposal
- Already has a very loyal client base
- No other tenants in the building

Motion to return to the regular order of business.

Approved

Motion to open the floor.

Approved

Flood plan for Charlestown is available here tonight with Americorp representatives.

Tom McKay--Neighborhood Services

- Moving to the Office of Neighborhood Development to work on the Housing Development
- Will be clearing all issues that he’s currently working on before leaving
- There will be a replacement, hopefully with an overlap

Marion Dancy--Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard

- Sent a letter inviting the City to come to discuss design features of the new Charlestown Bridge
- Friends of the Navy Yard together with MGH are willing to sponsor a community meeting on this issue
- Capuano’s Office believes this project will be delayed for several years.

Motion to close the floor

Approved

Public Safety--Ed Grace reporting:

(Boston Police statistics are available in the Committee reported on the website <http://www.charlestownneighborhoodcouncil.org>)

Next meeting, 2/24/2016, Police Station @6:30 pm

Motion to accept this report as one in progress.

Approved

Basic Services--Bill Galvin reporting:

Casella Waste Management meeting on 1/25/2016 at the Knights of Columbus Hall

8 CNC members present

Representatives from City Council and other elected officials present

200-240 residents present

35 residents spoke against the proposal

Concerns:

- Smell
- Noise
- Traffic on Rutherford Avenue
- Traffic congestion in Sullivan Sq
- Costa fruit and other businesses in that area concern for rodents, trash, odor
- Environmental concerns including air pollution
- No hands were raised in support of the project when a show of hands was called
- Impact of all night operations to Rutherford Ave residents
- Unable to keep the area clean now before expansion--area often littered

Casella adamant not to change its business plan and plans to reach out to neighboring areas

- Significant reduction in recycling with increase in waste management
- 2/3 rds of trash in Boston is commercial trash

Several articles presented claiming Casella is not a good company to do business with

- Questioning whether this company can be trusted

This operation expansion requires a City Council vote for an ordinance change

Only one person currently working there from Charlestown

Casella has never contributed to any Charlestown organization

Motion to accept this report as one in progress.

Approved

Development Committee--Tom Cunha reporting:

E-board meeting with the developers of proposed Bunker Hill Housing Project

Issues raised:

- Parking was a big issue
- Height of buildings along Bunker Hill St. is too tall
- Increased traffic due to increase in population in that area

Time line is slower than expected--currently focusing on the relocation of residents

Buildings will be of wooden construction which will keep the height to a lower level

Changing the construction to something other than wood will increase cost and is prohibitive

Potential to convert some of these units to owner occupied condominiums

Motion to accept this report as one in progress.

Approved

Community Partnership Fund--Peg Bradley reporting:

CNC members asked to sign the Conflict of Interest Policy for the funds distribution process
All CNC members who will be reviewing these proposals must divulge connections
Hold the following dates for Reviewers Meetings: 2/24, 2/25, 3/1
Applications have been sent electronically to all CNC members for consideration
Not all sets of questions have been completed or compiled as yet
Spaulding has not yet told us how they will impact scoring
Department of Public Health will be attending the presentations
Motion to accept this report as one in progress.

Approved

Old Business

Wynn Casino Resort update--Tere Lally reporting:

- Developers have been asked to present renderings of night views to Charlestown but this has not yet been provided
- 24 stories tall--taller than the windmill in that area
- Regular mediation emails have been sent out
- Project appears to be on schedule
- Clean up has come upon an unexpected underground storage tank
- Spot treatment will be done on contaminated areas that are not being removed
- Construction to start in the next 6 months but the Section 61 findings are still pending
- Wynn-Boston agreement will be discussed at the Gaming Commission meeting Thursday which can be viewed via live streaming
- City to decide on the disbursal of funds

Motion to accept this report as one in progress.

Approved

New Business

Motion to send a letter to all elected officials and regulatory agencies stating that the Charlestown Neighborhood Council is strongly opposed to Casella Waste Management proposal to expand operations in any way at their Charlestown address.

Approved

(Recorded as Unanimous)

Motion to oppose extension of BRA authority and jurisdiction.

Approved

(Recorded as Unanimous)

Courageous Sailing Program meeting relative to the planned events for this coming 2016 Season will be held on 2/4/2016.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm

Approved