

MEDIA CONTACT:

Ann Faldetta
info@abot.org
617-562-4518

**The Allston and Brighton Boards of Trade Annual Dinner
May 4, 2017**

ALLSTON, MA April 12, 2017 – The **Allston and Brighton Boards of Trade** would like to announce the date for the Combined Allston/Brighton Boards of Trade Annual Dinner. The dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2017 at The Heights Room at Corcoran Commons on the Boston College Campus. A cocktail reception will be held at 5:30 P.M. with dinner to follow beginning at 7 P.M. Guest speaker will be **Karen Gordon Mills**, Senior Fellow at the Harvard Business School and at the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at the Harvard Kennedy School focusing on U.S. Competitiveness, entrepreneurship and innovation.



Karen Gordon Mills served in President Barack Obama's cabinet as the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration from 2009 until August 2013. As SBA Administrator and a Cabinet member, Mills served on the President's National Economic Council and was a key member of the White House economic team. At the SBA, she led a team of more than 3,000 employees and managed a loan guarantee portfolio of over \$100 billion. Mills is credited with turning around the Agency, streamlining loan programs, shortening turnaround times, and reducing paperwork. These efforts resulted in record-breaking years for SBA lending and investments in growth capital. In addition, Mills helped small businesses create regional economic clusters, gain access to early stage capital, hire skilled workers, boost exports, and tap into government and commercial supply chains.

Mills earned an AB in economics from Harvard University and an MBA from Harvard Business School, where she was a Baker Scholar. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Harvard Corporation, Harvard's principal fiduciary governing board. She is Chairman of the Advisory Committee for the Private Capital Research Institute, a non-profit organization that seeks to further the understanding of private capital and its impact through independent academic studies. Mills is a regular contributor to *Fortune* and her writing has appeared in *Harvard Business Review* and *Politico* magazine.

About The Allston Board of Trade

The Allston Board of Trade, first established in 1932, is an open organization representing locally-based businesses, industries and institutions working together with the City of Boston, the community, elected officials and local charities to help support, strengthen and improve the quality of life and commerce in Allston. ABOT's goal is to help maintain Allston as a vibrant community in which to live, shop, work and raise a family. The Allston Board of Trade provides financial contributions to local charities, projects to improve the neighborhood and scholarships.

About The Brighton Board of Trade

The Brighton Board of Trade was established in 1945 to help the neighborhood business community of Brighton, specifically by lowering the costs of doing business in Brighton, increasing individual member's sales and profits, and promoting a community spirit that improves the overall quality of life of Brighton residents.

The Brighton Board of Trade also works in conjunction with the neighborhood schools, small businesses, and sports organizations to help with their financial needs. In addition, the Brighton Board of Trade annually awards scholarships, makes donations to local little league and other non-profit organizations to assist with their financial needs. The Brighton Board of Trade is in place for the community to go to for support and assistance while promoting local business and commerce.