



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SOMERVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

NANCY A. BUSNACH
CHAIR

MINUTES
Thursday, April 20th, 2015

The Somerville Redevelopment Authority met on Thursday, April 30th, 2015 in the Aldermanic Chamber 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 5:33 p.m. by Nancy Busnach, Chair. A quorum was present.

1. Approval of Minutes:

Vote: Approve the March 26th, 2015 minutes.

- Motion to approve minutes made by Iwona Bonney; seconded by William Gage.
- Unanimously approved.

2. 138 South Street – Beekeeping/Urban Agriculture

Vote: Authorizing Nancy Busnach, Chair, or Iwona Bonney, Secretary, to execute all necessary applications or documents necessary for Groundwork Somerville, licensee of SRA property located at 138 South Street, to obtain all requisite approvals and permits for beekeeping and other urban agriculture operations at 138 South Street.

- Motion to approve made by William Gage; seconded by Iwona Bonney.
- Unanimously approved.

3. Update on Assembly Square:

- Edward O'Donnell provided an update about Assembly Square, including that Federal Realty is expected to break ground on Block 6 in June, which will include 640,000 sq. ft. of mixed-use development, including 40,000 sq. ft. of retail/restaurant space, 447 residential units and 671 parking spaces. The City is expected to collect \$5 million in permits and building fees from this project.
- O'Donnell stated that Federal Realty will break ground on Block 5 in Q4 2015, which will include a 100-key hotel.
- O'Donnell stated that Partners Health Care continues to move forward with its construction at Assembly Row; expected to open in late 2016. The City anticipates collecting \$11 million in permit fees for this project.



- Federal Realty continues to promote the City's local hiring efforts. To that end, Federal hosted a Job Fair on April 25-26th; employment opportunities ranged from store managers to part-time positions. The first day of the Job Fair was open to Somerville residents only.
4. Union Square Update:
- Nancy Busnach, Chair, invites Union Square Master Development Partner, US2, to provide update regarding the status of their Union Square redevelopment project.
 - Greg Karczewski, President, US2, thanks Nancy Busnach, the SRA and the City for the opportunity to present, and to serve as Master Development Partner. Karczewski provides update to SRA, including the status of US2's 100-day plan, planning and pre-development efforts, strategy for job creation and anticipated next steps. A full presentation can be found online at _____ (insert)
 - The SRA and US2 discuss various questions, including whether there will be a platform built over the Green Line tracks to connect Blocks D2 and D3; US2 explains it is cost prohibitive at this time, but is looking at other ways to connect the two sites. US2 also confirms that it has executed an agreement to acquire the Beacon Sales property. The SRA expresses its pleasure with US2's commitment to job creation and ongoing community engagement efforts.
5. Other Business:
- The SRA has a new board member: Katherine Fichter, has been approved by the Board of Aldermen. A candidate for the remaining open position, Rebecca Schrumm, has been submitted by Mayor Curtatone to the Board of Aldermen for consideration.
 - The SRA selected its next two meeting dates: Thursday, May 21th, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. and Thursday, June 18th at 5:30 p.m. Both meetings will be held at Somerville City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room.
6. Motion to adjourn by William Gage and seconded by Iwona Bonney. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.