

Neighborhood
Association of the
Back Bay



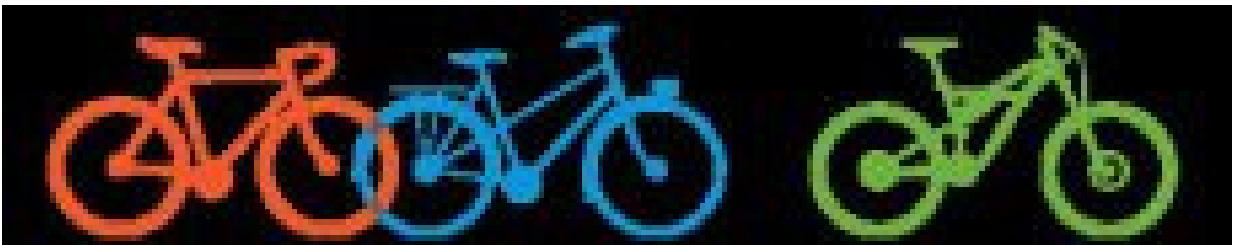
Bulletin

November 2013

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12 | NABB NEIGHBORHOOD FORUM
French Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St. 6:30 — 8:00 p.m.

BICYCLES IN THE BACK BAY

a discussion concerning Education, Safety, and Enforcement



Hear from:

Nicole Freedman

Director of Bicycle Programs for the City of Boston

Capt. Paul Ivens, Commander

Sgt. Gino Provenzano, Community Service Supervisor

District D-4, Boston Police Department

To register for this free event, go to <http://www.nabbonline.com> or call 617-247-3961.

Bike fliers and maps are available in the NABB Office

Visit us on the web @ www.nabbonline.com

160 Commonwealth Avenue L8, Boston, MA 02116 Tel: 617.247.3961 Email: info@nabbonline.com

Meet the Members – Sue Baker

By Marvin Wool

By the time you read this it may well be out of date.

For by now, Sue Baker quite likely will have taken on yet another role at NABB.

As Vice-Chairman she sits on both the 50 member Board of Trustees and, more importantly, its smaller decision making Executive Committee. It's her day to day contributions however which are even more interesting.

A relative newcomer to Back Bay (2000) she, like many others, was introduced to NABB by a neighbor, veteran member Nancy Macchia. In 2003, with the birth of her son Jackson, Sue joined the New Moms Group.

She soon discovered the Clarendon Playground, which has consumed her attention ever since. Though the Playground is owned by the City of Boston and officially maintained by the Parks Department it takes more than the City's personnel and budget to preserve its pristine condition. Sue stops by nearly every day and balances the interests of the four private schools that regularly utilize the park with those of the abutting residents. When repairs or upgrades are necessary she cajoles the City, and if that fails she tackles the fiscal guardians of NABB's own fund for the playground.

Continuing that theme, Sue has tackled the most critical factor inhibiting the healthy restocking of Back Bay's population – the lack of a public elementary school. She is NABB's liaison to the Downtown Schools for Boston, which advocates for remedying the shortage of downtown schools. Sue appreciates that public funding has been tight and that Back Bay is disadvantaged by limited buildable land and high property costs. She is looking therefore toward adjoining neighborhoods, including Fenway with its influx of residential development and its contiguous position with Back Bay.

Finally, Sue also works on one of NABB's more fun events – the Taste of the Back Bay, an annual fundraiser. It's sort of like hosting a wedding reception for 400 – every year and worse. It's rounding up the caterers, the restaurants, wine merchants plus musicians and then asking them to work for free. The prospective guests get invitations plus a campaign of assorted advertised pitches inasmuch they're not coming for free. Then there's the event itself – the many volunteers to set up the room (s) and to smoothly man the gates as the horde of guests arrive for the opening bell. Sue loves doing it, and fortunately for NABB, so do many other volunteers.

Meet the Members is a new monthly column for the Bulletin. We'll be introducing you to the many members working behind the scenes for NABB.

New NABB Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
617-247-3961 – info@nabbonline.com

Friends & Neighbors Events

MOMS' AND DADS' PLAYGROUP — This group is starting up again and will begin meeting at Hale House each week on Wednesdays from 11am-noon. All ages are welcome. Please email backbaymoms@gmail.com for more information.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB — The next meeting of the Mystery Book Group will be November 4th at 6:30pm to discuss *The Second Death of Goodluck Tinu* by Michael Stanley .

LET'S WINE & DINE —The next Wine and Dine Dinner will be held on November 2. Please contact Emily Fayen (efayen@netzero.net) for more information..

