

WEST ROXBURY ~ ROSLINDALE BULLETIN

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MARCH 2, 2023



Boston Music Project booth a hit!

Kids had a ball at the Boston Music Project booth at the Children's Winter Festival held on the Boston Common Parade Ground on February 22. Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department presented the annual school vacation week event in partnership with sponsors Highland Street Foundation, L.L. Bean, Dunkin', H.P. Hood, College Hunks Hauling Junk & Moving, and media sponsor The Boston Globe. The free festival offered music, giveaways, winter activities, treats, and crafts with attractions including inflatables such as the All-Star Challenge, Everest Climb 'N' Slide, and Fun House Maze, train rides, a ski lift photo booth, slap shot hockey, snow throw, a LEGO build activity with a Master Model Builder, and more.

PHOTOS: JON SEAMANS

Coalition discusses Crane Ledge strategies

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

More than 80 people attended a virtual meeting of the Crane Ledge Woods Coalition (CLWC) on Wednesday, Feb. 22, to discuss their course of action to not only prevent the development of housing units on the urban woodland but also to achieve full conservation of the entire 22-acre site.

A 270-unit garden-style development proposed there by Lincoln Property Company at 990 American Legion Hwy. received a rare vote of disapproval from the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) on Feb. 3 after several contentious community meetings. But there were conditions in that disapproval that Lincoln could potentially meet for a development to move forward on the land owned by Jubilee Christian Church.

"We are continuing to voice what we the people have said to our officials and to others that we want this land conserved," said Lokita Jackson, a CLWC leader and the co-chair of the Roseberry Ruskindale Road Neighborhood Association (RRRd).

Mimi Turchinetz, a CLWC leader and the president of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA), thanked everyone for their involvement, which has included purchasing lawn signs, nearly 6,000 petition signatures, and letters to city officials stressing their position.

"As everybody sees, we are extremely collaborative," she said, noting that broad-based support from more than 50 groups led to the BPDA's disapproval.

One factor that made this situation unique, according to Frank O'Brien from the Allandale Coalition, was that although the developer issued a Draft Project Impact Report (DPIR) in May 2022, the city did not review it when mayoral administrations changed.

"The timing was such basically that the city did not issue its comments on the draft," he explained. Consequently, Lincoln reissued the DPIR as a Final Project Impact Report (FPIR) in December 2022.

"We think this project is so problematic, given all the site issues, that even a second submission is going to be very hard pressed to gain approval," O'Brien continued. They include concerns about blasting, topography, the clear cutting of the urban tree canopy, stormwater runoff, and traffic.

Kenya Beaman, the BPDA commu-



Groups receiving grants sit with city officials for a photograph during the celebration, with Mayor Wu far right. Chief of Housing Shiela Dillon is in the center in a black jacket.

PHOTO BY RICHARD HEATH

\$67 million for housing in 8 neighborhoods

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu came to the steps of Blessed Sacrament Church in Jamaica Plain on Feb. 16 to make what seemed to many in the gathering of over 60 an unprecedented announcement – \$67 million for 800 units of housing from Allston to Mattapan.

Over 20 percent of the funding – \$22 million – went towards three Jamaica Plain proposals, all within a 15-minute walk from the church steps.

One of those grants was \$6.250 million for the adaptive reuse of Blessed Sacrament, with 55 units of mixed-income housing and performance space

to be built by Penrose Development and the Hyde Square Task Force. Readers may recognize Penrose as the developer of the LGBTQ-friendly Barton Rogers School redevelopment, known as the Pryde, in Hyde Park.

Looking over her shoulder at the church Mayor Wu said, "This is exactly what we want to see in our city.

"We've been waiting. This building has been sitting empty for years," she said. "I'm so thrilled to see the partnership of the Hyde Square Task Force and Penrose to create 55 mixed-income units. This meets the needs of our city. It's the foundation of everything else; jobs, school, healthcare.

"These [projects] are rental and

homeownership, public and private partnerships, public and private land using American rescue plan money and linkage money," she said.

"We're making use of these recovery dollars for housing but those dollars will run out in just few years," Wu said. "We need to find sustainable funding for housing, like the transfer fee. Every time you see me talk about housing, you will hear me say 'transfer fee.'"

Pending in the legislature, the home rule petition is a 2 percent surcharge on housing costing \$2 million or more. The proceeds of this are expected to go towards affordable housing.

Housing Funds
Continued on page 10

Crane Ledge
Continued on page 2

Crane Ledge *continued from page 1*

nity engagement manager for the area, asked if there have been continuing efforts to reach out to the church. Turchinetz said there have been “numerous conversations” between church leaders and elected officials, including Mayor Michelle Wu.

“The coalition has respectfully and courteously invited them to all meetings,” added Jackson, “but they have not taken up that option as of yet.”

Tracey Henderson-Sandefur, a Roslindale resident and member of the project’s Impact Advisory Group (IAG), asked how the mayor’s proposed restructuring of the BPDA will affect movement on the project.

Beatman said there is “reorganizing going on” and discussions about reforming the development review process known as Article 80, but she did not have further details.

Turchinetz added that “the ball is in their court” regarding the developer’s stance. John Noone, the executive vice president for the northeast region of Lincoln Property Company, at the January IAG meeting threatened to sue the City of Boston if the project was not approved.

Martyn Roetter said he was “very disturbed” about the indefinite timeline. He described a similar situation in his Back Bay neighborhood where a developer sat on land for 12 years before going forward with a development plan.

Jim Kirker, the former HPNA president, asked if anyone has spoken to Wu or other officials “to put forth the threat of eminent domain.”

O’Brien responded that eminent domain is a possibility in the city’s “menu of options.”

“But I think the coalition’s position is that we really want a willing seller,” he added. “We really respect the church.”

“We asked [Lincoln] at the IAG meeting what their price was to go away,” noted CLWC leader James Michel. “And they said, ‘We’re not going away.’”

“In this instance, the benefits aren’t anywhere close to what the harms are,” he added, calling the project “a gentrifying heat island.”

“It’s not even about the beauty of this place,” Kirker said. “It’s about habitat, about nature’s way of keeping going.”

Barbara Gibbs, a RRRD member, said her children played there decades before when the area was known as Sally’s Rock.

Kirker noted that Wu had told him during a mayoral debate that she intended to keep Crane Ledge as an Urban Wild, as the other candidates had pledged. He asked that the group “gently remind her” of that statement.

