



Annual NEWSLETTER- 2005 The Year in Review

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Greetings!!

The Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard (FCNY) has just finished its first year. We thank you for your membership and support during 2005 and we look forward to your continued membership in 2006. If you haven't already, REMEMBER to RENEW!

As a member, you have an increased opportunity to have your voice heard in what happens in the Navy Yard. You are responding to large-scale development proposals that will have substantial future consequences. Your participation is important because there is strength in numbers. Politicians and their staff only pay attention to the active participation of the community. Being a member of the FCNY gives you the opportunity to meet your neighbors and gain first hand knowledge of what the city is planning for our waterfront community.

To view our previous newsletters and lots of other information, visit www.friendscny.org. Comments are welcome to info@friendscny.org.

Thanks for your involvement.
Michael Parker, Chairperson
Marion Dancy Cullen, President

DEVELOPMENT RETROSPECTIVE

During 2005, the FCNY was a major voice and had significant impact on the progress and responsibility of development. To that end we have reached out to city leaders such as Council President O'Flaherty, whom we took on a boat tour of the Navy Yard last summer to spotlight our community's issues. This outreach could not be accomplished without an active and engaged membership. FCNY activities included:

- Raising key issues on the proposed Pier 5 project.
- Providing inputs to the Special Public Destination Facility (SPDF) plan to enhance the Navy Yard experience.
- Influencing the Parcel 4/ Harborview Point construction management plan and environmental investigation.
- Advocating for appropriate temporary parking during Parris Landing renovations and Parcel 4 construction.
- Providing input on a myriad of issues including the planned replacement of bus shelters, street cleaning, and maintenance of the Harborwalk and other Navy Yard areas.

Our focus for 2006 is to continue vigorous dialogue about the viability of the Pier 5 proposal; significant input to the SPDF plan; input on upcoming development proposals for Parcel 6 (Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital), the Ropewalk, the Chain Forge, Parcel 39A (proposed for 47 condos) and more. In addition, a major priority is to improve the condition of the Harborwalk - we are presently talking with the BRA to determine how best to fund the significant repair that is required within the Navy Yard.



As the city builds out the last remaining parcels and buildings of the Navy Yard, there will be numerous issues affecting our quality of life for years to come. Think of this period as our own "Big Dig." It is crucial that we remain active and engaged - we have come a long way over the past year, but there are many more important issues to be faced together.

**For updates and meeting comments, go to
www.friendscny.org, New Development.**

SUMMER 2005 EVENTS

CO-SPONSORED BY FCNY & BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

"Celebrate the Summer Solstice", an outdoor theater event along the waterfront, presented by the Charlestown Working Theater in Shipyard Park on June 21, featured storyteller Diane Edgecomb telling fun stories to several hundred people from diverse community groups, mostly families with children. Refreshments, face painting and balloons rounded out the evening.



The Steve Lantner

Quartet was another free summer concert in Shipyard Park presented by the Charlestown Working Theater on August 25, that brought a



pleasant jazz evening to the Navy Yard and a chance to picnic and watch the children play.

"Paris in the Park", a free summer concert on the beautiful evening of August 3 in Shipyard Park, brought the melodies of Edith Piaf performed by the Boston-based Ziaf quartet. The park was themed as a French Bistro and attracted 500 people, young and old, from the community to enjoy the evening with picnics, refreshments and French pastries, complemented by local artist displays on the lawn.



Charlestown Fit-a-Thon

On September 24, the **Charlestown Fit-a-Thon**, co-sponsored by the Charlestown Waterfront Coalition, attracted a couple of hundred people to Shipyard Park and focused on all aspects of health and fitness in booths/exhibits, through activities and with speakers from over 20 organizations and businesses from the local community. Informational materials,



as well as wise-choice foods, refreshments and samples, were available for adults and children.

"Go Nautical in the Navy Yard", on August 20 was hosted by the Courageous Sailing Center, who provided free sailing, and Save the Harbor, Save the Bay for a free fishing/casting clinic. Also included were games for children and a free BBQ on Pier 4. Approximately 150 people from the community attended. The event was also co-sponsored by the Charlestown Waterfront Coalition.



"Celebrate Fall"

presented by the Charlestown Working Theater, on September 30 in Shipyard Park, brought magician Mike Bent to entertain the children, plus face painting, balloons, and free treats. Also included live music by David Polansky providing an opportunity to picnic before the weather turned cold.



If you would like to participate in the planning and coordination of similar events in 2006, please email us at info@friendscny.org. We depend upon volunteers.

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FCNY-SPONSORED EVENTS

October 2004 - Navy Yard Cleanup Day A day devoted to litter pickup, green space beautification, and education regarding Boston harbor. Representatives from United States Environmental Protection Agency demonstrated the importance of



preservation of clean water quality. Local merchants and professionals donated raffle items for participants. The featured speaker was Bruce Berman, director of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, who spoke about the Boston Harbor cleanup and current waterfront planning issues.

November 2004 - Membership Social The first Friends social and kick off for the new organization was held at Navy Yard Bistro. About 70 people attended and enjoyed meeting their neighbors while munching on hot appetizers and wine.