LIFECCLASS This group is for those who are awakening to their own purpose or life journey, whether just beginning or further along. For Fall 2013, we will be reading and discussing the book *Untethered Soul*, by Michael Singer. We will read the book in sections, discussing one section per month. If you would like more information, please contact Jennifer at JLowe3215@gmail.com.

BACK BAY SALON next meets on Monday, November 25, at 7:00 P.M. at Linda Morgan's. Our topic is *A New Mayor*. The Salon is open to all NABB members and their guests. For more information, contact Linda at words6@verizon.net or 617.437.0542.

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP This diverse group of working, semi-working and retired men meets for lunch, new friendships and learning meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at noon. For information, please contact Jonathan Bagg, at jonathan@beachbagg.com.

NABB BUSINESS LEADERS — Are you a Business Owner? Join us for networking and roundtable style discussions exploring the latest business trends, challenges and opportunities. To join this group contact Sheri Olans at doramorse57@gmail.com

YOUNG FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS
Keep informed of future events—Go to <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/170000949110/>

NABB Architecture Committee-October, 2013, Sue Prindle, co-chair

The committee reviewed three proposals this month.

45-53 Hereford – new infill building fronting on Newbury St.

This proposal, which was reviewed last year, has returned in a slightly smaller format. The top floor has been removed, which is an improvement, and the building has been reformatted and the lots combined so that there are no zoning issues. The building will be retail and office, rather than retail and residential as originally proposed. The committee voiced several concerns, particularly with the proposed rear yard configuration. We expect to review the proposal in more detail in the coming months.

793 – Boylston Street – Abe and Louie's

The proposal is to add an egress stair from the parlor floor on the front of the building. The committee voted to oppose and ask them to find an interior solution.

367 – Beacon Street – enlarged skylight

When this proposal was first reviewed, the applicant was asked by the BBAC to delete a proposed exterior stair connecting the two roof decks. This they did, but in doing so reconfigured and raised the skylights, which triggered a zoning denial from ISD. Our committee did not agree that enlarging a skylight is a zoning issue, since it does not involve increasing floor area, and so we voted not to oppose.

New NABB Members

Micheline De Bievre
Anthony Giacalone and
Zaragoza Guerra
Bruce and Teri Gorsky
Maureen Kotb-van Hogezaand
Sanjiv Mirchandani
Laurie McTeague
Alkes and Megan Price
Jay and Audrey Pabian
Dr. John Romano

REMEMBER TO VOTE!

Tuesday, November 5
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

EVERY VOTE COUNTS SO BE
SURE YOU VOTE

Important Meeting Dates

The **Special Events Committee** will meet on Wednesday, November 6 at 5:30 in the NABB Office.

The **NABB Licensing and Building Use Committee** meets on the first Monday of each month., The next meeting is on November 4th at 7:00pm at the Lenox Hotel. Please contact James Hill, at james.hill.nabb@gmail.com or 617-894-3499

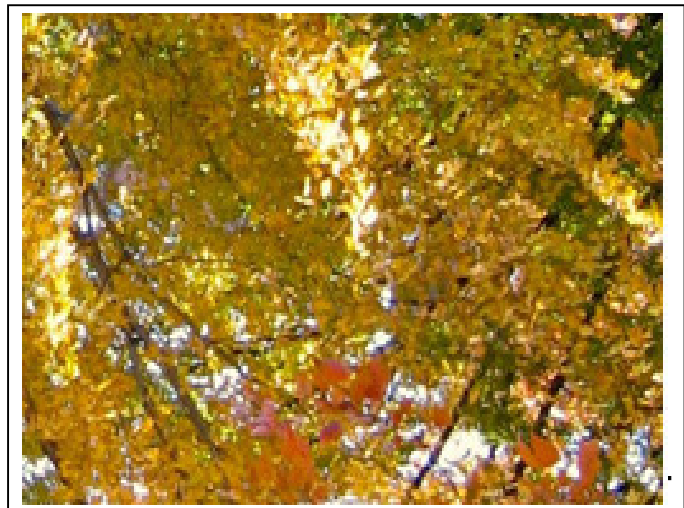
The **NABB Architecture Committee** meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm at the New England College of Optometry, 424 Beacon Street. Next meeting: November 6th. For more information please contact Sue Prindle via the NABB Office.

The **NABB Communications Committee** will meet on November 4 at 6:30pm in the NABB Office.

The **Green Committee** will meet next on November 20 at 5:30pm at The Learning Project, 107 Marlborough St.

The **Development & Transportation Committee** will not meet in November

The **Back Bay Police Panel** meets on the last Wednesday of every month. The next meeting is on November 27.



Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, Inc.
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