

WEST ROXBURY ~ ROSLINDALE BULLETIN

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This former snow plow storage space will become home to eight condos near Roslindale Square.

COURTESY PHOTO

ZBA approves Roslindale condos, denies Brighton pot shop

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Boston Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) met for its regular meeting on Nov. 17 and approved an eight-unit residential building on Belgrade Avenue in Roslindale, voted to deny a new recreational pot shop at 204 North Beacon St. in Brighton and approved another at 883 Hyde Park Ave. in Hyde Park.

The 204 North Beacon St. proposal was put forth by Ron Lipof, represented by Bill Silverman. Lipof said the property is abutted by Mar-

ket Street and a Dunkin' Donuts, which is also owned by the same landlord Lipof is leasing the land from. He said the operation will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. He said they have analyzed the parking trends currently at the property.

"We have done a parking analysis that shows the peak time is really 8 to 8:20 a.m. but it ends at 9 a.m., and we're going to be open way after that at 10 a.m.," he said. "We're going to have a security professional as well as a dedicated outdoor parking lot attendant, who will be responsible for ensuring that vehicular and pe-

destrian traffic is moving smoothly and safely."

He said they have a 1,000-square-foot waiting area with a capacity of 67 people (28 if socially-distant), which he said is much higher than the highest expected customer numbers.

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) Allston Brighton Liaison Conor Newman said the Mayor's Office would go on record in opposition to the proposal.

"We voiced opposition as well when this applicant was

ZBA

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The Roslindale Collective joined forces with Hyde Park's Katsiroubas Produce for Thanksgiving.

PHOTO BY ARIANE KOMYATI

Roslindale Collective distributes Thanksgiving meals

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

As the holiday season quickly approaches, many families across the city (and country) are on a tight budget due to the devastating economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. One million people are struggling to get enough to eat in Massachusetts, the hunger rate is up 59 percent since 2018, and one in five children in the state are food insecure (according to Feeding America).

On Sunday, Nov. 22, the Roslindale Collective, along with the help of dozens of community volunteers, helped distribute nearly 100 boxes of food at their program site at the

Washington Irving Middle School parking lot. Katsiroubas Produce, a family-owned New England produce wholesaler, also helped with the Sunday program by donating Thanksgiving meal boxes of fresh produce and organic chicken.

The Roslindale Collective hosts their food distribution program every Sunday from 1 - 2:30 pm in the back parking lot of the Washington Irving Middle School in Roslindale. The Roslindale food program is hosted by the Roslindale Collective and is a branch of the Brookline Food Co-op, an all volunteer food rescue organization which provides free

Food Coop

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Retail pot shop planned for 1589 Columbus Ave

Richard Heath
Staff Reporter

It wasn't an abutters meeting, it was a love fest.

Fifty-one callers joined the Nov 17 virtual abutters meeting hosted by Lindsey Santana of the Mayors Office to hear partners Michael Pires and Marcus Johnson Smith of KG (Krush Groove) Collective describe their proposed Premium Urban Cannabis dispensary at 1589 Columbus Avenue.

After their presentation, Santana opened the lines for each caller, one by one, and

most spoke in glowing terms about how much they supported KG Collective.

But most of those callers weren't abutters; they didn't even live in Jamaica Plain.

They called in from Taunton, Revere, Salisbury, Somerville, Hyde Park, New Bedford, Uphams Corner, Roxbury, West Roxbury, Malden, Roslindale and Mattapan.

This prompted Natalie Kaufman, at one of her last community meetings as staff for Rep Liz Malia, to make an

Retail Pot

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1589 Columbus Ave, site of the proposed cannabis dispensary

PHOTO BY RICHARD HEATH

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the Ruling Class, both democrat and republican, by big tech and all the fake news media outlets who all seem to be acting like Biden Cheerleaders.

However, never say never, the odds may be against Trump, but this is more than just about his inflated ego, this is about the integrity of the election system and whether or not your vote and mine were suppressed.

Some of the Trump Team's legal challenges are better than others. I give the chances of success pretty much the same chance that Bill O'Reilly stated on a recent WABC Radio show of his, about one in five or 20 percent.