February 2005 - Winter Warm-Up Party To combat the winter blues, this social was held at the Tavern-on-the-Water, who provided free appetizers, and was attended by 80+ people including Congressman Michael Capuano.

May 2005 - Navy Yard Cleanup Day A day organized by FCNY where community volunteers picked up trash, cleaned streets of salt and sand, raked leaves in Shipyard Park



and refurbished the local playground. A social followed, featuring Vivien Li of the Boston Harbor Association, who spoke about Boston waterfront

development, Boston Harborwalk evolution, the need for community input in the planning process, and the importance of the preservation of public waterfront access.

September 2005 - Fall Membership Social On the beautiful night on the waterfront pier at the Marriott Residence Inn hotel in Charlestown, featured a presentation by Judy Waterston, President and CEO of the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, which plans to move to the Navy Yard. Ms. Waterston highlighted that Spaulding wants to work closely with the community and be a good neighbor and that they have begun working with the BRA on building designs.

November 2005 - Annual Meeting & Social This first Annual Meeting for the FCNY provided a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and Friends. We are currently 200+ strong and growing. Anchor and Commandant's Awards were presented honoring Petie Hilsinger, a long time neighbor, and Bruce Berman and Save the Harbor/Save the Bay!



A NAVY YARD UPDATE

The following is brief summary of the status of development in the Navy Yard as of the end of 2005, based on a presentation given by Jim Gribaudo and Geoff Lewis of the BRA at the FCNY Development Committee Meeting on December 15, 2005.

- In 1978, the BRA acquired the Navy Yard, which formerly was a shipbuilding and repair facility. Part of the area, from First Avenue north to Chelsea Street, was designated as a historical district, which includes the Rope Walk (Building 58), the Chain Forge (Building 105), and the Power Plant (Bldg. 108). The first development was Building 42 in 1982 as Constitution Quarters, a 367-unit apartment building, followed by other residential units along the waterfront and by commercial space on First Avenue and then the Massachusetts General Hospital Facility. Since the completion of Building 197 and Building 114 in the 1990's, there was little development in the Navy Yard until 2005, when 2 major projects began. *Cont. →*

- Construction began on Parcel 4 that will include 224 residential units with the first floor to be facilities of public accommodation (“FPA space”). How the FPA space will be utilized is unknown at this time. Construction will continue through 2006. In addition, Parris Landing was converted from rental to condo with major rehabilitation underway which included a complete renovation of the garage, interior renovations, replacement of windows and roof, and exterior landscaping.
- Also in 2005, Partners Health Care committed to purchase Parcels 6 and 7. Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital has announced planned construction of a new facility. They are in early design discussions and it is expected that the first community meeting occur in the March/April timeframe. Parcel 7 is not expected to be developed until they finish work on Parcel 6.
- The results of the many meetings held last summer and fall about the Special Public Destination Facility and Waterfront Activation Plan, to result in amendments to the Master Harbor Plan (MHP), are still being discussed within the BRA. It is expected that the plans for the changes to the MHP will be announced in the February / March timeframe.
- We have been told that no marina will be associated with the Pier 5 development and that Courageous Sailing Center must be satisfied that the project will not have a significant negative impact on their program. The next steps for the project require a determination from the BRA under Article 80, followed by review by the State agencies (Coastal Zone Management, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs) responsible for enforcing Chapter 91 regulations. It has been suggested to the BRA that they explore what repairs need to be made and see if it is feasible to remove the current fence and reopen Pier 5 to the public for interim use.
- Parcel 39A, the open space in front of the Constitution Inn, was approved previously for commercial, but the developer has requested a change to residential. Reviews of this proposal are now in process with a key issue being the need for adequate parking. No timetable has been set for construction.
- The next phase of Navy Yard redevelopment will be in the Historic District. These buildings cannot undergo significant change to their exteriors because of their historic nature. Many of them also have significant environmental problems that add to the expense of development.
- The Rope Walk. This building was the main source of rope for the Navy for many years. The current plan is for a section to be used for Artists and Artisans as part of a “cultural economy” initiative. Mayor Menino announced the plan and the BRA has a team working on the project. As the plans develop, there will be community meetings to review and discuss.
- The Chain Forge. There is major historical machinery in the building that must be preserved. Unless a solution can be found to move some of this equipment there does not seem to be enough available space to make a viable project. There is also significant deterioration and internal space issues, which would discourage use as housing. \$50,000 has been allocated to study which machinery may be de-listed as historical and disposed of for scrap or other uses.

MANY THANKS TO OUR 2005/2006 CORPORATE MEMBERS!!

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Membership and Annual Dues

If you haven't joined or renewed for 2006 already, act now to have your voice heard. Take a few moments to complete this form and return to the address below. Dues for membership through December 31, 2006 are:

Individual Memberships

<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior	\$10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family	\$30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supporter	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patron	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	Benefactor	\$250

Organization/Corporate Memberships

<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Profit	\$25
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, I would like my organization acknowledged on the FCNY website	

_____ Donation

Make checks payable to: Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard, Inc. (Your contribution is tax deductible)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Additional Family Members for Family Membership: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt No: _____

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Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard
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Renew your Membership
for 2006!
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