“I’ve never seen so few politicians represent – or fail to represent,” added Lisa Beatman, a CLWC leader and cochair of the Mount Hope Canterbury Neighborhood Association (MHC.) Only Tricia Kalayjian from City Councilor At-Large Michael Flaherty’s office attended this meeting on their behalf.

Members discussed ramping up their public outreach campaign by holding standouts and information tables at community events as well as a potential media event at City Hall Plaza. They also agreed to write letters thanking officials but stressing that they are unwavering in their resolve.

“We will continue until we can get this land saved and we can enjoy it for generations to come,” Jackson said.

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375 Cummins submission proposes less parking

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) held a virtual meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21, regarding a Small Project Change [SPC] for the 375 Cummins Hwy. project in Roxlindale.

The Proponent will be constructing a new residential building measuring 49,840 square feet and consisting of 49 rental units. The SPC proposes to reduce the off-street parking from 61 spaces to 44.

The meeting was hosted by BPDA Project Manager Tyler Ross, John Pulgini, the Attorney representing the project, and Architect Rick Schmidt. Pulgini opened the meeting by explaining the project's history. The proposal for 375 Cummins Highway went through an Article 80 Small Project Review process and was approved by the BPDA Board in Nov. 2020. During that time, the proposal was approved for 49 residential units and up to 61 off-street parking spaces. In Jan. 2021, a Boston Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) Decision stated that the 375 Cummins Hwy. project would contain 49 residential units and up to 61 off-street parking spaces by use of



The site at 375 Cummins in East Roxlindale.

COURTESY PHOTO

a semi-automated car stacking system.

Pulgini explained that about eight months ago, the project changed owners.

"Unfortunately, when we looked at the plans, the parking system [the semi-automated car stacking system] that the previous owner had proposed is no longer available," explained Pulgini. "Based upon that, we met with the BPDA and talked with them about reducing parking and other solutions."

The BPDA and project managers stated that there are no alternatives that can provide that much parking without the loss of greenspace.

Pulgini told community members that the project team is looking at ways to increase car-access options for residents.

"In addition to parking, we will have spaces allocated for a company similar to ZipCar called Getaround. They work in residential buildings. They provide cars that take you to doctor's appointments, shopping places, or if you want to get away for a weekend," Pulgini explained.

Getaround is an online car sharing service that connects drivers who need to reserve

375 Cummins
Continued on page 8

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Letters to the Editor

WHY BIKE LANES AND ROAD DIET FOR CENTRE STREET?

To the Editor:

In 2019, the West Roxbury Community overwhelmingly rejected the Road Diet Plan proposed by Boston Transportation Department(BTD). The Community rejected BTD's proposal at Holy Name Parish Hall. It rejected it by emails, phone calls and letters to the City through-

out 2019. In November 2019, over 400 members of our Community came out to vehemently oppose bike lanes at the Irish Social Club meeting called by the West Roxbury Safety Association (WRSA). Maybe...maybe 10 people favored the Road Diet. The vast majority supported the WRSA plan. (By the way, then-Councilor Wu did not attend.)

The WRSA did a thorough audit of all intersections from the

Holy Name Rotary to Spring Street. The WRSA developed a robust safety plan with modifications throughout the business district. This plan was met with great enthusiasm from BTD and the Road Diet was abandoned while the WRSA modifications began.

Then Covid hit. West Roxbury was ignored but BTD decided to install completely unutilized Road Diets/Bike lanes

on American Legion Highway and Cummins Highway in Mattapan/Roslindale.

In February 2022, WRSA submitted four Freedom of Information requests to the City about these two installations. The requests were for installation costs, accident statistics (before and after installation) and bicycle usage. Another request was for the cost to the taxpayers of the Blue Bike rental system and its level of usage. All of this requested information should be immediately at hand. No City department would be making decisions that cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars without adequate data. Would they?

The City, by State statute, had 10 days to respond. It's been over a year with no response. What is the City Hall hiding? Why are City Departments making expensive decisions with no data and no transparency? Mayor Wu promised us a new era of transparency. When is she planning to institute this new era? After she foists bike lanes on us? Her current West Roxbury liaison promised that no bike lanes would be installed without a Community process. We'll see.

It has come to the attention of WRSA that BTD has been holding several meetings, possibly in violation of Open Meeting Laws, during which they acknowledged that "the Community is opposed to bike lanes but the Bicycle Union is better organized so we're just going to do it". To repeat: the Community is opposed but downtown is just going to do it. Huh? Where is Councilor Kendra Lara? Isn't she our "representative"?

The Community asked for "on demand" pedestrian lights particularly at Hastings Street. Instead, City Hall wants to shove bike lanes down our throats. We ask for better street lighting. Instead, City Hall wants to shove bike lanes down our throats. We ask for better crosswalk signage along our dynamic street. Instead, Downtown wants to shove bike lanes down our throats.

The list of proposed WRSA safety modifications goes on but Downtown has decided that it knows what is better for us. Worst of all, Downtown wants to do all this shoving without ever producing one bit of data that shows that Bike Lanes increase safety. In fact, it is true that the opposite occurs when bike lanes are installed. Auto/auto accidents increase. Auto/pedestrian accidents increase. Auto/bicycle accidents increase.

Let's stop City Hall's pretense that Bike Lanes are about safety. In 2019, BTD's representative, Charlotte Fleetwood, reluctantly admitted that the primary reason for the Centre Street Road Diet is to fight climate change. While this is a fantastic goal, it should not ignore that bike lanes decrease safety on Centre Street, increase "cut throughs" and speeding on side streets, reduce parking, reduce truck deliveries to businesses, reduced customers to businesses and higher response times for emergency vehicles. This is a partial list! For more information please see the Community's FB page, "West Roxbury Safety Association" or email 02132safety@gmail.com

Stephen Morris, WRSA

The box was only half full!!!

It started out rather innocuously in early February. I purchased a box of chocolates to give to a priest friend of mine recuperating in Marion Manor in South Boston, but since the local drugstore had a "buy one, get a second for half price" I succumbed to temptation to buy two and would feast on the second one myself.

Now I'm used to students over many decades doubting the integrity of potato chip manufacturers: they question why they use opaque bags instead of transparent ones and why the bags are not filled to the top. In answer to the second question, I was told once that air is allowed into the packaging not merely to inflate the bag but to cushion the chips in transit. OK, I guess.

