



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
SOMERVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE  
MAYOR

NANCY A. BUSNACH  
CHAIR

MINUTES  
Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The Somerville Redevelopment Authority met on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in the 3rd floor OSPCD Conference Room at City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143.

Present from the Somerville Redevelopment Authority: Nancy Busnach (Chair), Iwona Bonney (Secretary) and William Gage. Also present were Eileen McGettigan as Special Counsel, Edward O'Donnell, Director of Economic Development, and Amanda Maher, Senior Economic Development Specialist, OSPCD.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Nancy Busnach, Chair. A quorum was present.

1. Approval of Minutes:

**Vote:** Approve the February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes.

- Amend minutes to change language in Other Business as follows: "There are now two vacancies on the SRA; a first candidate will soon be submitted by the Mayor to the Board of Aldermen for consideration."
- Motion to approve minutes, as amended, made by Iwona Bonney and seconded by William Gage.
- Unanimously approved.

2. Update on Assembly Square:

- Edward O'Donnell provided an update about Assembly Square, including that Federal Realty now has its approvals necessary for Blocks 5 and 6. Construction on these parcels is expected to begin this spring. Conversations regarding the use of union labor for construction of these parcels are ongoing.
- O'Donnell states that Partners is moving forward with construction, as evidenced by the construction of elevator shafts.
- Federal Realty continues to promote the City's local hiring efforts. To assist with the uptick in new jobs at Assembly Row, Federal is hosting a Job Fair on April 25-26<sup>th</sup>. The first day will be for Somerville residents only.

3. Union Square Update:

- Edward O'Donnell notes that the Union Square Somerville by Design process is ongoing. On March 9-11, the City and its consultants held an intensive design charrette to solicit community input and feedback. These workshops were well



attended. All of the documents, images and presentations from the Somerville by Design process to date can be found online: [www.somervillebydesign.com](http://www.somervillebydesign.com)

- The Somerville by Design process will continue, with drop-in viewing sessions scheduled for Thursday, April 9 and Saturday, April 11.
- The City and its consultants continue to research Community Benefit Agreements to understand best practices, particularly as used in the Greater Boston area.
- The City now has the keys to 26-28 Prospect Street. The former owner is in the process of moving out of 30 Prospect Street. Once both buildings are 100% vacant, demo will proceed.

**Vote:** To authorize Nancy Busnach, Chair, or Iwona Bonney, Secretary, to execute Activity and Use Limitations and other legal documents relative to the Kiley Barrel site and other Authority-owned property, wheresoever located in the City.

- i. Motion made by William Gage and seconded by Iwona Bonney.
- ii. Unanimously approved.

4. Other Business:

- William Gage expresses interest in inviting the Union Square Master Developer, US2, to the next SRA meeting to propose their plans for Blocks D1 and D2. Nancy Busnach concurs, and requests US2 present a comprehensive overview of what it has planned for Union Square, including timeline for doing so and status of current activities.
- Next meeting of the SRA is scheduled for Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at Somerville City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Chamber.

5. Executive Session

**Vote:** Enter into Executive Session to discuss matters of litigation. The Chair indicates that the Board will not be reconvening in open session.

- i. Motion made by William Gage and seconded by Iwona Bonney.
- ii. Unanimously approved by roll call vote.

6. Motion to adjourn by Iwona Bonney and seconded by William Gage. Unanimously approved by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.