Field Observation and Summary

April 7th and 8th

While on vacation in Boston, I decided to take observation in what life was like in the Boston Commons. April 7th, 2019 it was a sunny morning in Boston, MA at 8 am, I decided to go to Boston Commons. It was about a 10-minute walk from my hotel, The Omni House and it was like the city was just waking up. The cars driving around the beeping of cars and the smells of food as restaurants open. I stopped in a cemetery where Paul Revere was buried and other revolutionary figures. It was quiet and only about 7 other people were there while I popped in. I found the tombstones of Paul Revere and took some snaps for a memory, I continued and found the tombstones of Benjamin Franklin and his family, and then took some pictures for memory. I continued and found the tombstones of John Hancock and Samuel Adams and took pictures of both. I then exited and noticed I was the only person in the cemetery when I exited. When I finally got to my destination at 8:45 am, Boston Common was already full of people. There were 3 men training for the Boston Marathon in about a week from today. They were mumbling about what their time was the day before and then one of the men says, “3-2-1 Go!”. There were several runners about 25 that followed these 3 men, and all ran by me and were smiling as they prepare for their practice for the marathon. As I walked along I stopped to take pictures of various trees and monuments and I noticed other people taking pictures as well and a couple of people were taking professional pictures with different professional cameras. There was an Asian man playing an instrument that I never had seen before. As I walked past he said Hello and said have a nice day with a very dense Asian ascent. I then exited the park and headed back to the hotel so that I may look for something for breakfast.

I returned to Boston Common on the next day April 8th, 2019 at around 9:30 I again noticed the runners, and this time it was like around 40 woman and the fastest runners up front then it seemed the slowest runners to the back. They all were talking and encouraging each other to keep going and they can achieve any goal possible. I felt also like I go do anything that day. I went back to the pond and saw a lot my animals then the previous day. There was a family of ducks swimming under the bridge. The Asian man is playing that large guitar like instrument. The skies got darker and it started the sprinkle and seemed like I was going spit on. I walked towards some trees so that I would not get wet and saw a man in traditional revolutionary clothes selling Boston gifts. It stopped raining, so I went towards the man to see what he was selling, and he was giving directions to a couple that was visiting from Ohio. He told them that if they wanted to take the subway to Fenway Park for the game tomorrow, they needed to the green line and it is only 3 stops and from there it is 3 blocks away. He then was talking about what was going at the state capitol that day. I continued to walk and noticed there was a playground that had a gate to keep the children from escaping while parents overlook their children outside of the playground. There was a family, a mom, a dad, a baby and small child walking towards the playground and the small boy went into the playground and then locked his parents out saying, “ha ha you can’t get in mommy and daddy”. The parents both laugh and said, “more like you can not get out” Then it started to sprinkle again, and I left to back to hotel to get something for breakfast.

As I look back at my observations and thought what my thought was on choosing where my site was. I really wanted to observe my coworker that I interviewed, but I was already going to visit the Boston Common while attending a funeral. So, I decided what better than observe a place that I was not comfortable in and have no knowledge other than where it is located and what it looks like. I noticed a lot of people preparing for the Boston Marathon that would be a week later. What happens at a historical park and what it looks like as an observer rather someone just visiting it. I got more culture and feeling of history and realness while just observing and people a quiet visitor. I enjoyed taking my field observation in a place where so many people come together and share so many culture and history. I never felt that I could not do anything or had any restrictions on what I was viewing or doing. I felt very accepted and most people thought I was from the area and not a visitor.