

Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: April 1, 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 4/4/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning and Development Board, 6:45 p.m., Room 204
Tuesday 4/5/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land Use Committee Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m., Council Chamber (Room 207)• Newton Historical Commission, 7:00 p.m., City Hall Cafeteria (Basement Level)
Wednesday 4/6/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fair Housing Committee, 8:00 a.m., Room 211
Thursday 4/7/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conservation Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 204• The Farm Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 211• Newtonville Historic District Commission, Cancelled
Friday - Saturday 4/8/16 & 4/9/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newton-in-Motion, all day for two days, intersection of Washington St. and Walnut St., Newtonville *Rain Date: May 13-14*

- **Planning and Development Board:** The Board will hold a public hearing on **Monday, April 4th** at 6:45 p.m. in Room 204. Items on the agenda include: #54-16 & 54-16 (2), proposed amendments to the Newton Zoning Ordinance to make updates to the "Health Club" use; #53-16, requesting technical amendments to the recently adopted reformatted Newton Zoning Ordinance to address edits related to missing or incorrectly transcribed ordinance provisions.; the draft FY17 Annual Action Plan for the City of Newton CDBG & ESG Programs and the WestMetro Consortium HOME Program. **Contact Kimberly O'Brien** at 617-796.1146 or kobrein@newtonma.gov.
- **Land Use Committee Public Hearing:** The Committee will meet on **Tuesday, April 5th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Room 207. The following special permit petitions will be heard: **#48-16**, petition to construct a three-story, 113,187 square foot self-storage facility with a building height of 36 feet which will increase the Floor Area Ratio to 1.5, where 1.0 is the maximum allowed by right, as well as a waiver of 36 parking stalls and waivers of other parking requirements at **255-257 Newtonville Avenue**. **Contact Alexandra Ananth** at 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov.
- **Newton Historical Commission:** The Commission will hold its second of two hearings on **Thursday, April 5th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Basement Cafeteria. The following waiver requests will be heard: **36 Walnut Park, 32 Wetherell Street, 499 Dudley Road, 261 Melrose Street, and 124 Jewett Street**. A detailed agenda can be found on our website at: www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/histpres/agenin/histage/2015_agenda_n_minutes.asp. **Contact Katy Hax Holmes** at 617.796.1143 or kholmes@newtonma.gov.
- **Fair Housing Committee:** The Committee will meet on **Wednesday, April 6th** at 8:00 a.m. in Room 211 to have an discussion about preparation of materials to facilitate the Planning Department's meeting the Engine 6 Agreement and strategizing their next Fair Housing event. **Contact Malcolm Lucas** at 617.796.1149 or mlucas@newtonma.gov.

- **Conservation Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, April 7th** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 204. The following locations will be discussed for **wetland permits**: MBTA's commuter rail line, 110 Upland Ave., 790 Centre St., and 300 Hammond Pond Parkway. **Conservation area discussions** will address: improvements at Norumbega, prioritizing activities on Conservation land, and volunteer projects. **"Issues around town"** will include a discussion of pedestrian monitors. **Administrative matters** discussions will include a review of meeting minutes, draft Aquatic Weed Control and Pond Management Guidance, draft Minor Exempt Guidance, and the Commission's meeting schedule. Updates will be given. A detailed agenda can be found at www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/conserv/age/2015_agendas_n_minutes.asp. **Contact Jennifer Steel** at 617.796.1134 or jsteel@newtonma.gov.
- **The Farm Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, April 7th** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 211. The meeting includes the following agenda items: Update on Farm Operations, 2015 End of Year Report, Approval of January minutes. **Contact Alexandra Ananth** at 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov.
- **Newtonville Historic District Commission:** The regularly scheduled **Thursday, April 7th** meeting has been **cancelled** as no applications were submitted. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, May 5th**. Contact **Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or bkurze@newtonma.gov.
- **Newton-in-Motion:** For two days, the intersection of Washington Street and Walnut Street will feature a temporary traffic configuration that will demonstrate how the intersection could be redesigned to be more welcoming to all users. The temporary configuration will be made of moveable materials and will include elements like curb extensions, pedestrian islands, bike lanes, parklets, and art programming. Kids welcome and encouraged to participate! More info at www.newtonma.gov/transportationstrategy
**Rain Date: Fri-Sat, May 13-14th*