



Building a Better Brookline

**Economic Development
Advisory Board**
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Anne R. Meyers, Co-Chair
Paul Saner, Co-Chair
Dr. Robert I. Sperber, Founder
Cliff Brown
Derrick Choi
Susan Houston
Kenneth Lewis
Carol Levin
Thomas Nally
Marilyn Newman
Alden Raine
Donald A. Warner

Meeting Minutes: July 11, 2016

Attendees:

EDAB Members Present: Susan Houston, Carol Levin, Ken Lewis, Anne Meyers, Tom Nally, Al Raine, Paul Saner, Don Warner

EDAB Members Absent: Cliff Brown, Derrick Choi, Marilyn Newman, Bob Sperber
Staff: Kara Brewton

Materials: Agenda; draft minutes from June 6, 2016; Site Evaluation Checklist
Draft by Ken Lewis; Proposed 2016-2017 EDAB Meeting Calendar

1. Review and Approve Minutes

- Minutes from June 6, 2016 were approved.

2. Misc./Other Business –

- EDAB agreed to the meeting dates proposed in the handout; the next meeting will be September 12, 2016.

3. Continued discussion of next steps for “Planning for a Changing Brookline”

- EDAB reviewed the draft site evaluation checklist provided by Ken Lewis. Discussion followed as to how broad EDAB should be considering future development. For example, in the past, Economic Development projects have been very parcel- and property-owner specific. The Red Cab site (including 111 Boylston St.) and current River Road Study work (including 25 Washington St.) included multiple parcels owned by various property owners but within the same zoning district. It is very likely that Chestnut Hill Realty will be open to re-engaging in the Town’s study of the Waldo-Durgin garages in the near future; it will be important to consider studying the broader area (including sites not owned by Chestnut Hill Realty).
- EDAB members will continue to think about which areas should be potential Economic Development parcels and make initial calls to the current property owners before those sites are discussed with neighborhood groups and/or in a public meeting like the next Planning for a Changing Brookline event. In considering sites, EDAB members will consider:

- the importance of spending limited Board member time on those projects that might yield the most *net* new commercial tax growth;
 - understand current property owner and neighborhood desires for an area very early on (hopefully prior to the next Planning for a Changing Brookline meeting);
- EDAB members will report back to EDAB their individual work at future meetings

4. Development Updates

- Brookline Place – Boston Children’s Hospital may have the pedestrian easement and other documents recorded by the end of the week, which is the last item needed prior to the Building Commissioner being able to issue a demolition permit
- Circle Cinema – construction is continuing with pilings this summer
- Homewood Suites (111 Boylston Street) – The website is starting reservations for the end of July, but an official opening date has not been reported yet. Note that online reservations are going for \$400/night.
- River Road Study Committee – Marilyn Newman & Andy Martineau are at a Zoning Subcommittee meeting tonight. Paul Saner notes that Ken Lewis’ financial presentation at the last River Road Committee meeting was excellent, and Selectmen Franco has provided amazing leadership and energy in this work. Paul and Tom Nally described the tremendous amount of work that Andy Martineau was doing in keeping the committee going. Andy, Ben and Paul have made significant progress in creating and negotiating the Committee’s desires through draft developer and pilot agreements as well as the zoning article and draft design guidelines. The next two Committee meetings are July 13th and 27th; all EDAB members are encouraged to attend.

5. Committee Member & Staff Updates

- Los Amigos and Cigars & More is new officially open in Coolidge Corner; Stoked Pizza is newly open in Washington Square; Union Square donuts is under construction in the JFK area.

Meeting Adjourned