But the rectangularly shaped box of chocolates I purchased, though adhering to the correct weight standards, was much bigger than needed for the number



My Kind of Town/
Joe Galeota

of chocolates contained therein. It was downright trickery to see the hard, plastic inserts for "housing" the individual chocolates much and unnecessarily bigger than need be: double the amount of chocolates could have been inserted into the box if regular (and honest) packaging was ad-

hered to. The miniature cupcake holders made out of paper, used for decades to isolate each chocolate, had given way to hard-to-recycle very spacious plastic ones.

And just for the record, this was a brand name of chocolates.

There is inflation—elevating the prices. There is shrinkflation by reducing the amount contained therein; for instance, the orange juice containers, though filled up to the top, are not the size they were in the past in order not to elevate the prices. And then there is outright deceit as practiced by confectioners. Fortunately, one of the local television stations became aware of the trickery with this year's chocolates and did a brief expo of it—the rectangular boxes and the heart-shaped ones but it was too late for me; and thousands of others: we had already fallen as victims.

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—V.C.

Novena to St. Clare

Ask St. Clare for three favors, 1 business, 2 impossible. Say nine Hail Marys for nine days, with lighted candle. Pray whether you believe or not. Publish on the ninth day. Powerful novena. Say "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, glorified, now and forever, throughout the whole world. Amen." Your request will be granted, no matter how impossible it may seem.

—V.C.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail!)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you.

—V.C.

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IAG mixed over 75 Tremont

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) met with residents for an Impact Advisory Group (IAG) meeting on the proposed 70-condo project at 75 Tremont St. in Brighton.

Development attorney Joseph Hanley said they were looking to increase Brighton's homeownership rate which, at 25 percent, is behind Allston's neighborhood at 12 percent.

"Brighton has a severe lack of homeownership, over three-quarters of the housing stock in the neighborhood is rental," he said. "We need a mix of homeownership, and obviously we agreed to do that."

The new building will feature 74 parking spaces, a Bluebike Station, new landscaping, an upgraded and enlarged sidewalk, a \$15,000 bus shelter at the 57 bus stop, a new \$45,000 crosswalk, \$10,000 for the Allston-Brighton Mobility Plan, and a \$10,000 contribution to the Boston Parks Department.

Hanley was asked about the ranges of affordability for the IDP units, and said they're between 80-to-100 percent area media income.

"We're also committed to work through the city's process for first-time homebuyers as well," he said.



While many residents were supportive of the project, the issues of tree loss and parking were a sticking point for some.

COURTESY PHOTO

Allston Civic Association President Tony D'Isidoro and Brighton Allston Improvement Association President Anabelle Gomes said they were in favor of the project, but D'Isidoro asked if Hanley believed the financing was there to keep the project a homeownership project, as several others in the neighborhood have recently switched over from condo to rental.

"For this developer they are local, very understanding as to Oak Square and Brighton and also very comfortable with the scale of this development and the ability to execute on it," he said.

Gomes said she felt the project had come a long way and she was happy to see the

inclusion of a Bluebike Station.

Many other residents were in favor of the project, noting its high utilization of greenspace and environmentally-friendly technology, like solar panels and solar-heated water.

Resident Meghan Thrasher said she felt the site's geography would impact the number of trees that needed to be removed. She and several members of the neighborhood have vocally opposed the loss of trees on the site, since it is currently only occupied by trees.

Hanley pointed out however that they will be replacing trees of a six-inch caliper (six inches

75 Tremont

Continued on page 10

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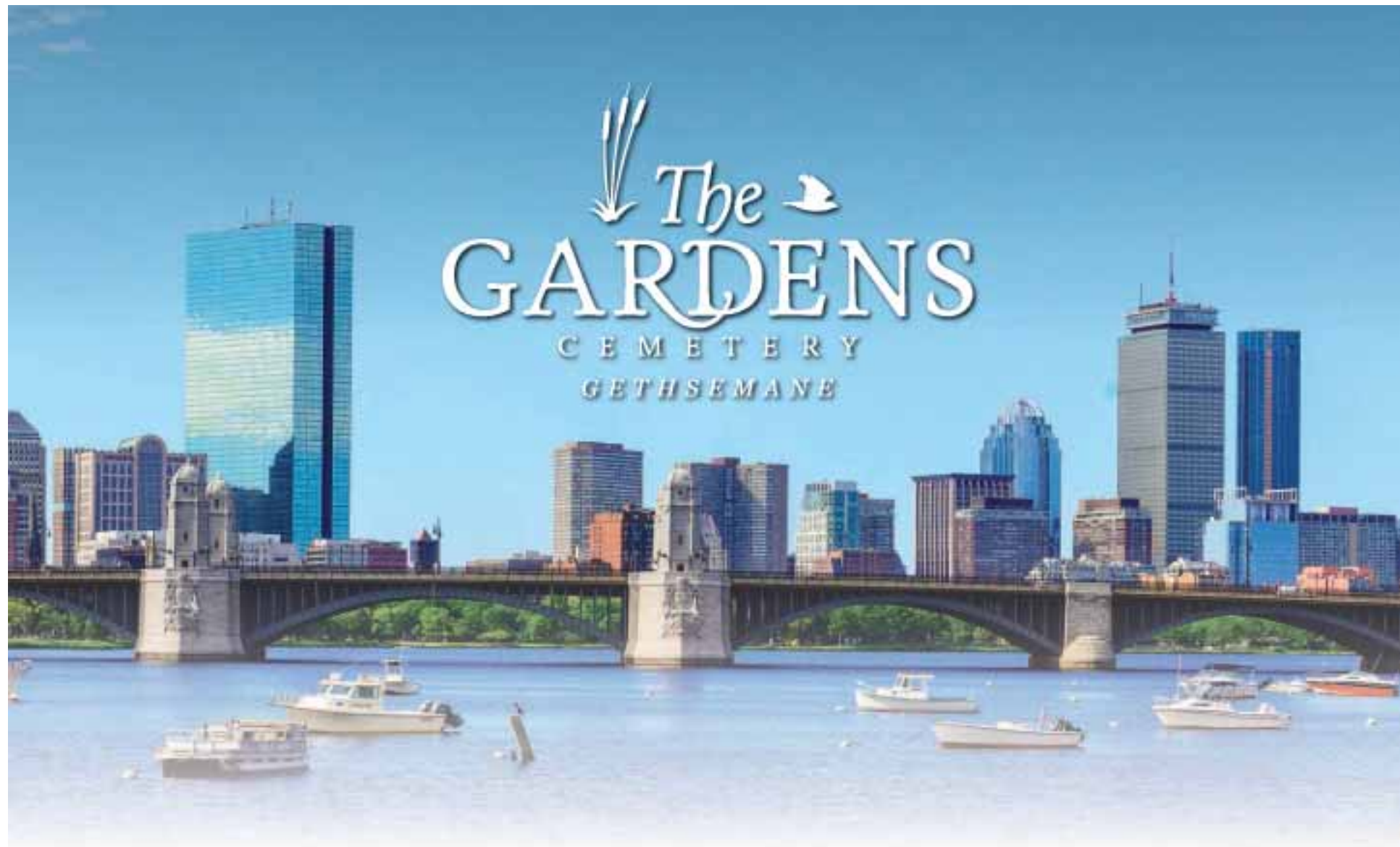
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WRBPA welcomes new city liaison for West Roxbury

Susan Kryczka
Staff Reporter

The West Roxbury Business and Professional Association (WRBPA) met on Tuesday, Feb. 14, at The Corrib Pub with various members reporting on activities and future plans.

