



## **ABOUT US AT GGHMS.**

GREATER GROVE HALL MAIN STREETS IS COMMITTED TO PROMOTING A DIVERSE BUSINESS DISTRICT WHILE MAINTAINING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD'S HISTORICAL CHARACTER. WE ENCOURAGE INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE TECHNIQUES TO FOSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT ENRICHES THE LIVES OF BUSINESS OWNERS, EMPLOYEES AND RESIDENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY.



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT) - BERTRAM ALLEYNE, MURPHY GREGORY, JOHN LINEHAN, LYNDA BLAKE (CO-CHAIR), ROBERT HECTOR, KARENLYN BUNCH AND MACEO REMY.

BOTTOM ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT) - SIS. VIRGINIA MORRISON, ROBERTA YOUNG (TREASURER), ROBBY THOMAS (CHAIRMAN), ED GASKIN (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR), BOB THOMPSON (SECRETARY).

### **NOT SHOWN:**

JOEL HARPER, BRUCE BICKERSTAFF, ANDREW WATSON AND ERIC STRAUGHTER.

PHOTO CREDIT: BOB THOMPSON

## THIS MONTH'S FEATURED BUSINESS

Greater Grove Hall Main Streets' April Choice

### BLUE HILL PHARMACY & THRIFT STORE

320 Blue Hill Ave, Dorchester, MA 02121

#### CONTACT US:

(617) 652-7546

#### HOURS:

Mon - Fri 9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm



Blue Hill Pharmacy is a newly opened pharmacy in the Grove Hall area. Its size enables it to provide personal service and encourages questions from customers. While customers wait for their prescription to be filled they have the opportunity to shop for clothes and accessories. The thrift store offers hand picked, quality merchandise at the same price people are paying at Goodwill.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- \* **ACOUSTIC ON MAIN (#ACOUSTICONMAIN) WILL TAKE PLACE IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK, AND WILL RUN FROM MAY 1-10TH (HOURS OF 4 PM - 9 PM).**
- \* **ADAMS ARTS PROGRAM: APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE. FINAL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015.**
- \* **BMS AWARDS CEREMONY IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH (HOURS OF 6PM - 9 PM) AT THE STRAND THEATRE IN UPHAM'S CORNER.**



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS  
MARTIN J. WALSH, MAYOR

## ACOUSTIC ON MAIN - #AcousticOnMain

The City of Boston is introducing *Acoustic On Main*, a 10 day Main Street District event celebrating and promoting local small businesses and musical performers.

Dates: May 1-10, from 4-9 pm

The Initiative is a partnership of Mayor Martin Walsh, the City Council's Committee on Arts & Culture, Office of Arts & Culture, Consumer Affairs & Licensing and Office of Business Development.

Purpose: To support small businesses in Main Streets districts impacted by the challenges of this past winter. During National Small Business Week, it will raise awareness of the importance of "shopping local", drive foot traffic into Main Street Business Districts and showcase local acoustic performers.

Concept: City of Boston will designate National Small Business Week (May 1st-10th) in Main Street Districts as Acoustic on Main, during which time the live entertainment license requirement and fees for acoustic performers in restaurants, cafes and any interested small businesses will be waived.

- City will provide a single blanket acoustic performer (instrument and voice) entertainment license to cover all small businesses in Main streets districts for May 1-10 during hours of 4-9 pm who would like to offer live acoustic acts in their business.
- There will be no license fees for businesses and performers. The Main Streets-wide blanket license will require no more than 5 acoustic performers at a single venue at any given time.
- Simple online registration (name/type of biz/address, contact info/dates/hours/performers participating if known) will be required for any business participating. Link for this form will be available next week - please watch for updated information.□
- Any Main Street district interested in having live acoustic performers in outdoor public spaces will submit simple request separately, again with location, date/time/performers.
- City will develop and share marketing pieces including **#AcousticOnMain** social media campaign to promote. We ask that businesses and Main Streets Districts do a big push to help promote this the week prior and during. Marketing materials will be available sometime next week.

Updates for promotional materials, registration process and performer lists will be available next week. In the meantime, please start thinking about potential performers and venues.

