

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
HELD ON AUGUST 26, 1959

The Members of the Boston Redevelopment Authority met in regular session at the offices of the Authority, Room 350, 73 Tremont Street, Boston, Massachusetts, at 10:00 a.m. on August 26, 1959. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, and upon roll call those present and absent were as follows:

Present

Joseph W. Lund  
Msgr. F. J. Lally  
James G. Colbert  
Stephen E. McCloskey

Absent

Melvin J. Massucco (came in later)

A copy of the NOTICE OF MEETING, pursuant to Section 23A of Chapter 39 of the General Laws, with the CERTIFICATE AS TO SERVICE OF NOTICE OF MEETING attached thereto, was read and ordered spread upon the minutes of this meeting and filed for record.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 23A of Chapter 39 of the General Laws that a meeting of the Boston Redevelopment Authority will be held at ten o'clock a.m. on August 26, 1959 at 73 Tremont Street in the City of Boston.

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

By Kane Simonian

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

August 24, 1959

CERTIFICATE AS TO SERVICE OF NOTICE OF MEETING  
(Sec\* 23A, Chapter 39, General Laws)

I, Kane Simonian, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Secretary of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, do hereby certify that on August 24, 1959 I filed, in the manner provided by Sec. 23A, Chapter 39, General Laws, with the City Clerk of the City of Boston, Massachusetts, a NOTICE OF MEETING of which the foregoing is a true and correct copy\*

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of said Authority this 26th day of August, 1959.

Kane Simonian  
Secretary

The Secretary read the minutes of the meeting of August 20, 1959- On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the minutes as read.

The Vice Chairman, Monsignor Lally, who was absent at the meeting of August 20th, stated that he wished to have incorporated in the minutes of today's meeting that he had notified the Executive Director that he desired to be recorded at the meeting of August 20th as voting "Nay", in absentia, on the Agreement for Sale of Government Center land to the General Services Administration for the proposed new Federal Building. This was acknowledged by the Executive Director.

The Executive Director stated that the Urban Renewal Administration Commissioner, David Walker, Regional Administrator Walter Fried, and the Regional Director, Charles Horan, would be in Boston to confer with the Federal Housing Administration on Thursday, August 27th re the West End Project and would like to meet with the Members of the Authority at 3:30 p.m. the same day.

The Executive Director notified the Authority that the City Council had approved the supplementary budget for the Authority in the amount of \$54, 000.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: that the Treasurer be authorized to request the \$54, 000 as appropriated from the City Collector-Treasurer.

(Mr. Massucco entered the meeting at this point.)

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: that the Chairman, Joseph W. Lund, of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, be and he hereby is authorized in its name and behalf to execute and deliver to the Retina Foundation the Agreement of Extension of Time concerning Parcel J or an alternate Parcel J in the West End Redevelopment Area in substantially the form as presented at this meeting.

{The foregoing Agreement, extending the time for delivery to October 15, 1959, is filed in the Document Book of the Authority as Document No. 73.)

The Executive Director distributed copies of reports from the Site Office on Hardship cases - Capone and Mele. After a review of the reports and on motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to waive rent arrearage for the following cases and in the following amounts, and further that relocation payment be authorized for both tenants: Elvira Capone, 21 1/2 Allen Street - \$252; William Mele, 109 Chambers St. -\$139.25.

Site Office Relocation Reports were distributed and reviewed.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to evict the following site tenants and that the Executive Director be authorized to issue the eviction warrants: Victor Choban, 72 Leverett Street; Martin Gorich, 19 Willard Street.

The Executive Director stated that the United Community Services could not send a representative to meet with the Authority at today's meeting to discuss community organizer services on a contractual basis., The Executive Director was instructed to arrange to have a representative present at the next meeting.

The Chairman reported to the Authority that he had executed the Agreement for Sale with Administrator Floete for the site of the Federal Building.

On the recommendation of the Executive Director, and on motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to invite the owner or owners of Patten's Restaurant to meet with the Authority at the next regular meeting of the Authority to discuss the relocation of Patten's Restaurant in the Government Center Project,

The Executive Director reported to the Authority that engineering services would be needed in connection with the West End Project and that a metes and bounds survey of peripheral areas would also be required in connection with the disposition of project land to Charles River Park, Inc.

