

Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: January 29, 2016

TO: Mayor Setti D. Warren

FROM: James Freas, Acting Director of Planning and Development

RE: Friday Report

CC: City Council

Maureen Lemieux, Chief of Staff and Chief Financial Officer

Dori Zaleznik, Chief Administrative Officer

Our Department's weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

Monday 2/1/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and Development Board, 7:30 p.m., Room 205
Tuesday 2/2/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land Use Committee, 7:00 p.m., Council Chamber, Room 207
Wednesday 2/3/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fair Housing Committee, 8:00 a.m., Room 211
Thursday 2/4/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newton-in-Motion, 4th, 5th, 6th at 275 Needham St. (Marshall's Plaza)• Brookline-Newton-Waltham-Watertown Continuum of Care, 2:00 p.m., Room 211• The Farm Commission - cancelled• Newtonville Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 205 - cancelled

- **Planning and Development Board:** The Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, February 1st** at 7:30 p.m. in Room 205. Items on the agenda are as follows: recommendation from the Commission on Disability for the reprogramming of \$99,000 in CDBG funds to the Newton Highlands Playground and \$20,800 in CDBG funds towards the purchase of audible pedestrian signal (APS) units; request by Citizens for Affordable Housing in Newton (CAN-DO) for an additional \$75,000 in CDBG and HOME funds for the rehabilitation of an existing two-family house located at 10-12 Cambria Road; and approval of minutes from January 4, 2016. **Contact Judith Menon** at 617.796.1125 or jmenon@newtonma.gov.
- **Land Use Committee:** The Committee will meet on **Tuesday, February 2nd** in the City Council Chambers (Room 207) on the following petitions: **#480-14(4)**, petition for Special Permit to change one nonconforming use to another by restoring and expanding an existing structure known as the **Turtle Lane Playhouse** with office space above, to provide a mixed-use building with an addition containing 4 dwelling units at street level and above and a second building containing a 16-unit multi-family dwelling with a below-grade parking garage for 27 cars at **283 Melrose Street**; Jointly with the Finance Committee, **#356-15**, request for Community Preservation Act funding for two units of permanently affordable rental housing at **10-12 Cambria Road** in which the Community Preservation Committee has recommended the appropriation of \$471,117 from the fund for a grant to Citizens for Affordable Housing. **Contact Alexandra Ananth** at 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov.
- **Newton –in-Motion:** All are encouraged to visit the “Newton-in-Motion” open studio, and take part in visioning the City’s future. **This free event, held at 275 Needham Street (Marshall’s plaza) on February 4, 5 and 6**, will be fun and interactive and will offer opportunities to discuss goals and priorities for the City’s Transportation Strategy. Activities include a games table, a giant map of the City for sharing ideas, transportation questions, and a chance to talk to City staff and consulting planners, Nelson\Nygaard. Kids are welcome and encouraged to participate! For those unable to attend, the project website will offer the same activities and opportunity for input both during and after the event. Our mobile team will also be out and about around the City during the February 4th – 6th workshop and we encourage those who come across them to tell them about their transportation vision for Newton. Additional information can be found on our website at www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/transportation_strategy.asp.

- **Fair Housing Committee:** The Committee will meet on **Wednesday, February 3rd** at 8:00 a.m. in Room 211. The agenda includes an discussion about the Fair Housing Ordinance and a review of materials for the Fair Housing Committee webpage. **Contact Malcolm Lucas** at 617.796.1149 or mlucas@newtonma.gov.
- **Brookline-Newton-Waltham-Watertown Homelessness Continuum of Care:** The CoC will meet on **Thursday, February 4th** at 2:00 p.m. in Room 211. The agenda includes an introduction of the Cloudburst consultants, elections for vice-chair, a discussion of the FY17 Annual Action Plan, and a proposed amendment to the governance charter. **Contact Judith Menon** at 617.796.1125 or jmenon@newtonma.gov.
- **Community Preservation Committee:** The agenda for the Committee's next meeting on **Thursday, February 11th** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 204 includes two pre-proposals: for affordable housing at [424-32 Cherry Street](#) (West Newton), potential \$3 million CAN-DO request; and for affordable housing and a community park at [70 Crescent Street](#) (Auburndale), potential \$3.3 million City of Newton request. The CPC uses a pre-proposal discussion only to determine whether it is willing to consider a full proposal, and to advise the project sponsor. The CPC votes on funding only after a public hearing on the full proposal, which is made available to the public at least 1 month before the hearing. For links to full agendas and proposal documents, go to www.newtonma.gov/cpa. **Contact Alice Ingerson** at 617.796.1144 or aingerson@newtonma.gov.
- **The Farm Commission:** The regularly scheduled **Thursday, February 4th** meeting has been **cancelled**. **Contact Alexandra Ananth** at 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov.
- **Newtonville Historic District Commission:** The regularly scheduled **Thursday, February 4th** meeting has been **cancelled** as no applications were submitted. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, March 3rd**. **Contact Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or bkurze@newtonma.gov.