

# Planning and Development Department Update

**DATE:** August 5, 2016

**TO:** Mayor Setti D. Warren

**FROM:** Barney Heath, 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:

<b>Monday 8/8/16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission Site Visit, 6:30 p.m., 34 Beacon St</li></ul>
<b>Tuesday 8/9/16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Auburndale Historic District Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 205</li><li>• Land Use Committee, 7:00 p.m., Council Chamber (Room 207)</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday 8/10/16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newton Housing Partnership - cancelled</li></ul>
<b>Thursday 8/11/16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WestMetro Home Consortium, 9:00 a.m., Room 211</li><li>• Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 205</li></ul>

- **Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission Site Visit:** The Commission will meet on **Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. at **34 Beacon Street** for a site visit to review the existing property and site conditions. **Contact Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or [bkurze@newtonma.gov](mailto:bkurze@newtonma.gov).
- **Auburndale Historic District Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. The following requests will be considered: **348 Central Street**, to install solar panels; **11 Fern Street**, to replace the front entry railing, to cover the walkway and stairs with pavers and to expand the concrete block wall; **115 Windermere Road**, to replace windows and a side entry door and remove a skylight; **256 Woodland Road**, to install a stone wall with stone piers along the front property line; Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. **Contact Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or [bkurze@newtonma.gov](mailto:bkurze@newtonma.gov).
- **Land Use Committee:** The Committee will meet on **Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber to hear the following special permit petitions: to exceed the maximum allowable floor area ratio (FAR) by constructing two rear additions at **11 Scarsdale Road**; to further increase a nonconforming rear setback by constructing two additions at **6 Glastonbury Oval**; and **#215-16(2)** to modify special permit #501-94(2) by constructing six parking stalls in a side-yard setback, waive aisle width, security lighting, and screening requirements as well as a retaining wall greater than 4' in a setback at **342, 342A, 344-346 Elliot Street**. Following the public hearings a discussion on the special permit process will be held. A detailed agenda can be found at [www.newtonma.gov/gov/aldermen/committees/landuse/2016.asp](http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/aldermen/committees/landuse/2016.asp). **Contact Alexandra Ananth** at 617.796.1121 or [aananth@newtonma.gov](mailto:aananth@newtonma.gov).
- **WestMetro Home Consortium:** The Consortium will meet on **Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00 a.m. in Room 211. The agenda includes review and discussion of the FY16 Relinquished HOME Funds in the Competitive Funding Pool, regulatory compliance related to maximum allowable rent and utility allowance, and material required for the annual Consolidated Annual

Performance an Evaluation Report (CAPER). **Contact Liz Valenta** at 617.796.1145 or [evalenta@newtonma.gov](mailto:evalenta@newtonma.gov).

- **Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission:** The Commission will meet on **Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. The following requests will be considered: **15 Shawmut Park**, to replace non-compliant front stairs and rear deck and stairs; continued from May 2016 meeting; **109 High Street**, to install solar panels; **70-72 High Street**, to revise kitchen windows, shed dormer detail, siding material, deck posts, handrails and chimney, and to install retaining wall and gas vent cap; Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. **Contact Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or [bkurze@newtonma.gov](mailto:bkurze@newtonma.gov).
- **Urban Design Commission - Updates:** The Commission's regularly schedule meeting has been changed to August 24<sup>th</sup> (from August 17). The deadline for submission has also been extended to August 10<sup>th</sup>. **Contact Rachel Blatt** at 617.796.1127 or [rblatt@newtonma.gov](mailto:rblatt@newtonma.gov).
- **Newton Leads 2040: A Blueprint to Promote Affordable, Diverse Housing and Economic Growth:** On Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> the Newton Housing Strategy Report was released and marks the beginning of a housing conversation series and community engagement with members of the Newton community. The webpage [www.newtonma.gov/housingstrategy](http://www.newtonma.gov/housingstrategy) has a link to a "factbook" about the housing strategy, which the Planning Department team developed to make this information accessible for a wide audience. Comments or questions are welcome and can be sent to [housingstrategy@newtonma.gov](mailto:housingstrategy@newtonma.gov).
- **New Parking Payment Application – Passport:** The City of Newton is launching a new parking app called Passport that will allow an alternative payment method for parking meters throughout the City. Watch for new decals on meter stands indicating you will now have the option to pay by phone using an app called Passport. **For more information, go to** [www.newtonma.gov/parking](http://www.newtonma.gov/parking).
- **Online Access to Building Permit Information:** Want to view the building permit plans, application, and other documents associated with a building permit? Check out [www.newtonma.gov/permits](http://www.newtonma.gov/permits). You can now view the attachments for a permit under the "documents" link from your computer. The Inspectional Services Department has been scanning applications electronically since July 2015. Building permit plans have been electronic since July 2010. The department also has an ongoing project to scan all items in the property files allowing them to be accessed online. **Contact the Inspectional Services Department at 617.796.1060.**