

# Quarterly Newsletter

## Q3 2023

### *Volunteer Opportunities*



MHNHS will be organizing food distributions to help distribute the food on November 17<sup>th</sup>

and 20<sup>th</sup> at all our properties. Use this link to learn more and sign up to volunteer:

[VOLUNTEER](#)

### *Halloween Happenings*

This Halloween our residents had a blast at the events at the Tobin Community Center. In the afternoon, our seniors joined the Celtics and their dancers at the Senior Celtics event to do some choreography and win some prizes! In the evening, both youth and adults enjoyed the festivities of Halloween on the Hill including the haunted house, pony rides, trick-or-treating, and more! Thank you John Jackson from the Tobin and Chris Dwyer from the New England Baptist Hospital for putting on such wonderful events!



### *Mission Hill Road Race*

In September, MHNHS held the 2023 Mission Hill Road Race. The event was a major success, as hundreds of runners, walkers, and volunteers came out to build community connections. We want to give a huge thank you to all volunteers who came to staff the event, as well as the Mission Hill Artists Collective for coming to sell their art. Another thank you to our elected officials, Mayor Michelle Wu, Rep. Sam Montaña, City Councilor Sharon Durkan, City Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune, for their remarks and for getting our races started! Finally, a huge thank you to all of the race participants, both young and old!



## Announcing the Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park Arboretum!



With the assistance of the Northeastern University Arboretum, Mission Hill NHS staff and past co-ops, and Mission Hill resident Ellen Moore, Mission Hill NHS submitted an application for Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park to become a Level I arboretum. Arbnnet, the designating authority, has accepted, so Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park is now an accredited arboretum. Going forward, the arboretum will be able to capture more public attention and spread awareness of the importance of sustainable green space and environmental conservation. We will keep working to add new native plants, reduce invasive species, and help our pollinators and greenery thrive!

MHNHS was able to announce the great news at the 2023 Road Race with the help of Mayor Michelle Wu, a strong advocate for green spaces. Check out [Mission Hill NHS's website](#) for more information and pictures of this project!



## Board Member Spotlight: Ellen Moore



We'd like to give a special thanks to Ellen Moore for her work in Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park Arboretum. Ellen is a longstanding advocate for green spaces and creating urban gardens. Throughout the process of applying to make the Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park an accredited arboretum, Ellen has been an incredible asset, providing guidance and working hands on at the park.

Ellen's focus on the sustainability of the park has been wonderful, as she has emphasized the importance of native plants and reducing invasive plants in the park as well as the neighborhood in general. Ellen has acquired many native pollinator plants and seeds to plant in the park as well as in the retention basin. The retention basin has become an area to regulate water runoff as well as a haven for bees, butterflies, and birds as they eat and spread pollen. We are so grateful for Ellen's involvement in the park and for her advocacy in Mission Hill.

## Back to School BBQ

Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services celebrated the beginning of the Back-to-School season with our residents at Frawley-Delle, 706 Huntington, One Gurney Street, and Maria Sanchez House! This event is sponsored by New England Baptist Hospital and by Mission Hill NHS.

Residents enjoyed barbecue food, dancing to family-friendly tunes, and ice cream, courtesy of HallKeen Management and Maloney Properties. Each child who lives at one of our buildings received a backpack from President of NEBH, David Passafaro, full of school supplies that was put together just for them! All seniors received a Senior Gift from NEBH. We were also able to raffle off gift cards to families and seniors that attended the event.

The barbecue was a great mix of younger kids and their families, as well as seniors.



## Annual Meeting Recap

On June 15th, Mission Hill NHS held its 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. At the meeting, Matilda Drayton, Betty Galvin, John LaRuffa, Bruce Keary, Judene Williams, Christine Dwyer, and Maria Weinograd were re-elected and Jenna Clark was newly elected to the Board. Additionally, John Riordan, Michael Moriarty, and John Jackson received Community Awards, and June 15th was proclaimed John Jackson Day. Mayor Wu was the Guest Speaker, and she spoke about the importance of affordable housing and its impact on all other facets of life. After the meeting, Soul of Boston got residents up out of their seats and dancing.

## Arbor Day Recap

This Arbor Day, we were joined by many residents and students in Kevin W. Fitzgerald Park to make some improvements. Various teams worked on planting trees, mulching and protecting new trees, planting seeds for pollinator flowers, and placing tags with labels on trees. Volunteers and visiting residents also had the pleasure of hearing the Northeastern Jazz Ensemble perform in the park.

## Take Action

Parcel 25 Phase 3: Want to show your support for our final affordable housing proposal on Parcel 25 in Roxbury Crossing? Stay up-to-date with the BPDA project site by clicking the link below:

[BPDA Site](#)

Route 39 Bus: Give your input on the new improvements to the route 39 bus from Forest Hills to Back Bay. To give input, email [transit@boston.gov](mailto:transit@boston.gov) or call [617-635-4413](tel:617-635-4413). To stay up-to-date with the project, sign up for the newsletter here:

[Route 39 Newsletter](#)

## Get Involved

Click [here](#) to sign up for our email list to get updates about MHNHS and ways to get involved in your community.