Jim Hennigan, WRBPA president, introduced Dan Hudson, the city's appointed liaison for West Roxbury.

"Dan is brand new to being the liaison to the mayor's office," said Hennigan, noting that Hudson replaces Jacob Lacey, the previous West Roxbury representative.

"I started out as legislative aid for the judiciary committee," said Hudson. "I'm from Stoneham, just north of the city. Constituent services is my jam."

When asked how he came to the job, Hudson said his name had been passed around by a number of people as a replacement for Lacey. Noting that he just got a city email address a day ago, he expects to be attending all future meetings and getting to know as many people as possible.

Hennigan provided a report on the 2022 holiday success of Mary Mulvey

Jacobson's Families in Need Program.

"It was incredible. We raised \$20,000 for families in need." Noting that they brought in \$2,000 more than they spent, he said more money always needs to be raised. Upcoming events include State Sen. Mike Rush's St. Patrick's Day breakfast on March 12 at The Corrib.

"We'll have a few meetings outside with beer, wine, and soda," Hennigan said referring to future WRBPA meetings.

Joe Donnelly of Vogt Realty Group reflected on the current real estate market. "People are heading into a tough market, it's up and down but it will come back.

Tania Acevedo, Parkway Community YMCA Youth and Family program director spoke about activities offered at the Y.

"We have a "Healthy Kids Day concentrating around healthy habits. We have a hockey tournament coming up, as well. We're hoping to run pickle ball tournaments. We have a lot of sports programming." Acevedo wants to create an adaptive program and the Y seeks staff who can work with special needs chil-

dren. Also mentioned was \$1,000,000 in aid given to families.

Paul Sullivan, chief of staff to Councilor Michael Flaherty, reported on efforts to support a senior center in West Roxbury.

"Councilors Flaherty and Lara jointly sponsored a stand-alone Senior Center meeting with more than 200 people in attendance." He also said that as chairperson of the Community Preservation Committee, Flaherty has just passed a number of new project initiatives.

Ethos is offering senior prom in May 25 for 500 hundred seniors at the Irish Social Club, said Ann Glora. Serving senior citizens in the area is a priority.

"Twenty-seven percent of West Roxbury residents are over 65, the highest in the city," she said. Both Rush and Rep. Ed Coppinger help raise money for senior programming. Acevedo asked to possibly partner with Ethos to offer seniors who are raising their grandchildren laptop support. Boston Senior Home Care is the appropriate group for that initiative. "I will re-

WRBPA

Continued on page 13



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Jim Kirker, right, explains how rewilding can help improve the local ecology, and warned participants that the prospect in their own yard could lead to misunderstandings with neighbors.

PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN GAMBON

HP lecture cultivates interest in habitat preservation

Mary Ellen Gambon
Staff Reporter

A well-manicured lawn, once thought of as a sign of affluence, could lead to the destruction of the area's natural habitat, explained Hyde Park community activist Jim Kirker on Saturday, Feb. 25, at a discussion at the Hyde Park Branch of the Boston Public Library.

The 90-minute event, hosted by local neighborhood beautification group

Keep Hyde Park Beautiful (KHPB), drew 20 participants interested in the concept of rewilding their lawns and gardens to help reintroduce plant and insect species that are in danger.

Kirker said his interest in gardening began to blossom when he was a 13-year-old. To him, it is not only a hobby but also a matter of conscience.

"Having a garden was always something that was important to me," he said, not-

ing he has maintained his garden for 17 years. "I started off with two four-by-four-foot areas in what is known as square foot gardening. I also started noticing some really cool insects, particularly bumble bees. As I learned about how they nest, I started converting more and more of my garden to wildflowers."

About seven years ago, Kirker discovered beekeep-

Habitat Preservation
Continued on page 13

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75 Tremont *continued from page 5*

wide at chest height) with native trees elsewhere on the site. Hanley added that he felt this would be an improvement to at least part of the local ecology.

“We’re not saying that we’re saving all the trees, we’re saying that a vast amount of them are invasive and that the ones that we are taking out are the minimal necessary, especially if we can focus on curing the invasive nature, and then we can reforest it in a way that is more contributing to the environment and more beneficial to the surrounding views so that there’s an evergreen buffer, a mix and future sustainability for the site,” he said. “But there are trees that will have to come out.”

Hanley said 150 new trees would be planted. Thrasher said she was concerned that the topography and geography of the site would contribute to more loss of trees, since to get at the build area, construction vehicles would have to remove trees to get where they need to go, as well as cut into the hill changing the topography. Both she and IAG member Harvey Lee said they were concerned with tree loss because of the negative outcomes of urban areas under the urban heat sink effect.

Hanley said they would keep to their plans to remove trees only where necessary and that most of the construction vehicles would be on the road side of the site and not impact the trees out of the construction zone.

Resident Mila Mendoza said the traffic generated by the site would be too much for the neighborhood, since Tremont is a cut through for traffic heading into the city. She said the traffic study showed a positive result for the development because it was done during the summer when Allston and Brighton are not inundated with students. She has requested a new traffic study to be done as well, since the last one was completed in 2018.

“Bringing 70-plus cars to this area is a lot of traffic and this is in addition to all the development in Brighton; we have over 3,000 units in the pipeline,” she said. “The transportation study is not updated and is not a true reflection. There’s a lot of congestion and traffic, it is the wrong density for the area. A smaller scale project would be a better fit, as it is a single-family zone. The next door neighbor at 99 Tremont is a multi-family zone and it’s a smaller building with 62 units.”

