

Boston Harbor Association

Board Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2020 – 6:30 pm via remote Zoom video conference/telephone

Members Present: Richard Thompson, Susan Lund, Chris Hamilton, Michael Deford, Larry Seale, Dan Doty.

Agenda:

- Budget briefing from Larry Seale
- Officer elections
- July 3rd fireworks
- Community outreach during CV19
- Bylaw amendment filing
- Board schedule
- Round Table

Budget Brief: Overall Account Total: \$14,400.59 as of April 30, 2020. It was noted that the donations from the marina donation can have been low compared to other years most likely due to CV19 quarantine. A big thank you to Larry Seale for continuing to be the BHA treasurer for several months after his retirement from the board in February. He continued to do the bookkeeping through all of this!

ACTION: None Taken.

Officer Elections: Since this was the first meeting in 2020 since the annual February meeting when members are elected to the board, elections were held with the following results:

President: Richard Thompson

Vice President: Susan Lund

Secretary: Sarah Cassal

Treasurer: Michael Deford

ACTION: YES. Motion made to elect new board officers, seconded and voted unanimously.

July 3rd Fireworks: Items of discussion:

1) Should the fireworks display be cancelled until July 3rd 2021? Should we consider an alternate date later in 2020?

Reasons to cancel the display until July 2021: set a good example for the community by being consistent with the governor's directive; keeping our community members safe; deposit can be transferred to the 2021 display; the complications of planning an event when it may or may not occur; the liquidity of an event if it is limited to a small crowd; no vendors have been solicited for fundraising donations; the board is behind schedule for planning the event due to not meeting for the last two months.

Reasons to schedule an alternate date in 2020: deposit can be transferred to an alternate date as well; the quarantine could be lifted sooner than anticipated and we would miss out on our annual celebration.

ACTION: YES. A motion was made to cancel the July 3rd 2020 fireworks display until July 3rd 2021. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2) Should the board request the \$5,000 deposit back from the pyrotechnic company or allow them to hold on to it?

Reasons to let them keep the deposit: the money will be paid to them sooner or later; the same company has been putting on the display for 20+/- years making this a long-term relationship;

Reasons to request the money back: possibility that the pyrotechnics company goes solvent over the interim and we lose the money.

ACTION: None taken; it was decided that Richard would review the contract for language for clarity around the deposit; reach out to the pyrotechnic company and discussed perceived risk of the allowing them to keep the deposit for future credit; and, get back to the board about the conversation and how to proceed.

3) Can we still safely hold the bike parade on July 3rd 2020?

ACTION: None taken. Postponed until next meeting.

4) Replacement Ideas for the July 3rd 2020 celebration. Should we think about an alternative socially distanced event for community members to participate in?

Ideas: car parade.

ACTION: None taken. board agreed to brainstorm ideas and discuss at next meeting (June 1, 2020).

Community Outreach During CV19: Discussion on reaching out to association members to offer assistance during the CV19 quarantine. Contact information could be parsed out to board members to call folks asking if they need help with anything and just check-in with folks. Examples of providing assistance included discrete tasks like provide masks and go shopping. There was also discussion around filling the gap left with social distancing and providing a sense of community when we can't be in contact and active like 'normal'. Ideas for scheduled events like door-to-door music or similar 'event-comes-to-your-front-yard' kinds of things were mentioned.

ACTION: None taken. Some board members volunteered to make calls. And it was agreed on to brainstorm on what kinds of things we can do to help or community members while under quarantine and have further discussion tabled until next meeting.

Bylaw Amendment Filing: The new bylaws voted on by association members at the February 2020 annual meeting are pending and still need to be filed.

ACTION: YES. The board voted unanimously to file the bylaws. Larry Seales agreed to file the bylaws.

Board Schedule: This was the first meeting of the board since the new board was elected in February at the annual meeting.

ACTION: YES. A motion was made to hold the next meeting on June 1st, 2020 and seconded. The board voted unanimously to hold the next meeting Monday June 1, 2020.

Round Table: R.T.: Fire Department invited us to utilize the firehouse for future meetings without a fee.