The two strongest cases are in Pennsylvania and Michigan where audits of the vote are taking place. It seems that there were many questionable ballots cast in both states. I hear that in the Quaker State and Michigan too many dead people apparently arose from the dead, climbed out of their graves to take their mail-in voting ballots to the mailbox around the corner from their cemetery address. I guess in some states you carry your right to vote to the grave with you.

Recently, the Boston Globe's apparent racist columnist Renee Graham wrote about all those Trump supporters who were peering into plate glass windows and banging on them to get the attention of vote counters inside and she compared them all to Walking Dead zombies. The newspaper actually ran a photo of that scene next to her column to prove her

point more emphatically. However, we do know that actual dead people participated in the election process this year.

In Pennsylvania a lower court, after a lawsuit filed by Democrat plaintiffs, overturned a state law deciding what votes were valid or not. The judge in this matter overturned current state law and created a new law of his own, or at least that is how I am interpreting it.

If this case gets to the US Supreme Court, and hopefully it will, then does the High Court have any choice other than invalidating all ballots not in the custody of state election officials as of 8pm election night as the previous but overturned law had previously stated? I think that very well might happen but we won't know to the court makes its ruling.

As Yogi Berra once said, 'IT AIN'T OVER UNTIL IT'S OVER!'

*Sal Giarratani
East Boston*

SUPPORTING OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

To the Editor:

What do you think of when you imagine someone who is homeless or going hungry? Do you think of a college student struggling to pay for meals, tuition, housing, and many other expenses at the same time?

Usually people don't think of college students when they consider the hungry or the homeless, and these issues have been exacerbated by the pandemic. The Hope Center

found that about 40% of college students experience food insecurity. Additionally, 15% of students at 4-year and 11% of students at 2-year institutions have experienced homelessness because of the pandemic.

On top of that, the pandemic has made numerous college students experience job insecurity.

My job was closed because of the pandemic, so I found myself unable to work and with less money to spend on the costs of going to college. When the CARES Act was passed earlier this year I, like many other college students, was extremely grateful to receive some assistance.

We can't expect college students to shoulder the excess burdens from the pandemic alone. We should be supporting our college students, and an easy way to do that is to make sure the next COVID relief bill provides for college students.

*Ashley Agostinelli
Sophomore, MASSPIRG
Students Intern*



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think with a
Letter To
The Editor**

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Please include your name,
address & telephone number.
Unsigned letters will not be
published.

Food Coop *continued from page 1*

food to elderly, disabled, and low-income households in the area.

Last March, Katsiroubas began offering homes the option to purchase a produce box. They also offered a donation option for people to purchase a "food box" for specific food organizations, such as the Roslindale Collective.

"Our agreement is that instead of us getting a box of food, we use the money donated towards purchasing bulk produce that we give out at the Sunday program (i.e. carrots, onions, fruit, etc). Katsirouba decided to offer a Thanksgiving box, that was worth \$45 and food pantries could get for \$25. Our goal was to be able to offer one Thanksgiving box to the 80 families that typically come through the Sunday program," explained Roslindale Collective volunteer Sadie Fox Barocas. "In order to accomplish that goal, we asked the community if they would contribute. The beauty of this type of fundraising, is that anyone, from anywhere, can make a donation. There were donations from Colorado, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, and, of course, Boston and the surrounding areas."

In the Thanksgiving meal box, Katsiroubas provided fresh produce such as celery, onions, and carrots and a whole organic chicken.

"Since COVID-19 started back in March, Katsiroubas has changed their business model a bit. We now do direct to consumers and we started offering curbside pick-up locations for people to pick up boxes of fresh produce with no contact in order to avoid going to the grocery store and wait in line," said Jessica Rohrick of Katsiroubas. "We now serve nine communities in and around Boston. Within each community we serve, we have teamed up with their local food pantry [or food co-op]. We got in contact with Leah and Sadie from the Roslindale Collective."

"This [program] would not be possible if it wasn't for the support of the community, who has rallied around us, and the support of Katsiroubas, who has been by our side since the beginning. We are eternally grateful for the support they have given us. The quality of the food people are going to get today is astronomical," stated Leah Arteaga, a Roslindale Collective volunteer. "We touch the lives of so many people. People who are struggling because their unemployment benefits have ended and they didn't know how they were going to get food on the table. It warms my heart that each of us comes out every week and sacrifices a few hours of our life to get this done."

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