Mendoza said parking is a real issue at the moment and it’s impossible to find parking most of the time. Many members of the IAG said they were in support of the project and felt that the lack of parking was not an issue.

Housing Funds *continued from page 7*

Wu said that Boston has been successful with the funds it has had on hand. “Thirteen-hundred units of income-restricted housing were built in 2022,” Wu said, “the most in a generation.”

District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok, District 6 City Councilor Kendra Lara, and the new state representative from the new Suffolk 17 district, Samantha Montano, each made remarks followed by chief of housing Sheila Dillon.

“The mayor is right,” Dillon said, “we had an incredibly successful year. Thirteen-hundred units of income restricted housing.”

And she listed how that was accomplished.

“We used city operating dollars; \$32.5 million of recovery act funds, \$16.9 million in linkage funds and Community Preservation Act funding of \$20.4 million.

“The BHA provided Section 8 vouchers and the BPDA guided them through the Article 80 process,” Dillon said.

BPDA director Arthur Jameson stood behind the mayor but didn’t speak.

Jessica Boatright, deputy director of the Neighborhood Housing Division, came to the podium to say “this is the best part of my job, handing out awards.”

Wu was eager to talk about the transfer fee and said, “If it had passed last year we would’ve had \$21 million for housing,” but reporters pressed her instead on the recent city council vote for an elected school committee.

Wu bounced that question (“I haven’t read the exact language”) but she vetoed the measure the next day.

It was a double-header for Lena New Boston/2Life Community as it appeared later that day at the virtual BPDA board meeting for approval of its six-building, 265-unit, multi-income, multi-generational campus at the west end of the former Boston State Hospital grounds.

Liseth Heyer of 2Life made the presentation with Ian Kelly of MassDesign architects.

“Funding was announced this morning,” Heyer said.

The vote was unanimous and seemed enthusiastic.

“This is awesome,” said board member Ted Landsmark.

“I proudly call for a vote,” said BPDA board chair Priscilla Rojas. “It’s projects like this that make it all worthwhile... Intergenerational housing. Creating space for all ages. It makes it a better place for my neighbors in Mattapan. And that’s saying something.”

Heyer told the BPDA that there had been three public meetings on the Lena New Boston/2Life campus plan on Oct. 24, Oct. 26 and Feb. 2.

Actually there were seven, including two Boston Civic Design Commission meetings and an earlier Dec. 15 BPDA vote approving the Smart Growth zoning district for the project.

Seven public meetings in four months may have been what Mayor Wu had in mind when she spoke to the New England Council the next day Feb. 17.

“I’ve asked BPDA chief Arthur Jameson to make changes in policy soon,” she said, adding that in October she issued an executive order to “speed things up.” Among those changes are revising the IAG process, a “predictable number of meetings” and reducing the process “from a year to five or six months.”

Projects included in the funding round are:

Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation (ABCDC): \$1.5 million for Brian Honan apartments, Renovation of 50 income-restricted housing in nine buildings built by the CDC in 2002 at 33 Everett St. The funding will also extend the 30-year income restriction in perpetuity.

Chinatown. Asian CDC, \$11.8 million for 66 income-restricted rental housing units plus a 17,000-square-foot library on a city-owned parcel on Hudson Street.

Dorchester, Uphams Corner, Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation: \$3.9 million. Renovation of the former Dorchester Savings Bank building into 48 mixed-income housing, 20 percent of which for artist live-work apartments.

DMV Consulting, \$5 million for five, city-owned lots along Blue Hill Avenue to build 30, income-restricted rental and homeownership units. Daniela Villon Maga, principle of DMV, is scheduled at the Boston Zoning Board of Appeals on Feb. 28 for 1019 and 1044 Blue Hill Ave., two buildings totaling 22 units.

Jamaica Plain. In addition to Penrose/HSTF at Blessed Sacrament: JP Neighborhood Development Corporation: \$5.2 million for a new six-story building of 63 units mixed income units, 23 of which will be public housing replacement units. This will replace 265-267 Centre St.

Urban Edge: \$4 million for a new, six-story, 60-unit building with mixed-income units and income-restricted units including 23 public housing replacement units, replacing 964-966 Parker St.

JPNDC and Urban Edge, together with The Community Builders (TCB), are part of Centre Street Partners in rebuilding part of Mildred Hailey Apartments. Demolition for the first phase for the two, six-story, mixed-income buildings is underway by TCB with razing the Anna Mae Cole Center near Heath Street.

Mattapan. 2Life Communities, \$6 million for Brooke House at Olmsted Village, a 1250-unit mixed-income senior supportive housing with child care and health centers. The first building in the final phase of the build out of the former Boston State Hospital grounds.

Mission Hill. \$6 million for Roxbury Tenants at Harvard. 775 Huntington Ave. A new, 10-story, mixed-use, mixed-income building with 81 income-restricted units, 57 of which are rental.

Roxbury. Madison Park CDC and Urban league of Eastern Mass, \$12.5 million. Demolition of existing building at 84-88 Warren Street. New, 45-unit, mixed income rental and homeownership with new Urban League office. Combined with Trinity Financial and Madison Park CDC. 2085 Washington St. next to Tropical Foods. Third phase parcel 10 development. With 96 income restricted housing. 64 rental.

Nuestra Comunidad, \$1.9 million. Copeland Corner 12-unit mixed income building.

South Boston, South Boston BDC, \$3.145 million. McDevitt Hall, 207 E Street, Former St Augustine parish convent converted to McDevitt 36 unit income restricted senior housing.

After the celebratory group photograph, Mayor Wu took questions from the press and television reporters who quickly gathered around her.

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Ask The Doctor

Junior Damato began servicing vehicles in 1969. He owns an 8-bay center in Middleboro, MA. Junior is an ASE-certified Master Technician, ASE-certified L-1 and ASE-certified Natural Gas.

Jeep Grand Cherokee Summit Reserve 4xE

It’s all about SUV ‘S and or electric vehicles lately. Here we have a plug in Jeep Grand Cherokee Summit Reserve 4xE. It is finished in bright white, with black top. It is powered by a 4 cylinder turbo/PHEV engine via a real 8 speed automatic. To me, the 2 row seat Grand Cherokee is a good fit for a small family. The 2 liter turbo combined with electric power provides ample power. The Summit reserve has a lot of equipment and of course, there are always options. Some of the options are wheels, rims, 19 speaker audio with 950 watts of power, leather throughout, heads up display, night vision, front passenger interactive display screen, even heated and ventilated rear out board seats. Adjustable air suspension has a low entry setting that is very useful. The ride is very smooth. No more getting thrown around over broken pavement. Base price starts at \$72,595 destination has increased on all vehicles \$1,795. Add in the options and MSRP is \$81,380 all in.

