

Union Park Neighborhood Association (UPNA)  
General Meeting  
May 13, 2008  
346 Shawmut Ave

7:10 P.M.

The president, Jerry Frank called the meeting to order. Board members in attendance were: Kevin Cole, James Alan Fox, Sue Ann Fox, Jerry Frank, Leslie Frank, James Hammelberg, H. Norman Knickle, Mary Bottella Knickle, Bill McIntosh and Beverly Sky.

**1. UPNA Committee Updates**

Fundraising & Neighborhood Activities – The chairperson, Mary Bottella Knickle, provided an update: to date, \$10,300 has been raised and added to the 2008 General Fund, a new record for fundraising. The 2007 Treasurer's Report indicated that \$17,360 was raised and \$15,754 expended. The balance in the checking account as of December 31, 2007 was \$24,508 - \$11,229 in the General Fund and \$13,279 in the Friends of Union Park Fund.

Ellis Neighborhood Association will be sponsoring a forum entitled "Aging at Home." It is being held on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Additional information may be obtained from the Ellis Neighborhood web site and The South End News .

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, The Young South Enders will be holding their function at Pho Republic on Washington Street. Please check our web site at [www.UPNA.org](http://www.UPNA.org) (calendar section) for complete details.

On June 28<sup>th</sup> the Neighborhood Block Party will be held on Upton St. from 5-8:00 P.M. Additional details will appear on the web site as the date gets closer.

On Monday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> a golf tournament will be held at the beautiful George Wright Golf Course in Hyde Park. UPNA will sponsor this event, and we hope to include interested golfers from other neighborhood associations. Tickets will include cart, tee time, and lunch. Profits will go directly into the UPNA general account.

The Youth Shines fundraiser is May 20<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser provides 20% of their annual budget. The auction is being held at the Boston Center for the Arts from 6-8 pm. Please help by getting the word out. Kevin Cole is point person for volunteers.

Jeff Fowler is the coach for the UPNA Mariners and thanks UPNA for their continued support. Mr. Fowler was not able to attend but H. Norman Knickle spoke on his behalf.

Look at the web page! It continues to grow and improve and provides lots of helpful information.

Union Park Committee/Friends of Union Park - A fundraiser for maintenance of Union Park will be scheduled shortly. The Union Park Committee unanimously recommended initiating a fundraising campaign to restore the existing fence surrounding Union Park.

The resolution passed by the committee reads as follows:

To restore the current fence and adopt the following principles:

1. Initiate a capital campaign to raise money for the fence restoration. The money raised for the fence will be kept in a separate bank account and will be used exclusively for the fence.
2. UPNA will work closely with the city to obtain any necessary regulatory approvals, such as Landmarks.
3. The Park will continue its status as being closed except for UPNA sponsored events approved by the UPNA Park Committee.
4. UPNA will not initiate any significant changes to the Park without a vote of its membership. Fenced and closed parks are referred to as passive parks.

A discussion of the resolution followed.

## **2. Union Park Fence Restoration**

For years there has been a line item in the city budget for repairing the fence surrounding Union Park. To date, it has not been allocated. Councilor Linehan said matching funds from the neighborhood would help to release these funds.

Beth Prindle recommended that the issues be divided for purposes of voting.

Richard Gordon from the Buttery arrived and requested that he present his plan for expansion prior to the conclusion of the discussion of the fence. Mr. Gordon was invited to proceed with his presentation.

## **3. South End Buttery Expansion Proposal**

The Licensing Board provided the Buttery with a liquor license. The zoning has been approved for seating and alcohol on the street level. Mr. Gordon also applied for the space to be used on the lower level. The hearing has been held, and he has been given the approval for seating on both levels. The only change to his license was seating capacity. His seating capacity has been increased to 95. Richard Gordon asked for the neighbors to introduce potential issues. A discussion followed. Major issues mentioned were:

Vehicle traffic and valet parking was mentioned. Parking suggestions will go on our web site. Garbage storage (odor), pick-up hours, and noise generated by the totes going up and down the stairs were also of concern to neighbors. Exhaust fans from the kitchen were discussed. Mr. Gordon stated that an expensive scrubber is being installed to control odor from the exhaust system. He asked that if any future problems surface that he be contacted immediately to try to solve the problem promptly.

#### **Union Park Fence Restoration (Continued)**

The president called a vote on whether to vote on each issue individually or to vote for the entire package as it now stands. The results were as follows:

15 voted to have issues voted on individually  
29 voted to have the entire package voted on

A vote was taken on the aforementioned resolution in its entirety and it was approved unanimously - (42 in favor, 0 opposed).

#### **4. President's Comments**

The Recycling Program has been a huge success. The neighborhood is cleaner and greener. When there is a problem, it is generally caused by a lack of understanding about the rules for recycling.

Graffiti is increasing in the neighborhood. Please call the Graffiti Hotline to report an incident.

#### **5. Banq Restaurant Drawing**

A drawing was held to choose a winner of the Gift Certificate to Banq Restaurant. Peter Sologub of Union Park was the winner. Congratulations! And thank you to Banq for providing the certificate.

The meeting was adjourned.