

Neighborhood
Association of the
Back Bay



Bulletin

April 2017

**Attorney Sandy Steele Will Answer Your
Questions at the Next Meeting of the
Condo Management Group**

**7:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 6, 2017**

**First Church Chapel
66 Marlborough Street**



Sandy Steele is an attorney at Dane and Howe on School Street in Boston, whose practice includes real estate law, as well as civil litigation, family law, divorce, paternity, child custody, guardianship, and probate. Attorney Steel is our guest speaker at the next meeting of NABB's Condo Management Group, and she will discuss and answer your questions about condominium strategies related to renters, condominium document provisions, and short-term rentals.



*Celebrate Spring with the
Friends of the Clarendon Street Playground*

10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 15th
at the Clarendon Street Playground

Volunteers needed to hide eggs at 8 a.m.

To help with the event, please contact us at the NABB Office
(617.247.3961) or at playground@nabbonline.com.

NABB's Green Committee, Mothers Out Front/Downtown and the Ellis South End Neighborhood Association are co-sponsoring a **Free Forum in Three Acts Supporting Clean Energy & Healthy Neighborhoods: Trees, Gas Leaks, Pipelines, Development, and YOU!** that will take place at 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, May 1st, at the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon Street. Go to www.nabbonline.com for more information.



Visit us on the web @ www.nabbonline.com

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

Architecture Committee Report March 2017

The proposals for valet parking at the Eliot Hotel and the statue at 72 Marlborough have not resurfaced yet, although we expect to see them again. Meanwhile, the proposed scrim at the **First Baptist Church**, which will be in place while they undertake the stabilization of the frieze and other repairs, was approved by the Back Bay Architectural Commission (BBAC) for 24 months with an option to renew. The work being done is the first phase of repairs to essential to preserve this important building, designed by Henry Hobson Richardson. The endangered frieze is by Frederic Bartholdi.

At **284 Commonwealth Avenue**, which is currently zoned and operating as a lodging house, the applicant is upgrading and reducing the number of rooms and adding a penthouse unit. We did not oppose, and the BBAC approved the application. The use of the building will continue as short-term rentals, with an onsite manager.

The BBAC also approved the renovation of **237 Marlborough**, with a roof addition and renovation of the existing garage (sorely needed), both of which will comply with the existing zoning.

The temporary regulation that has allowed **sandwich boards** on the public way is up for renewal (or non-renewal) by the Boston City Council in June. We have been discussing this issue with the Newbury Street League and the Back Bay Association, and hope to be able to come up with some solution to improve the current situation, which does not seem to have been improved by the trial.

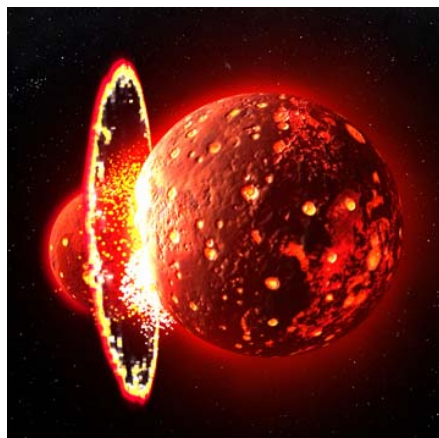
If you have comments or questions about any projects before our committee, please contact Sue Prindle or Susan Shafer by emailing us at architecture@nabbonline.com and we will be happy to give you further details.



SCRIM IN RELATION TO WORKING PLATFORM
(Scrim will actually be on all four sides)

Structures North

SCRIM STUDY/ SCRIM ON WORKING PLATFORM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH TOWER RESTORATION



Special Events Presents

A trip to the Museum of Science's John Hayden
Planetarium to see the acclaimed film

"Moons: Worlds of Mystery"

1:30 PM

Thursday, April 13, 2017

Purchase your tickets at www.nabbonline.com for \$10 each. We will email you about an optional lunch beforehand!

Licensing and Building Use Committee Report March 2017

The Licensing and Building Use (LBU) Committee heard three applications in March. All of the committee's recommendations were unanimous and were also subsequently ratified by the Executive Committee.

