

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy
Board/Leadership Council – Public Meeting
Tuesday, May 3, 2011
6:00 – 7:30 pm at 185 Kneeland Street, 1st Floor

Meeting Minutes

Board Members: Georgia Murray, Maggie Hunt, Don DeAmicis, Chris Fincham, Young Park, Bob Gore, Susanne Lavoie, Christine Manfredi, Martin (Woody) Lynn, Ann Thornburg

Greenway Leadership Council: Christian Scorzoni, Dan Nuzzo, Francine Gannon, Donna Freni, Toni Pollak, Jason Aluia, Dave Seeley, Dave Queeley,

RKG Conservancy Staff: Nancy Brennan, Jesse Brackenbury, Linda Jonash, Kate Gilbert

Minutes

Georgia Murray opened by welcoming everyone to the joint public session of the Board and Leadership Council and asked Nancy Brennan to join her in a presentation to thank the outgoing chair of the Leadership Council, Ann Thornburg, for her service. Ann was presented with a photo of the Greenway, a horticultural donation in her name and a Certificate of Recognition from the Mayor.

Nancy Brennan then acknowledged Matt Conti of northendwaterfront.com who would be video-taping the public session.

Governance Report

Georgia called upon Don DeAmicis to present a slate for the nominations of Mike Cantalupa as Interim Chair of the Greenway Leadership Council and concurrent membership on the Board of Directors, and Christine Manfredi as Chair of the Audit Committee. A motion was made to accept the nominations, duly seconded, the slate was approved.

Bob Gore presented a budget update to the Board and GLC, outlining priorities for the operating and revenue plans as well as the long term endowment strategy.

Martin (Woody) Lynn presented on the Conservancy's new Investment Policy and the need for safekeeping of the Conservancy's endowment investment objectives while aligning with spending needs. Also addressed was the need to include a section on controls and procedures regarding investment advisors. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to adopt the Investment Policy Statement. Duly seconded, the investment policy statement was adopted.

Georgia Murray noted that the Board and the GLC are working together on several common areas of interest, one of the most popular being public art. More public art was the leading request from the public in the GLC's November 2010 survey.

Public Art

Kate Gilbert presented to the Board and the GLC the Conservancy's history with public art projects and a brief discussion on moving forward with the public art master plan. Kate introduced independent curator Mary Tinti to talk about the many possibilities for public art on the Greenway. Ms. Tinti's presentation focused on a number of different cities and communities and the wide variety of approaches in public art that are shown around the country.

During the open discussion period artist Nancy Schon contributed her thoughts regarding public art, including the sighting, permitting and installation process which is critical when considering permanent public art pieces. Ms. Schon also noted that public/private partnerships have shown success in financing public art. Establishing a budget early in the process is very important.

She introduced Don Marks of New England Sculpture Service, thanking him for his assistance to local artists. Mr. Marks spoke briefly and recommended a mix of contemporary and traditional art for the Greenway. He observed that the Greenway could be a great educational model.

Food Vending

Jesse Brackenbury presented briefly and answered questions on the food vending program for the 2011 season including the number, types and locations of vendors. Dave Seeley commented that he still believed that food trucks were generally inappropriate for the character and quality of the Greenway and that he thought that they should be replaced as soon as possible with built kiosks in keeping with the contemporary design of the Greenway. This would be at the top of his list for capital improvements, which were solicited at the meeting.

Business Improvement District

Young Park updated Board and GLC members on the progress of the BID.

Nancy Brennan closed the meeting with reminders of the carousel public meeting on May 18 and the Harbor Islands Pavilion opening on June 2.

