# **SBANP Monthly Meeting Minutes**

| Date & Time  | Tuesday, November 14, 2023 @ 9:30AM |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Goal         | SBANP Meeting                       |
| Website      | https://www.sbanp.org/              |
| Next Meeting | Tuesday, December 12, 2023 @ 9:30AM |

#### Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Updates from Elected Officials (or representatives)
- Lydia Hamilton Polaski, South Boston Neighborhood Liaison, City of Boston's Office of Neighborhood Services
- Layne Jacobs, Great Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO)/4<sup>th</sup> Church to discuss upcoming 'in district' community meeting
- Agency Updates

#### **Notes**

### **South Boston Development Grant**

- Kathy reached out to Dave Nagel and was able to pick up her check at an insurance office in South Boston. Encourages others who applied to reach out to him as well. Notifications have been sparse so reaching out is the best bet.
- Donna Brown's opinion is that the Mayor's office should appointment new leadership in that office who should represent nonprofits.

### Lydia Polaski (lydia.polaski@boston.gov)

- introduced herself and her role within South Boston Neighborhood Liaison
- She will be taking over for Anna White
- She has worked with a number of nonprofits including in South Boston for a number of years and she is excited to continue her work through the Mayor Wu's office.
- Hopefully she will be a regular member to the SBANP meeting moving forward
- Once a week Lydia will be doing Office Hours. When details are finalized she will email the membership about dates & times. Burns offered his space for those regular meetings if needed and hopefully other members will follow his lead.

Layne Jacobs | Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (BGIO) | layne.j.jacobs@gmail.com | In-District Meetings | Click Here for Flyer (Jan. 25th @ 7PM)

Works with: Rev. Burns Stanfield and Sister Margaret (SBANP Members)

About GBIO

- GBIO is a coalition of different religious groups and their goal is to partner with lawmakers for community betterment by addressing issues like public housing, affordable rental/homeownership & reentry to community life after incarceration

- Trying to increase funding when states have stock since conditions have decreased in funding maintenance.

## Completed & Successful Campaigns

- Affordable Homes Act: Mentioned their involvement in community activism in getting at least the base amount needed but they feel it won't be enough overall.
  - In the Bill:
    - <u>Real Estate Transfer Fee</u> could be a challenge for elected officials. These fees would affect the sellers and real estate companies would be taxed heavily. Those taxes would go to affordable housing projects.
    - Also zoning for multiple-home housing in suburban neighborhoods that have MBTA access like Holden for example could be an obstacle to elected officials. It would open opportunities for affordable housing developments but as of now these multiple level apartments, condos or townhouses are not available because zoning is written for only single home dwellings on one acre lots. Which insulates generational wealth and lacks opportunities for first-time outside homebuyers.
- These meetings will hopefully create transparency on what the offices can do and what the community truly needs.
- They have sent letters to their local officials inviting them to these in-district meetings. GBIO has heard from some and others are silent about coming to any of these meetings. It's not easy for the elected officials to have to hear harrowing stories and answer challenging questions from constituents.
- They are hoping SBNAP can help support the cause and spread the word to their network. To be most effective, 'bodies' need to be in the room. Their goal is 75 people per meeting to show a united front and a need in the community, especially those who are willing to share their story about their housing needs.
- Reach out to your local elected officials about these meetings and hopefully enough voices will encourage them to attend and listen to the community concerns.
- Everyone is welcome to join the organization even if you are not associated with involved in GBIO

# **Agency Updates**

| Organization Name                  | Agency Updates  | Important Dates  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| South Boston Neighborhood<br>House | -Turkey Unload begins at 6AMIf you can come down, please do -United Way donated groceries and those will be divided and given to the different developments in South Boston on Friday, November 17th. | South Boston Turkey Distribution Saturday, November 18, 2023 @ 9AM (136 H Street)  Annual Event Friday, March 22 @ 6PM |
| Julie's Family                     | -Thank you to everyone who came to Julies' Friendraiser   | 50th Anniversary Celebration<br>April 4th 6PM-9PM  |
| SPOKE                              |   | World's AID Day December 1, 2023 12pm  |

| Boston Harbor Now   |   | Merry Moakley Thursday, December 7th (SBNH Preschool Parking Lot)                                 |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Gavin Foundation</b>                                   |   | Celebration Dinner St. Monicas (In the basement) November 14th 1:30pm-4pm                         |
| Laboure Center  | -Holiday Assistance to Seniors for<br>the Holidays<br>-The Shoppe will be open<br>beginning on Dec. 2nd & 3rd<br>(10AM-2PM)   | Turkey Distribution (4,500) Monday, November 20th  Laboure Christmas Shoppe Dec. 2 & 3 (10AM-2PM) |
| South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation (SBNDC) |   | Senior Dinner at Condon Community Center Nov. 16th @ 11AM-2PM (Transportation is Available)       |
|   |   | Christmas Stroll<br>Nov. 30th @ 4PM   |
| Fourth Presbyterian Church                                | -Many Performances done by teens and young adults soon. Stay tuned and more details will be sent to the membership via email or Facebook  Peace by Piece The Peace by Piece Program for Post-Traumatic Healing provides FREE monthly trauma support programming using a community based approach to foster recovery and healing from all sources of post-traumatic stress, grief, or losses of all types. This is for all adults from all backgrounds, faiths, and orientations – just show up! | Christmas Concert Dec. 16th  Peace by Piece Every 3rd Monday @ 7PM                                |
| St. Monica-St. Augustine Catholic Church                  | -Delivery of Thanksgiving meals to Seniors this year. Those deliveries would be on Thanksgiving DayVolunteers and donations are welcome -You have to sign up (617. 963. 3475) and flyers are available to share with those you believe is in  | Mass Dec. 16 @ 5PM  Peace Breakfast Dec. 9th  |

|   | need.  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Children Of Alcoholism And<br>Substance Abuse (COASA) | -Celebrating Families will happen at the Laboure Center Lisa Clark and Erin LaMonica are working with her. Individuals are benefiting from this seriesNext phase is after care since the last date ending soon as we want them to have continued support | COASA Christmas Party Steriti Skating Rink December 16 @ 2PM |