For more information, please contact Abby Furey at [abby.furey@boston.gov](mailto:abby.furey@boston.gov), or (617) 635-0313.



## Adams Arts Program Applications Now Available

[Applications](#) for two-year [Adams Arts Program](#) grants (FY2016 - FY2017) are now being accepted.

Final applications are due Thursday, May 7, 2015.

[Please register to attend an informational webinar](#) to learn more about the program on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 10:30am. The webinar will cover:

- Program mission, goals and eligibility criteria
- Completing the online application
- Designing a logic model - a core application requirement

[Learn More](#)

Questions?

Meri Jenkins, Adams Arts Program Manager  
617-858-2716

Annie Houston, Adams Arts Program Officer  
617-858-2727

Our goal is to help make your business as efficient and profitable as possible. We will work with you to help solve your problems, while understanding that you have limited resources and budget. Upon completion, we will present to you a written assessment of your business and recommendations for improving inefficiencies and cost. **Sign up today.**

CONNECT WITH US



The Boston Main Streets Annual Awards Ceremony

The BMS Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, June 25th from 6:00 - 9:00 pm at the Strand Theatre in Upham's Corner, catered food & drink and entertainment in the lobby prior to going into the theatre for onstage entertainment and culminating with the volunteer and business of the year award ceremony with Mayor Walsh.

SAVE THE DATE

Mayor Martin J. Walsh  
and Boston Main Streets present

The Boston Main Streets  
Annual Awards Ceremony

The Strand Theatre  
June 26, 2014 at 6:00pm

The poster features a central image of a classical archway with a glowing yellow sunburst inside. The background is dark blue with white stars and light rays.

**GREATER GROVE HALL MAIN STREETS IN THE NEWS!**

## OLYMPIC CONTACT INFO



## BOSTON

For those who have comments, questions and concerns about the Olympics.

- 1) John FitzGerald is the Chief of Olympic Operations and Special Projects for the City of Boston.
- 2) If you want to email questions or concerns please send them to [Olympics@boston.gov](mailto:Olympics@boston.gov)
- 3) To join the mailing list, you can **text** your email address to **617-431-4100**, and you will be added to the list automatically. *(if you do not have this capability, please send John an email and he will find a way to add you)*
- 4) John is happy to come and meet/call with whatever groups or individuals that have questions, concerns, and even possibly ideas for how hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games can make Boston a better City.

## NEWS FEEDS:

## HUD program brings funds to Grove Hall social services

Eliza Dewey | 3/12/2015, 6 a.m.

### Also of interest



Main Streets Director Ed Gaskin sees bright future for Grove Hall



Ed Gaskin new executive director of Greater Grove Hall Main Streets



Roxbury neighbors question DND sale of Warren St. land

In the next few weeks the city's Department of Neighborhood Development will begin accepting applications for federal funding for economic development projects in the Grove Hall area.

The process will begin when the DND releases its formal Request for Proposals (RFP), the letter the agency sends out to community groups as the first step in the development process to solicit applications for the projects. A total of \$500,000 will be made available, with a maximum of \$100,000 per project.

Money for the project comes from a federal funding stream known as the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative, an offshoot of the HOPE VI federal funding program. HOPE VI was an initiative by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development started in the 1990s to revitalize failing public housing projects by converting them into mixed-income developments. It was the 1980s conversion of Dorchester's Columbia Point Housing Projects into a mixed-income development — now called Harbor Point — that first inspired the national HOPE VI program. Choice Neighborhoods provides funding not just for assisted housing, but also the areas surrounding it.

Applications will be due 45 days from the date the RFP is issued. Projects must also be completed by August 2017. They must be based within the Quincy Corridor Target Area, which roughly covers the area just north of Four Corners over to Grove Hall and stretching up to Uphams Corner.

Ed Gaskin, Executive Director of Greater Grove Hall Main Streets, said that this would not be the first time the neighborhood received such funding. A string of store fronts along Blue Hill Avenue near the intersection with Warren Street — including a barber shop, a Chinese food place and a pizza shop — have undergone store-front renovations thanks to the same kind of grant awarded to the building's owner last summer.