Junior Damato, the “Auto Doctor,” has agreed to field auto repair questions from Bulletin and Record readers. Please send your questions to news@bulletinnewspapers.com and we will do our best to get them answered.

361 Belgrade reduces size of project

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

Approximately 35 community members attended the 361-371 Belgrade Ave. Impact Advisory Group (IAG) meeting on Feb. 28 via Zoom. The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) hosted the public meeting for the proposed multifamily rental housing unit. This proposal has been met with little to no opposition from the community.

The site, located between the West Roxbury Parkway, Belgrade Ave. and Anawan Ave. (between the borders of West Roxbury and Roslindale) is cur-

rently occupied by the non-active Clay Auto Center. Jake Upton, a Partner at Upton Partners, LLC, opened the meeting by discussing the history of the project. Over the past eight years, there have been over 45 meetings regarding proposals for the site. Original plans to build Roxbury Prep High School at 361-371 Belgrade Ave. were scrapped after years of intense neighborhood opposition.

This meeting was held because of a supplemental filing that basically shrunk the project ever so slightly. Instead of 124 units proposed, there are 123. The floor area ratio has been reduced from 2.8 to 2.7, and the unit mix has

been changed from 25 studio units, 65 one-bedroom and 34 two-bedroom to 20, 61 and 42 respectively. The overall square footage of the project has also been decreased by 4,500 square feet. The Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) units for affordable housing have been increased from 14 percent to 17 percent - approximately 21 units. The project will include a planted edge among most of the property boundary on Belgrade Ave. The sidewalk is also being expanded to include landscaping.

In August 2022, Upton Belgrade Investment Partners, LLC (the Proponent) filed a let-

ter of intent with the BPDA to propose a “residential redevelopment” of the site. The proposal includes expanded sidewalk connections, improved pedestrian/vehicle access, and site upgrades.

“We [the project team] have spent a lot of time trying to thoughtfully approach and find solutions. We are incorporating some of the feedback that we’ve received into our plan,” Upton explained.

Ben Thomas of the design team discussed updates since the last public meeting in September 2022. Thomas explained that the proposed project will have a “deed-restricted” zone at the

Western end of the site (by the West Roxbury Parkway). The zone, which is currently a parking lot, will be reserved for greenspace.

“Through our conversations with the public, we have been able to identify three consistent points of feedback,” he said. “One is the position of the courtyard as it relates to the street. We also wanted to understand better how the project connects to the street, using the sloping grade as a design tool. We wanted to review how to increase activation along the

Belgrade

Continued on page 12

Legals

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
DOCKET No. SU23P0387EA

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300

Also known as: John Rock
Estate of: **John M. Rock** Date of Death: **05/11/2020**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will** with **Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Karen V. Wright of West Roxbury, MA** requesting that the **Court** enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Karen V. Wright of West Roxbury, MA** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m.** on the return day of **04/05/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 22, 2023
Felix Arroyo, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/02/23

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
DOCKET No. SU23P0422EA

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300

Estate of: Shirley Blotcher
Date of Death: **07/04/2019**

To all interested persons:
A **Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Daniel A. Blotcher of Hayden, CO** requesting that the **Court** enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Daniel A. Blotcher of Hayden, CO** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m.** on the return day of **04/07/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 24, 2023
Felix Arroyo, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/02/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
DOCKET No. SU23P0354EA

Estate of: **William Bleakney**
Date of Death: **12/26/2022**

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300

To all interested persons:
A **Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Jennifer Stoddard as Administrator of CareOne at Randolph** requesting that the **Court** enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Jonathan J. Davey, Esq. of Quincy, MA** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Unknown** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the **Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court**. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m.** on the return day of **03/29/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 15, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/02/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
DOCKET No. SU23P0390EA

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
(617)788-8300
Boston, MA 02114

Estate of: Richard L. Corey
Date of Death: **10/19/2022**

To all interested persons:
A **Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Tanya R. Mitchell of Boston, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The **Petitioner** requests that: **Tanya R. Mitchell of Boston, MA** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m.** on the return day of **04/05/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 22, 2023
Felix Arroyo, Register of Probate

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/02/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department

Docket No. SU23P0397GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of: Cornelius Reed RESPONDENT
Of: West Roxbury MA Alleged Incapacitated Person

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Mental Health of Westborough, MA

In the above captioned matter alleging that **Cornelius Reed** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as **Guardian** to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before **10:00 A.M.** on the return date of **04/13/2023**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court
February 22, 2023

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate,

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/02/2023

DEATHS



John J. Jr., who served 39 years as town manager of Norwood and was a former commissioner for the state Department of Public Works during the Blizzard of 1978, died Feb. 25, 2023, at the age of 95. John was noted for his work ethic – he retired from Norwood at the age of 89. He was also known his gift of storytelling: On annual six-

hour trips to Maine, the first thing he would say was, “Turn off the radio.” And then he would delight his truly captive audience with stories of his 18 children or his work exploits. Besides his longtime career in Norwood and his work for the state, where he served under former Gov. Michael Dukakis, John was a longtime member of the Massachusetts Municipal Association; and an original board member to the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority, where he was vice chair. He was also a former elder at Park Street Church, the former head of the Massachusetts chapter of Multiple Sclerosis, a former member of the board for YoungLife, and a former member of the Dedham School Committee. He had the distinction of having two buildings

named after him – an MWRA water treatment plant in Marlborough and the Norwood DPW administration building. Born in Hyde Park, he lived for decades in Dedham and Milton. He also served in the US Army during the Korean War, graduated from Northeastern University with a degree in civil engineering, was a former editor and writer for New England Construction magazine, and ran the Department of Public Works in Lexington. Up until a few years ago, he was a fixture on Sundays in the Park Street Church upper balcony and also outside after services handing out sandwiches to the unhoused. His life revolved around God and his faith, his family, Norwood, and either the Red Sox or the Patriots, depending on the season. He is survived by his second wife, Penelope (Martin) Carroll. John was predeceased by his first wife, Marilyn (McGrann) Carroll, who died of cancer, and his parents, John J. Carroll Sr. and Elizabeth (Kelly) Carroll, and his sister, Sister Elizabeth M. Carroll, CSJ. John is survived by his children: Matt Carroll (Elaine), Denise Martin Hines (Michael), Judith Carroll Mason (Joseph), Michelle Martin, Cathleen Carroll Sinnott (John), Kevin Martin (Rose, deceased), Keith Martin (Deana), Peter Carroll, B. Brian Martin (Rosanna), Chris Carroll (Janine), Darren Martin, Ted Carroll (Kate), Chris Martin (Joanie), Shannon Martin Jordan (Derek), Ivan Carroll, Shawn Carroll, Charlotte Vilches and Angela Najera. He is also survived by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Visiting hours were held at Norwood Town Hall, Memorial Hall, 566 Washington St., Norwood, on Wednesday, March 1, 4-8 p.m.

