

**Harvard Allston Task Force
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 22nd, 2008
Honan-Allston Library
6:30 p.m.**

I. Attendance

Harvard Allston Task Force

Paul Berkeley
John Bruno
John Cusack
Rita DiGesse
Brian Gibbons
Bruce Houghton
Harry Mattison
Ray Mellone

Harvard University

Harris Band
Monika Bankowski
Joe Began
Will Donham
Chris Gordon
Caroline Hegarty
Kevin McCluskey
Joshua Poupore
Dan Rabinovitz
David Raszmann
Kathy Spiegelman
Dennis Swinford
Maile Takahashi

City of Boston

Gerald Autler, Boston Redevelopment Authority
Michael Glavin, Boston Redevelopment Authority
Mary Knasas, Boston Redevelopment Authority
Linda Kowalcky, Boston Redevelopment Authority
Dana Whiteside, Boston Redevelopment Authority

Harvard Allston Task Force Chair Ray Mellone began the meeting at 6:30pm.

Ed Katamori – Construction Sub-committee update.

Kathy Spiegelman – introduction of Ayers Saint Gross

Ayers Saint Gross – Presentation of revised, in progress work on the campus Master Plan
– available at www.allston.harvard.edu

Community comments:

- Concern about streets going through the newly proposed Greenway – are cars and people compatible? Could Stadium Way and Cattle Drive go underneath the Greenway?
- The Soldiers Field Road/North Harvard Street intersection works fine. It is the North Harvard/Memorial Drive intersection that needs improvement.
- Concern with too much retail (e.g. food service areas) on campus that will detract from Barry's Corner
- Barry's Corner should be active place day and night
- Liked the idea of housing at Barry's Corner
- Housing in Barry's Corner should incorporate Harvard's faculty, staff, students and people from the neighborhood
- Retail to be focused in Barry's Corner (retail makes Squares)
- Harvard's on campus food services should be inviting to the community
- Community liked Cecil Group's ideas, would like to see them incorporated into the Master Plan
- Suggested "community friendly" retail at Barry's Corner
- Extend the retail towards Verizon and move retail closer to the neighborhood
- Discuss the western part of Western Avenue
- What is the housing in Library Park/Rena Park area?
- Possibility of Harvard's athletic facilities to be used by the community
- Community needs to figure out what they want in Barry's Corner and what would support those ideas
- Cooperative housing at Barry's Corner could support the development of Barry's Corner
- Concern with time – phasing of the projects, need a project in Barry's Corner
- Soften edges of buildings
- Height of athletic facilities – possible community use on top floors (great views)
- Transfer the concept of Cattle Drive to Stadium Way
- Need functional retail
- Need vibrancy and community uses in Barry's Corner
- Want employment opportunities for the community (small businesses)
- Treatment of river edge – vibrant and successful plan for the river's edge
- Make the Charles River a center of the campus that would benefit the community and the university

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.