

Cedarwood Association Annual Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2018 – Woodside's Garage

I. Welcome by Co-Presidents

II. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from April 27, 2017 meeting unanimously approved
- Both the general fund and the scholarship fund had revenues that exceeded expenses
- All funds have been moved to a Watertown Savings Bank account
- Scholarship pays out \$1,500 to one high school senior per year and minimum years of donations to association is required to qualify

III. Announcements

- Jake and Joe's fundraiser on May 4, 2017 was a success and was helpful in providing scholarship funds
- Cedarwood Association is now a 503(c)7 organization (a social organization) and donations to it are not tax deductible
- Changes to the board:
 - Tash Ross is stepping down as secretary and position will be taking over by Sara Vautour
 - Annie Huff is leaving neighborhood so a replacement is needed for her work
 - Kevin Delaney is stepping away as he is expecting triplets very soon

IV. Mayor Jeanette A. McCarthy

- Door to door solicitation advertising clean energy
 - Not associated with the city
 - Must sign up with police department in order to solicit in the city
 - Joseph Pedulla is the city's purchasing agent
 - Working on selecting a vendor for the city to utilize clean energy
 - Once vetted he will present to the City Council
 - No recommendation available yet
- Children's hospital infrastructure upgrades
 - Process for construction at the hospital is transparent as a call for comment is requested for those within close proximity to the construction site
 - Meetings and public hearings are listed on city website and notices are put in the newspaper
 - Garage built which was approved by the mayor
 - Zone change for accessory building
 - Would have permitted a no height limitation so buildings could have been built as high as needed
 - Much neighborhood opposition near Highland Street and Sharon Street
 - Plan for bridge is being reworked
 - Originally a plan for an inpatient expansion but change in plan is now geared towards more outpatient
- Hotel across the street from Margaritas on Moody Street
 - RFP to build hotels with stores
 - City Council is working with hotel to finalize the plan
 - Plan is going forward with modifications from original proposed plan

- Dosa Factory of Moody Street status
 - Still “coming soon”
- Opposition to “No Turn On Red” sign at the stop light at the Cedarwood gates
 - State owned signal
 - State came out to review after complaints were brought forth but decision not to remove because it would be too unsafe to do so
 - People are not adhering to sign and no police are enforcing it
 - Other options include putting warning signage on Stow Street to alert other side of the street
 - Mayor will write another letter and call state to revisit
- Update on new high school
 - Mayor contacted Stigmatines again but is waiting on an answer
 - Need to provide City Council with answers so nudging Stigmatines to respond
 - Education plan is complete so can move forward with a building plan once location is determined
- Rooming houses
 - Illegal as a violation of zoning but few allegedly exist in neighborhood
 - Renting out rooms to Brandeis students
 - Mayor to send letter to Brandeis if necessary
 - Noted on Virginia Road, Florence Road, Hamilton Road and Westgate Road and Mayor to investigate
 - Basement renovations are a red flag and require close inspection especially when kitchen is included as opportunity for renters in that space
- Bear Hill Road and Second Avenue
 - New water main
 - Mayor to check with National Grid if all of their scheduled work is complete
 - Plan to pave Bear Hill Road
 - Storage facility in place of old Uno’s
- Updates to city website
 - Posting updates on specific projects
 - Information is still difficult to navigate and find out details
 - CPW and Engineering projects to combine
 - Schedule is posted for upcoming Public Works projects
- 117 bridge and potholes
 - Area is not completely paved but in process of getting quote for remainder of paving
 - Mayor will contact the state for the large pot holes
 - MEPA plans for optional 117 bridge or traffic light at Totten Pond rotary
- 1265 Main Street complex
 - Agreed to pay for bridge which would open up traffic
 - Takings done
 - Proceeding along and work could align Bear Hill Road with Green Street
 - Additional 400,000 sq ft to build and project is coming together
- 40B residential development on Jones Road
 - Owned by Boston Properties
 - Development is in Weston but traffic affects Waltham
 - Aids in affordable housing

- Paperwork was updated which would cause all traffic from units through Jones Road and into Waltham
- Weston's response was that Waltham was "in a position to handle traffic"
- Sheridan Street pot holes
 - Few owners have complained about significant pot holes
 - City fills pot holes on main streets but for private way each home owner owns to the middle of the road
 - With multiple owners on this private way a petition to have road paved would need to be approved but all home owners
- Bike path
 - Good news!
 - Constructed by same person who built the river walk
 - Portion in design bid in the works to be constructed next year
 - Beaver Street to Belmont line not yet in process
 - Polaroid to Weston not yet done
- Prospect Street
 - Congested and what can be done to alleviate traffic
 - Mayor to check on potential resolutions

V. City Councilor Kristine Mackin (Ward 7)

- New to ward 7, started in January
- Feel free to contact if any questions or issues
- Traffic related items
 - Attended May 17 traffic meeting regarding concerns with South Street
 - Plans in cooperation with other wards where streets cross districts so all on the same page
 - Summit Ave paving waiting on cost reductions before proceeding
- Off leash dog area at Cedarwood playground in fenced in area behind basketball court
- Brandeis
 - Potential to invite someone from Brandeis to next meeting to identify if any large projects are going on
 - Can neighborhood people use pool or other facilities?
 - One on one swim lessons with the swim team is a great resource if want to utilize
- Video game arcade potentially coming to Moody Street
 - More of a video game reseller rather than arcade
 - Come before Council for a zone change
 - Some opposition to proposal
- Parking garage to support new hotel on Moody Street
 - No additional parking but no loss in parking either
- Petitions for increasing liquor licenses
 - Potential 8 new beer and wine licenses and 8 new all alcohol licenses
 - Potential for 2 more package store licenses but brings fear of potential marijuana shops so some opposition exists
- Laser tag coming to recreation center at former South Middle School
 - Coming in May
 - Fridays and Saturdays for kids

VI. Committee Report

- Upcoming activities
 - Meet Your Neighbors – June 9 from 3pm-5pm at the park with no rain date
 - Summer Picnic – Date TBD, need help to plan
 - Yard Sale – September 22
- Free library across from the park
- Lots of activities for young kids but how to engage older kids?
- Activities Committee
 - Led by Deb Douglas
 - Helping to plan Meet Your Neighbors event currently
 - Need help planning future events such as July 4 parade and summer picnic
- Community Service Committee
 - Led by Kevin Delaney but will need someone to step in
 - Toys for Tots drive very successful and thank you to all who helped organized and also participated
 - Yard sale donations are always helpful and whatever doesn't sell is donated to thrift store
- Garden Committee
 - Led by Brad Baker and Elisse Ghitelman
 - Programs at the park have been successful
 - Thank you to those who helped put planters in front of the neighborhood
- Neighborhood Outreach Committee
 - Led by Meg Letendre
 - Always looking for more volunteers to help reach out to people who are new to the neighborhood
- Newsletter Committee
 - Led by Kristen Mullen
 - Discussed whether printed newsletter are really needed but some neighbors are elderly and don't utilize the internet so determined yes
 - May have an opt out option so only those who want it in print will receive it
 - Harland Road route needs some help with delivery
 - May utilize students who need service hours to deliver newsletters
- Publicity Committee
 - Led by Craig Peterson
 - Signage looks great
- Scholarship Committee
 - Winner for this year have been chosen but not yet revealed
 - New panel of reviewers and has been working out well
- Always looking for more people to get involved so reach out to a board or committee member if interested in helping out