A funeral service will be held at Trinity Community Church, 234 Walpole St., Norwood on Thursday, March 2, at 11 a.m. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Interment will be in Norwood Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 465 Waverley Oaks Rd., Ste 202, Waltham, MA 02452. Arrangements by George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, Dedham.

LAHAM

Marie (Deban) “Joan” of Roslindale, formerly of Brighton, February 20, 2023. Dear and devoted wife of the late Richard Laham. Loving mother of Richard F. Laham and his wife, Dr. Lorraine of Walpole, Donna Laham and her husband, Mitchell Blocker of CO, Bruce Laham and his wife, Christina of Stow and Mark Laham of Falmouth. Cherished grandmother of Eliana, Ava and Ian. Dear sister of Priscilla A. Deban of West Roxbury, Gerald E. Laham of Hyde Park, Anthony F. Deban of West Roxbury and the late Fares G. Deban. Also survived by several loving nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral from the Kfoury Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Joan’s memory may be made to the St. George 21st Century Endowment Fund or to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Pl., Memphis, TN 38105. Interment Mt. Hope Cemetery, Boston. Guestbook and other information, at www.KfouryFuneral.com

MUSTO

Antonio Giovanni of West Roxbury, February 20, 2023. Dear brother of Antonietta Musto, Giovannina (Musto) Caporizzo and her late hus-

band, Sabato, Teresa Musto, Armand (Armando) Musto. Brother of the late Maria Musto, and the late Yolanda (Musto) Pokaski and her husband, Paul, all of West Roxbury. Dear brother of Pierina Musto and her husband, Costantino Petrillo, and Gerardo Musto of San Michele, Italy. Brother of the late Generoso Musto, Giuseppe Musto, Michele Musto, Carmela Musto of San Michele, Italy. He is lovingly remembered by his many nieces and nephews. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment at Mt. Benedict Cemetery. Relatives and friends invited. For directions and guestbook, gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Service 617-323-8600.

YOUNG

Jeffrey of North Weymouth, MA, aka God’s Country, passed away peacefully after a brief illness on February 23, at the age of 63. He was the son of the late Patrick and Alma Young. Beloved father of Coleen Winfrey and husband, Davie of Braintree, Brian Young and his wife, Lindsey of Abington, Amanda Boudreau and her husband, Robert of Braintree and Robert Young of Braintree. “Gampy” to Ava, Vienna, Josh, Zoe, Theo, Tyler, and Cody. Cherished brother of Joseph Young and his wife, Dottie of Norwood, Patty Young of West Roxbury, Barbara Donnelley and husband, David of West Roxbury; and brother-in-law of Karen Young of Franklin. He was predeceased by his brothers, John Young and James Young. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews, in-laws, and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday March 1, in The Holy Name Church, West Roxbury. Interment private. Funeral from the Lawler & Crosby Funeral Home, 617-323-5600.

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Belgrade *continued from page 11*

Anawan intersection through landscaping.”

The design team addressed these items by reorienting the courtyard to be south-facing. They also centralized the amenities and main entry for more activity towards the middle of the block instead of the end of the block.

After Thomas’ presentation, there was time for questions and comments from IAG members, as well as the public.

“I particularly like the pedestrian crossing at Anawan Ave.,” remarked community member and cyclist Alan Wright. “The intersection [across Belgrade into West Roxbury] is a nightmare for pedestrians and cyclists.”

IAG member Christine Adreani asked what kind of work was being done in collaboration

with the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) to make safety improvements for cyclists and pedestrians. Upton explained that they have narrowed multiple intersections around the site and widened sidewalks to increase pedestrian safety. The project team has also planned on adding flashing signs along Belgrade, and narrowing parts of Belgrade to slow down vehicular traffic.

The BTD also previously stated that it is looking to narrow Belgrade Avenue to decrease speeds on the road, since there have been several collisions in the past couple of years, including a high profile strike of the gate at the Alexander the Great Park on the northeast portion of the street.

“We’ve been working very

closely with the traffic department, Mass DOT, and the MBTA,” said Upton.

“Do you have an estimate of square footage for the commercial space in the proposal?” asked IAG member Paula Olender. The project team responded that the size of commercial/retail space in the corner of the project would be between 500 and 3,000 square feet. Upton remarked that a local dentist may be interested in the space.

One community member asked where the trash/recycling would be stored and picked up. Upton responded that the trash and recycling would be stored in the parking garage with a compactor on site, and would be picked up off of Anawan Ave.

The comment period for this project is currently open and can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/3J08nsb>

Habitat Preservation *continued from page 9*

ing and he said he simultaneously became aware of habitat loss.

“I’m now a firm believer that loss of habitat is what’s causing climate change,” he said. “I really feel that if we start talking more about habitat loss and less about climate change, we’re going to get more people onboard. This really cuts across political lines, and we need everyone to help.” His garden included a diverse array of 22 primarily native species, including milkweed, sunflowers, red and orange poppies, orange dragon lilies, black-eyed Susans and tulips. He also planted strawberry and blackberry bushes and two small vegetable gardens.

One neighbor who was not as enthusiastic about Kirker’s growing passion called the city’s code enforcement department on him, according to Kirker. Not letting his neighbors know about rewilding his yard was “my biggest mistake.”

“I’ve had five code violations for overgrown weeds,” he said. “The guy who wrote the violations said, ‘We’re all for saving the planet and having pollinators, Jim. But you’ve got to clean up your yard!’ I thought he was really ignorant – and I don’t mean that in a negative way.”

The most important season for the natural habitat is in the fall, he noted. Cutting down dead stalks and raking leaves removes the environment where insects lay their eggs. The ground cover allows more time for rainwater to seep into the earth, he explained, encouraging the audience to “leave the leaves” as a natural fertilizer for trees.

“If that’s all that anyone here does,” said Kirker, “you’re creating habitat.”