- 1. Pressed Juicery, 288 Newbury Street:** This is the former Pinkberry location and is described as a counter service location offering plant, fruit, vegetable, and nut based cold pressed juices, fresh juices, and smoothies. The operator is a California based chain. Hours are proposed as 7 AM to 9 PM. Business is described as 100% takeout. Trash will be in dumpsters provided for the entire building. The committee voted not to oppose.
- 2. Fanhe LLC, 827 Boylston Street:** This is described as a 20-seat Asian cuisine restaurant going into an existing restaurant space. There is no alcohol requested. The proposed hours are 7 AM to 12 PM. Business has minimal takeout (15% described as leftovers) and trash will be in a dumpster. The committee voted not to oppose.
- 3. Flour Bakery + Café, 30 Dalton Street:** This is a bakery and café looking to have 25 seats with hours of operation from 7AM to 8PM. They are seeking to have 10 of the 25 seats be outdoor seating. 50% of the business will be takeout. There will be no alcohol and trash will be inside. The committee voted not to oppose.

BEHIND THE SCENES AT SYMPHONY HALL

Please join us Saturday morning April 22, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. for a look at Symphony Hall through the eyes of the orchestra. A volunteer tour guide for the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) will take you backstage so you can see the hall from the orchestra's perspective.

We will also show you why the superb acoustics of Symphony Hall are legendary and tell you about the visionary Henry Lee Higginson, who founded and generously funded the BSO and who oversaw the building of this beautiful hall (designed by McKim, Mead & White). You will also be taken to the working area of the Hall, in the basement, where so much of the activity that we never see takes place, from the loading and packing of the instruments, to the practice rooms, and to the vast area that stores the seats and tables that enable Symphony Hall to be transformed into a cabaret twice a year for the Boston Pops concerts.



We will meet at Symphony Hall's Massachusetts Avenue entrance to begin the tour. The cost for the tour is \$15 payable at the door. We hope you will also join those of us who will be gathering at Brasserie JO's, an easy walk from Symphony Hall, for lunch afterward. Please go to www.nabbonline.com to sign up!

Friends & Neighbors Events

NABB invites new and current members to get together at our **Meet & Greet** every 2nd Monday at La Voile. Our next Meet & Greet is Monday, April 10th, from 6pm to 8 pm, at La Voile Brasserie, located at 261 Newbury Street. There is a cash bar, and a 10% discount on wine.

Thank you, La Voile!

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP - This group of working, semi-working and retired men with diverse backgrounds meets for lunch and discussion at noon on the 3rd Tuesday of this month (April 18th). For more information, contact Grant Schaumburg at mensgroup@nabbonline.com.

ALLEY RALLY - Spring is finally here, but winter has left behind all of the sand and salt from this past season's snowstorm treatments. Come and join us when **Alley Rally** again sweeps through the neighborhood from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 29th.

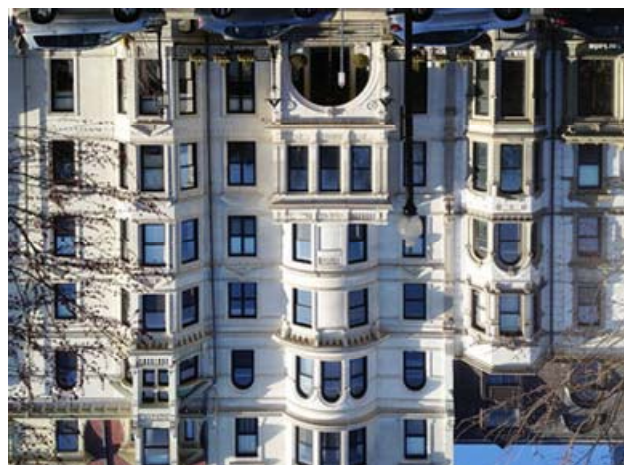
Important Meeting Dates

The **Licensing and Building Use Committee** meets on the first Monday of each month. Next meeting: April 3rd at 7:00 pm at the Lenox Hotel. For more information contact Elliott Laffer at lbu@nabbonline.com.

The **Architecture Committee** meets on the first Wednesday of each month. Next meeting: April 5th at 6:30 pm in the Clausen Room of the New England College of Optometry, 424 Beacon Street.. For more information contact Sue Prindle or Susan Shafer at architecture@nabbonline.com.

The **Green Committee** meets at 5:30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month at the Learning Project, 107 Marlborough Street. Next meeting: April 12th. For more information, please contact Michael McCord at green@nabbonline.com.

The next **Police Panel / Public Safety Forum** will take place at 6:00 pm on Thursday, April 27th, in the Sanctuary of the First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough Street. For more information, please contact Don Carlson at publicsafety@nabbonline.com.



Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, Inc.
160 Commonwealth Ave. L8, Boston, MA 02116