This time, Gaskin said, he hopes for a "shared work space" to cultivate business innovation, similar to the spacious innovation hubs that Mayor Martin Walsh has touted in the city's "Innovation District" in the Seaport District.

Gaskin said the area would serve as an "incubator" to encourage collaboration among local entrepreneurs. He said such spaces cultivated "a community of people thinking the same way" and help to provide a role model for young people, showing them "what it would be like to be part of a start-up."

When asked how he would ensure that a business lab would serve people of the community rather than being usurped by outside start-up companies hoping to take advantage of the area's low rent prices, Gaskin said that he thought the benefit of having people who are starting businesses and could serve as role models would outweigh any such concerns.

Gaskin also described the innovation center as cost-effective, since the space would not require "a lot of build-out." He said people in the neighborhood have longed for rebuilding in the area for a long time but that because "the world has changed a lot in the past 40 years," it was not practical to focus entirely on adding another retail store front.

The RFP's release date is still being finalized, but it will be issued in the last week of March or first week of April. It will be posted online at <http://dnd.cityofboston.gov/#page/rfps>.

## PREVIOUS EVENTS...



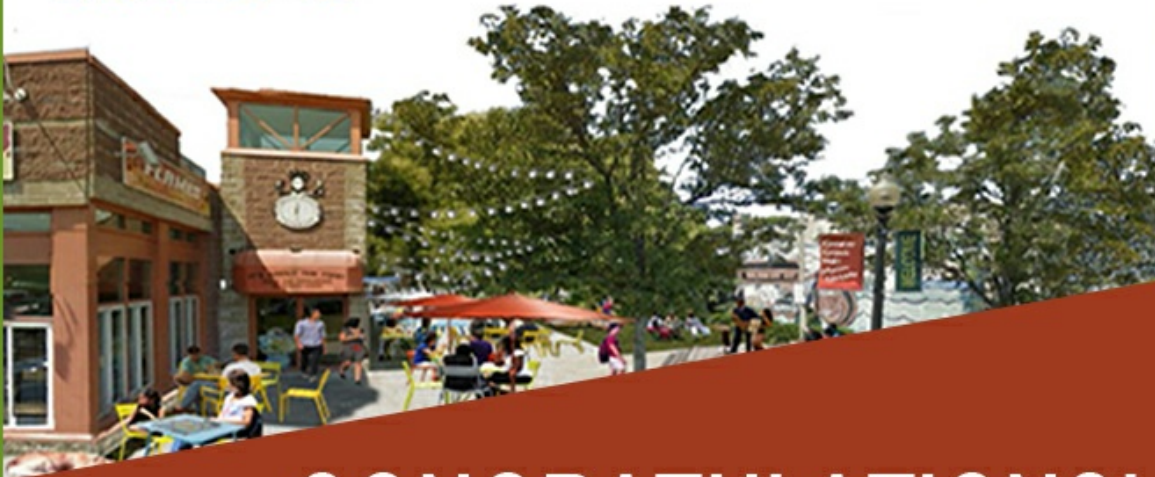
**Board member Bruce Bickerstaff and his fiancée participating in Boston Shines.**



One of the newer members of the Greater Grove Hall Community participating in Boston Shines. He's wearing a Greater Grove Hall Main Streets t-shirt.



**Greater Grove Hall**  
**MAIN STREETS**



**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**GREATER GROVE HALL MAIN STREET**  
**HAS NOW BECOME ACCREDITED FOR 2015.**

**“YOUR MAIN STREET PROGRAM HAS BEEN NAMED  
A 2015 ACCREDITED MAIN STREET PROGRAM FOR  
MEETING THE 10 STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE  
IN 2014.”**

THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION,  
A PRIVATELY FUNDED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION,  
WORKS TO SAVE AMERICA'S HISTORIC PLACES.



**National Main Street  
Center**

a subsidiary of the  
National Trust for Historic Preservation

**Greater Grove Hall Main Streets**  
**320B Blue Hill Avenue**  
**Dorchester, MA 02121**

617.442.2560

***Give us a call today!***

Want to know what's going on in Greater Grove Hall?

**STAY CONNECTED**



[Visit our blog](#)