He added that bumble

bees nest in the ground for the winter, unlike honey bees that hive. Native moths and butterflies also take cover under the leaves to produce the caterpillars that feed most native birds.

Hearing Mayor Michelle Wu talk about making Boston a green city caused Kirker “to do a spit take.” He said he hoped the mayor’s initiative will lead to the government taking habitat loss more seriously.

“But we can’t wait for the politicians,” he stressed, describing the current movement to preserve Crane Ledge Woods and Sherrin Woods on the Hyde Park-Roslindale border. He suggested a city registry for rewilded property to prevent code violations.

Kirker cited Douglas W. Tallamy, the author of a series of books on the environment including “Nature’s Best Hope,” noting that if everyone converted half of their yards to rewilding, “we’d gain over 20 million acres of habitat.” He also noted that native wildflowers consume about half of the water of an average lawn.

Kirker said he is a huge proponent of composting, calling the decaying food “worm motels.” He grinds up fruits, vegetables and their peels to return the nutrients to the land.

People suggested buying plants at local farmers’ markets and nurseries rather than big-box stores that treat their plants with pesticides. Joe Smith, the chair of the Fairmount Hill Neighborhood Association (FHNA), suggested supporting We Grow Microgreens in Readville, a small urban farm. Roslindale resident Steve Gag said he purchases his plants from Grow Native Massachusetts, a Waltham-based nonprofit.

Smith added that Kirker



Jim Kirker

has donated dozens of plants to KHPB for its planters around Fairmount Hill.

Hyde Park resident Josephine Hoey said she became “obsessed with gardening” after learning from her mother while growing up in Montserrat. A KHPB volunteer, she has a plot at the Factory Hill Community Garden. She said she intends to turn her driveway into a wildflower garden this year.

In addition to a pollinator section, Hoey also has a “garden of remembrance” to honor deceased relatives.

Several ideas sprouted during the event. Hyde Park resident Pat Alvarez proposed a rewilded yard tour as well as a yard sign campaign and educational fliers. Kirker suggested the tours be held in spring and fall to show both the blooming and rewilding stages.

KHPB founder Cathy Horn spoke about an upcoming “library of seeds” that KHPB and the library will cosponsor. She said she hopes there will be a seed sharing opportunity in the future.

To learn more about rewilding, visit Kirker’s Facebook group “Creating Habitat Yards” at facebook.com/groups/820831898980718.

WRBPA *continued from page 7*

fer them to you,” said Glora.

Ann Cushing from Rush’s office mentioned the continued interest in the restoration of Havey Beach on the VFW Parkway/Charles River. “Funding is there. It has to be ADA accessible,” said Cushing.

Allan Symkus talked about his volunteer activities, among them a fundraiser for Ukraine. “My goal was \$10,000. We actually got \$18,000.” Another project needs assistance. “We’re trying to get a dog park. There is such a need for this as there is nothing in this area. We need the politicians to help.”

Miles Duffey added his support for open spaces. “If you take an interest in Billings Field, there are some things to be decided.”

With a second meeting on the renovation of Billings Field held on Feb. 1, he encouraged all those interested to get involved. Duffy supported other volunteer efforts. “There is nothing more life affirming than being involved in the Mary Mulvey Jacobson effort.”

Matt White, of Matt White Realtors said that he got a call about a city citation that will honor his mother, Carol White, long time West Roxbury realtor, at the city council meeting on March 1. “They’re going to do a beautiful citation for her. I want to thank the community. It’s something that is very touching to me.”

Hennigan closed the meeting and suggested a future speaker. “I’m asking the DA to do a lunch with us and tell us what is happening.”

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE Docket No. SU23P0376EA

Suffolk Division

Estate of: Dorothy A. Bothwell
Date of Death: July 29, 2022

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner: **Timothy E. Bothwell, of Braintree, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Timothy E. Bothwell, of Braintree, MA

has been informally appointed as the **Personal Representative of the estate** to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Boston Bulletin :03/02/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE Docket No. SU23P0326EA

Suffolk Division

Estate of: James Robert McGowan
Also known as: James R. McGowan, Jim McGowan, James McGowan
Date of Death: December 9, 2022

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner: **Jennifer Regan of Littleton, MA**
Jennifer Regan of Littleton, MA

has been informally appointed as the **Personal Representative** of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Hyde Park Bulletin 03/02/2023

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department

Docket No. SU23P0398GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of: **Cathlene Farrell RESPONDENT**

Of: **Jamaica Plain, MA**
Alleged Incapacitated Person

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by

Lutheran Home of Jamaica Plain, MA

In the above captioned matter alleging that **Cathlene Farrell** is in need of a **Guardian** and requesting that **Brian McLaughlin, Esq. of Boston, MA**

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as **Guardian** to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the **Respondent** is incapacitated, that the appointment of **Guardian** is necessary, and that the proposed **Guardian** is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before **10:00 A.M.** on the return date of **04/13/2023**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court

February 22, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate,

Boston Bulletin: 03/02/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU23P0159EA

Estate of: Robert Lloyd Mojave
Date of Death: 08/28/2022

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Beverly Mojave of Osterville, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Beverly Mojave of Osterville, MA** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 A.M.** on the return day of **04/04/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 23, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin 03/02/23

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU23P0412EA

Estate of: Paul D. O'Connor
Date of Death: 05/28/1982

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all interested persons:

A **Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Julie Anne O'Connor of Needham, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Julie Anne O'Connor of Needham, MA** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 A.M.** on the return day of **04/07/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 24, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

Boston Bulletin 03/02/23

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU21P1911EA

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300

Estate of: Patricia E. Osuji
Also known as: Patricia Echidime
Date of Death: 02/15/2021

To all interested persons:
A **Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Ngozi Osuji of Boston, MA** requesting that the **Court** enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Ngozi A. Osuji of Boston, MA** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m.** on the return day of **04/10/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 22, 2023
Felix Arroyo, Register of Probate

Hyde Park Bulletin 03/02/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION DOCKET No. SU23P0373EA

state of: **Claude Pierre Lechene**
Date of Death: 01/04/2023

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

To all interested persons:

A **Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Valerie Marie Rose Jeanne Leche of Cambridge, CB2 8 XX** requesting that the Court enter a formal **Decree and Order** and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Valerie Marie Rose Jeanne Leche of Cambridge, CB2 8 XX** be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 A.M.** on the return day of **03/30/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 23, 2023
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate,

West Roxbury/Roslindale Bulletin: 03/02/23

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