

**Rose Kennedy Greenway Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – 5:30 pm**  
**185 Kneeland Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Boston**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Board Members Present In Person:** Jim Kalustian, Chris Betke, Mark Boyle, Kathryn Burton, Helen Chin Schlichte, Tim Morningstar, Thomas O'Brien, Robyn Reed, Bud Ris, Kim Sherman Stamler

**New Board Members Present in Person:** Karen Diane Johnson, Susanne Lavoie, Bryant McBride

**Board Members Absent:** James Chan, Beedee Ladd, Martin Lynn, Chris Manfredi, Jane Pappalardo, John Pregmon, Daniel Sieger

**RFKGC Staff:** Jesse Brackenbury, Laura Jasinski, Michael Nichols, Clifford Thompson, Renee Wood

**Open Session**

Greenway Board Chair Jim Kalustian called the meeting to order in Open Session with a quorum present, in person, at 5:41pm.

1. Executive Director Jesse Brackenbury provided an update on fundraising and the search for a new Director of Development. Mr. Brackenbury noted that the Conservancy would not spend funds to hire a search firm.
2. Chair Kalustian called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2016 meeting of the Board of Directors. **On a motion by Helen Chin Schlichte, and seconded by Bud Ris, the minutes were unanimously approved.**
3. Chair Kalustian spoke to the Board's process that led to the proposal to add three new members to the Conservancy's Board of Directors. Mr. Kalustian spoke to considerable interest and a number of interviews conducted by Board members and staff with the candidates. Board members involved cited the personal experiences of each of the proposed candidates and expressed confidence that their unique skills would benefit the Conservancy. **On a motion by Chris Betke, and seconded by Mark Boyle, proposed candidates Karen Diane Johnson, Susanne Lavoie, and Bryant McBride were unanimously approved.**

Mr. Brackenbury spoke to the length of Conservancy Board officer terms and a proposed slate of committee nominations. **On a motion by Mark Boyle, and seconded by Helen Chin Schlichte, both the proposed officer nominations and committee nominations were unanimously approved.**

Both Mr. Brackenbury and Mr. Kalustian spent time praising the Board service of two departing members, Martin Lynn and Tim Morningstar. Both members served with distinction and were honored for their service.

4. Mr. Brackenbury briefly detailed an update on the ongoing State-to-City transfer of property on and around The Greenway and introduced Isidoro DeJesus Perez, MassDOT's Highway Division Deputy Administrator for Project Controls & Performance Oversight. Mr. Perez presented to the Board an update on the expected timeline for construction projects on and adjacent to The Greenway as part of the transfer. Mr. Perez committed that the City of Boston will entertain further discussion with the Conservancy regarding a 'License, Maintenance and Indemnification' ('LMI') agreement to manage space currently under the Conservancy's care that is being transferred to the City.

Board members asked numerous questions about whether the expected changes would improve, worsen or leave the same the current quality of The Greenway, whether programming, food trucks and other revenue-generating activities that currently occur on Greenway land moving into City rights-of-way would be able to continue, and whether the City would be responsible for repairing (or providing access to repair) issues with subterranean irrigation systems that power The Greenway. Mr. Perez noted that the forthcoming LMI agreement should say that the City will excavate if irrigation breaks as it crosses City streets. Mr. Perez also noted that at the end of the transfer, land currently managed by the Greenway Conservancy will be owned by both the City and State in various different places.

5. Mr. Brackenbury and Renee Wood, Director of Finance & Administration, presented to the Board 2016 Results, the 2017 Statement of Goals, a proposed 2017 6-month budget, and proposed program fees for 2017. Mr. Brackenbury spoke to the need for a six-month budget resulting from multiparty conversations involving MassDOT and private property abutters around providing long-term stability for the park.

Bud Ris, Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee Co-Chair, offered that

the FARMC reviewed the proposal for a six-month budget and that he's comfortable with the proposal given the ongoing conversations with the state.

Board Member Mark Boyle noted that MassDOT is willing to extend the Conservancy's lease to manage The Greenway and that the agency is seeking a likely shift from operating support to capital support for the Conservancy's budget. Mr. Boyle offered praise to Board Member Tom O'Brien for his efforts in supporting the multiparty conversations.

Mr. O'Brien noted that private property abutters want any money being contributed to the Conservancy to be assessed fairly. He offered that he views money currently expended on The Greenway to be well-spent and well-managed by current staff.

**On a motion by Bud Ris, and seconded by Helen Chin Schlichte, the proposed six-month budget for 2017 was unanimously approved.**

*(Mr. Ris left the meeting.)*

**On a motion by Robyn Reed, and seconded by Susanne Lavoie, the proposed program fees for 2017 were unanimously approved.**

6. Mr. Brackenbury offered updates on on-going Greenway activities, including that the process for the 2017-2018 Mobile Eats food truck program was coming to a close and that the program would again be a major component of the Conservancy's earned income efforts.
7. Chair Kalustian announced that the next public meeting of the Board would be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2017.
8. No members of the public present sought to be heard.

**The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy Board Meeting was adjourned, upon a motion made by Chris Betke and seconded by Robyn Reed, and a unanimous vote in favor was held at 7:33pm.**