

APPROVED as edited at meeting 9/27

Union Square Neighborhood Council Meeting
Monday
Sept 13, 7pm
Virtual Meeting

ATTENDEES

Ann Camara
David Scott
Mary Napolitano
Isabella Drago
Michele Hansen
Bill Cavellini
Tori Antonino
Matthias Rudolf
Bill Shelton
Andy Greenspon

Cosmo DiSchino
JT Scott

MINUTES

- 1) Introductions and reading of mission statement
- 2) Public Comment

DS asked for contributions to the newsletter

JT SCOTT

- Capitol Hall (200 McGrath) has meeting coming up with Brickbottom trustees
- CV Columbia project update: Zoning amendment is still in front of land use committee. Cafeteria workers union is expecting a labor agreement.
- City issuing a Request For Proposals for maintenance of the old firehouse hosting Somerville Media Center (SCATV). An outside entity would control it for 20 years in exchange for fixing it up. US2 is the only plausible candidate. They could obtain it and then ask for a change in their requirements to move arts and creative space to firehouse, which would result in net zero new creation of those spaces.

- 3) Review minutes from 8/23 meeting

MR moves to approve the minutes, MH 2nd. Passed unanimously.

- 4) Developer updates and scheduled developer meetings.
 - a. US2

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AG I was in touch with Greg Karczewski about scheduling a meeting
BC US2 Monitoring meeting is middle of October. One big topic is First Source grant going into its second year. Also, noise, and the generator on Allen St. A new complaint line has been established.

b. CV Properties

AG Meeting scheduled Sept 23 about restarting CBA talks.
BC There is an agreement in substance between CV Properties and the 80 Webster St. residents for a 9 story building and an additional setback on the east side. Mechanicals on roof being set back.

c. DLJ

AG Neighborhood meeting coming up, DLJ to modify their master plan
BC They are asking for a whole additional building. A large ask.

d. Capital Hall

AC Public Meeting Oct 6. Capital Hall wants to meet us before the public meeting
BC We should meet with Brickbottom trustees, we should try to be on the same page with them.
AC I will try to contact them

e. Other developments/past neighborhood meetings.

TA 299 Broadway, Old Star Market site. I've been in touch with developers. Talking to them about having a programmed open space. Nature, science. Purchase date is fast approaching. Development will have 3,000 sq ft community space, residential and commercial on ground floor. A house for the 100 Homes program. Community gardens. Pretty good result despite not having an ideal public process.

AC Somernova wants a meeting about redeveloping and adding to their building.
TA I did some work as an independent contractor for them, so do I have a conflict of interest?
BC We should re-read our bylaws to make sure it's okay.

AC Should we try to meet with Elon Sassoon?
MH We should specifically know what we want before we contact him.

5) Recap mayoral forum

AC Translators were 20 minutes late so 2 candidates didn't get to finish.
ID Thanks to everyone on the committee. We had 70 participants live, 120 on Youtube, 70 on Facebook
BC Questions were good, covered a lot of ground.
DS Having a public event like this and leafleting for it is a good way to raise the profile of the organization

6) Committee Updates/Formation:

a. Community Center Committee Formation

MH Will schedule our first meeting next week

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BC City is dragging their feet. Sarah Lewis said she would convene the developers but has not done it. Monitoring committee needs to pressure Greg Karczewski to get started on this. AG DLJ said they were waiting for us. We need to schedule a meeting with the players.

b. Pedestrian Bridge Committee Formation

Discussion about putting this and the community center committees together.

BC Both issues require cooperation from multiple developers for them to happen. City won't pay for it, MBTA won't pay from it, DOT won't pay for it.

c. NEXUS committee meeting

AC Next Friday Van Hardy is having a meeting to divvy up tasks.

7) Non-profit formalization status

Signatures for form have been obtained, David and Andy signed

8) Schedule next USNC meeting

September 27

9) Public Comment

10) Executive session

MH moves to adjourn public meeting and go into executive session to discuss strategy and personnel matters. DS 2nd. Passes unanimously.