The Executive Director reported to the Authority that excellent engineering services were performed by Hayden, Harding & Buchanan in connection with the New York Streets Project. On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to authorize the Executive Director to negotiate with Hayden, Harding & Buchanan with respect to providing the required engineering services.

The Executive Director reported to the Authority that prior to today's meeting he had received a call from Councillor Piemonte in connection with the burning of rubble by the demolition contractor on the West End Project Site.

After a discussion, the Executive Director was instructed to write to Councillor Piemonte, explaining to him that permission to burn on the West End Project site had been discontinued from July 16th to August 24th, during which period the Authority personnel investigated the situation, and that as a result of the investigation, the Authority authorized the Duane Company to resume burning for a two-week period from August 20th to September 4th, inclusive, under controlled conditions, Mondays to Fridays only, and between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. , with the approval and under the supervision of the Fire Department.

The Executive Director informed the Authority that, pursuant to several meetings with the City Council Committee on Renewal, Rehabilitation and Re-development and several conferences with the Chairman of said Committee and public hearings held by said Committee, the City Council on August 24, 1959 adopted the Land Assembly and Redevelopment Plan for the Whitney Redevelopment Area with minor changes.

Whereupon the Executive Director presented to the meeting copies of the Land Assembly and Redevelopment Plan for the Whitney Redevelopment Area substantially in the form approved by the City Council on August 24, 1959. The Plan as presented was reviewed and discussed.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, there was presented to this meeting of the Boston Redevelopment Authority for its consideration and approval copies of a plan entitled "Land Assembly and Redevelopment Plan for the Whitney Redevelopment Area, dated December, 1958", substantially in the form approved by the City Council on August 24, 1959, which Plan consists of twelve pages of text containing: A. Boundaries of Project Area; B. Statement of Findings; C. Relationship of Plan to Definite Community

Objectives; D. Controls and Regulations; E. Project Execution; F. Method of Relocation; G. List of Maps; and a "Financial Plan and Summary of Project Costs", marked as page 13; and fourteen maps identified in "G" on page 12 of said Plan, and

WHEREAS, said Land Assembly and Redevelopment Plan was reviewed and considered at length at said meeting; and

WHEREAS, there has been presented to the Authority information, photographs and statistics concerning housing and structural conditions in the project area and statistical information from the 1950 U.S. Census, the 1958 Federal Housing Administration survey and the City of Boston Departments, as summarized in the Statement of Findings, Section B of said Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Boston Redevelopment Authority hereby adopts the Land Assembly and Redevelopment Plan for the Whitney Redevelopment Area substantially in the form approved by the City Council on August 24, 1959, and that the Secretary be and he is hereby directed to file said copy of the Redevelopment Plan with the minutes of this meeting.

(The foregoing Land Assembly and Redevelopment Plan for the Whitney Redevelopment Area is filed in the Document Book of the Authority as Document No. 74.)

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Boston Redevelopment Authority hereby determines that the Project Area is a substandard and decadent area within the definition of Chapter 121 of the General Laws of Massachusetts; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Boston Redevelopment Authority hereby determines to undertake a project for the assembly and redevelopment of the Whitney Redevelopment Area in accordance with the Land Assembly and Redevelopment Plan adopted at this meeting; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Boston Redevelopment Authority hereby authorizes the filing of an Application to the State Housing Board for the approval of said project, pursuant to Section 26KK of Chapter 121 of the General Laws.

The Executive Director distributed news clippings from the HERALD, GLOBE and other papers which stated that Maurice Gordon, through his attorney, Joseph Abrams, was going to file a Bill in Equity asking for a restraining order against Mayor Hynes and the Redevelopment Authority to prevent the acquisition of the School-Washington- and Water Street site for a new Federal Building, which news clippings alleged that the Members of the Authority have been unduly influenced in the selection of the site by the Chairman for personal and purely selfish reasons. Other clippings from the Boston newspapers were presented to the meeting reporting the fact that a Bill in Equity had been filed on behalf of Maurice Gordon containing the above statements in the Bill of Complaint. The Authority discussed the advisability of issuing a press release in answer to the charges contained in the above-mentioned complaint. Accordingly, a press release was prepared and reviewed by the Authority.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to issue the press release in the names of the Members of the Authority with the exception of the Chairman. A copy of the press release as prepared, approved and voted is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

  
Secretary