

PMAC Monthly Meeting

Record of Meeting: January 6, 2016

Location: 70 Saint Botolph Street, Back Bay/South End

Attendees:

Public Safety:

P.O. William Jones BPD E-13

P.O. Javier Pagan BPD D-4

P.O. Jerry Smart BPD B-2

Sam Abany MBTA

PMAC Members/Other:

Jeffrey Ferris Jack Romano Rebecca Fitzgerald

Jennifer Leonard Franco Campanello

Karen Wynne Kate Ziegler

Public Safety Discussion Highlights:

MBTA/S. Abany

- December quiet/school out
- Recent 7 yr conviction for shooting last February; victims were bystanders in retaliation incident
- 12/27 Stabbing victim entered Jackson Sq station after incident at Bromley Heath
- High visibility patrols and station checks (20 officers in 2 person patrols riding trains) to begin 3/1
- Current issue with kids gathering at Forest Hills; recent incident started there and then reported at Reggie Lewis

E-13/PO W. Jones

- Two incidents of theft reported along the corridor in December – mail package (iphone) and Handicap placard from vehicle
- Nearby (348 Centre) unresolved homicide
- E-13 crime statistics down last year vs. statistical 10 yr average in all categories (data reviewed)
- Less shooting incidents overall but more victims reported due to multiple victims per incident

D-4/PO Pagan

- No incidents reported along SWCP during December
- 1/5 drug arrest at Mass Ave
- Shooting incidents up in D-4 with warm weather, but incidents located away from SWCP in South End

B-2/PO Smart

- Generally low crime rate last year due to monumental volume of snow
- Mission Hill break-ins up in December since students away for the holidays
- Recent fatal shooting – Annunciation Way

Misc. PMAC Safety Questions:

- Mass Ave Station should continue to be priority; increased loitering/drug dealing ongoing

PMAC General Meeting – Chaired by Jeffrey Ferris (JF)

- JL – Had coffee/intro mtg with Samantha Overton (DCR) last month following up on PMAC new leadership notice
- JL – Distributed draft of 2015 Highlights document (one and two-page versions; decided to go with two pages) Discussed whether to get nice color printing of this and send as mailing. If so, who can fund printing and who is target audience for distribution. The following comments/edits/additions discussed:
 - JF – Add Mary Snyder memorial bench installation
 - JF – Revise Casey Overpass section to reflect prior controversy surrounding the project and “looking forward” type summary to realize resulting benefits.
 - JL – From SO, try to bring in as many park users as possible Ex: more playground references/photos; KZ may be able to provide from Instagram
 - FC – From Pat Driscoll (DCR) PMAC in general needs more members & bigger voice for increased funding and recognition by new leadership
 - KW – Maybe a one page addendum could be added outlining user groups
 - JF – Add completion of LED lighting, new ped/bike ramps and traffic signal improvements
- JL – DCR Report (from SO meeting discussion since DCR not present)
 - SO would like to work with us on a possible scavenger hunt for kids and a bike tour for the new DCR Commissioner, Leo Roy
- FC – SWCP/DCR(from meeting with PD)/Volunteers Report
 - Sad news that almost all seven magnolias transplanted from Casey Overpass have not produced buds and will probably not survive; DCR is evaluating how/when to remove and which trees will be replaced
 - Some incidents of park vandalism reported since last October – turf damage, fire in planting beds, stolen plant materials, etc.
 - Recent unauthorized construction between Mass Ave and Carter school in the alley has caused park damage (fence removal/turf and slope damage) and neighborhood gas leak; PD investigating
 - FC still very concerned with lack of water throughout the park; will investigate new water sources for potential magnolia replacement trees
 - Mary Snyder memorial bench/tree is now complete
 - SWCP is writing a letter of thanks to prior PMAC President, Janet Hunkel. A legacy tree might be installed if desired
 - JF/FC – Update on Water Study/Irrigation Replacement by DCR
 - Report still not Final; possible budget issue for study completion. Construction still not funded.
 - FC - Generally, Section 1 up to West Newton will be difficult construction due to limited clearance to MBTA tunnel; A bit easier construction from West Newton up to Mass Ave.
- JF – Bike Committee Report
- JF said we should consideris planning to host a bike social at Cyber Arts café this spring
- JL – Reporting for (not-yet-established) By-Law Committee

- JL will follow-up on the Care & Control document between MBTA and DCR with Holly and Janet; We still need this document for consistency with proposed By-Law revisions even though we think it was never formalized thru the legislature
- JL reviewed the current By-Law status as 'Draft' and discussed membership requirements that need to be updated
- JF indicated we would establish the By-Law Committee after review of the Care & Control document
- JF – Discussion of April Annual Meeting
 - Need outreach to folks for larger attendance for meeting quorum; Discussed providing refreshments/having a speaker
 - RF – SWCP sending fundraising mailing Mar 1; they could add reference to the Annual PMAC Meeting if we could provide details
- Reviewed PMAC Goals for 2016:
 - April Annual Meeting 'event'
 - Officer Elections
 - Annual Highlight Report
 - Membership Expansion (email list already formulating)
 - Mini-grants with possible Youth Connection

New Business

- Northeastern University has reached out for a meeting Re: Northeastern Crossing and implementation of bike path improvements
- JP/Roxbury Planning Study meeting Jan 21 with focus on connecting to/from the study area; KZ will attend for SNA and will fill us in on anything relating to SWCP

Next Meeting: February 3, 2016 at BPD District E-13, 3347 Washington Street, JP

Notes taken by Karen Wynne.

Attachments: Agenda Handout and 2015 Draft Highlights Report