

Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: July 14, 2017

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:

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Monday 7/17/17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lasell Neighborhood Council, 8:00 a.m., Lasell College - Irwin Annex, 5 Cheswick Rd.• Zoning and Planning Committee, 7:00 p.m., Room 205 |
| Tuesday 7/18/17 | |
| Wednesday 7/19/17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zoning Redesign Drop In Session, 5:00-7:00p.m., Room 106• Urban Design Commission, 7:00 p.m., Planning Conference Room (Room B10) |
| Thursday 7/20/17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00 p.m., Council Chamber (Room 207)• Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 205 |

- **Lasell Neighborhood Council:** On **Monday, July 17th** the Council will meet at 8:00 a.m. at Lasell College – Irwin Annex, 5 Cheswick Rd. Agenda items include discussions on parking, construction updates, litter clean-up initiatives, supporting green initiatives in the neighborhood, community participation and support. Contact Barney Heath at 617.796.1120 or bheath@newtonma.gov.
- **Zoning and Planning Committee:** On **Monday, July 17th** the Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205 to hear the following petitions: **#203-17**, Appointment of Kathryn Cade to the Conservation Commission; **#204-17**, Zoning Ordinance technical amendment; **#238-16**, Zoning amendment for exempt lots definition; **#95-15**, Discussion to review a vision statement for the Wells Avenue Office Park. For a detailed agenda visit the Committee's website at www.newtonma.gov/gov/aldermen/committees/zoning/2017.asp. Contact **James Freas** at 617.796.1120 or jfreas@newtonma.gov.
- **Urban Design Commission:** On **Wednesday, July 19th** the Commission will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Planning Dept Conference Room (B10). The following signs are on the agenda: 55 Needham Street – **T-Mobile**, 55 Needham Street – **B.Good**, 275-281 Needham Street – **New England Mobile Book Fair**, 1637 Centre Street – **7-Eleven**, 55 Boylston Street – **The Container Store**, 392-404 Langley Road – conceptual design review, Zoning Redesign discussion. Contact **Shubee Sikka** at 617.796.1139 or ssikka@newtonma.gov.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals:** On **Thursday, July 20th** the Board will meet at 7:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, Room 207 on the following petition: **#01-16**, 1521 Beacon Street, LLC's request, to change the details of the project authorized by a previously issued Comprehensive Permit to Waban AMA Realty Ventures LLC for the construction of eight rental units (6 market rate and 2 affordable) located at **1521 Beacon Street**. The proposed change is a change in the tenure of all eight units from rental to ownership. The purpose of this public hearing is for the Board to review the change and determine anew whether the project may be approved with the change. Contact **Adrianna Henriquez** at 617.796.1133 or ahenriquez@newtonma.gov.
- **Zoning Redesign Drop-In Summer Sessions:** We are continuing our Zoning Redesign Drop-In sessions this summer. **Drop-In on Wednesdays, July 19th, August 16th and August 30th** from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Come by City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Room 106 (1st floor main entrance) to share your ideas with staff and ask questions about the City's project redesign the zoning ordinance. Everyone is welcome! Contact **James Freas** at jfreas@newtonma.gov with questions. For more information on Zoning Redesign visit <http://courbanize.com/newtonzoning> or email zoningredesign@newtonma.gov.

- **Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission:** On **Thursday, July 20th** the Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 205. The following requests will be considered: **109 Old Orchard Road**, to approve curbing installation; to install a gate; **Kingsbury Road**, to install asphalt berms; **44 Old England Road**, to replace fence and install mesh; **135 Essex Road**, to replace fence; **20 Malia Terrace**, to repair garage and fence; Administrative discussion to include approval of meeting minutes. **Contact Barbara Kurze** at 617.796.1129 or bkurze@newtonma.gov.
- **CDBG Works, 2017 Report-US Conference of Mayors:** The City of Newton is featured in the “CDBG Works”, *June 2017 Report* issued recently by the US Conference of Mayors. The report highlights CDBG investments across the country and how this critical resource has contributed to revitalization efforts in communities like Newton. Please visit this link to check it out: <https://www.usmayors.org/2017/06/23/cdbg-works-how-mayors-put-cdbg-to-work/> . Please also contact **Rachel Powers, Community Development Programs Manager** at rpowers@newtonma.gov or 617-796-1125 for additional information about the Community Development Block Grant Program.
- **Crescent Street Housing and Park Expansion:** To view the most recent presentation on concept design for the housing and park expansion (given June 15th), go to www.newtonma.gov/crescentst. Sign-up for updates.
- **1294 Centre Street:** Conceptual plans for the redevelopment of this property and an adjacent rear property are available at www.newtonma.gov/1294CentreStreet . Sign-up for updates.
- **Local Historic Districts:** The Zoning and Planning Committee and the Planning and Development Board hosted a public hearing on June 12th to discuss the recommendation from the Newton Historical Commission to establish a **West Newton Local Historic District**. This public hearing remains open. The proposed **Newton Highlands Local Historic District** was presented to the Zoning and Planning Committee and the Planning Board on May 8th. That public hearing also remains open. Additional information can be found on our website www.newtonma.gov/gov/planning/current/devrev/hip/local_historic_districts.asp. **Contact Katy Hax Holmes** at kholmes@newtonma.gov with questions regarding the approval process in Newton.
- **Walnut Street Enhancements Project:** Please visit our website at www.newtonma.gov/walnutstreet to review materials from our meeting on June 22nd. Questions and comments are welcome at walnutstreet@newtonma.gov or 617.796.1140.
- **Community Preservation Committee:** **The CPC meeting previously scheduled for July 12, 2017 has been CANCELLED.** **Monday, July 24th** is the deadline to request time on and submit written materials for the CPC meeting on **Wednesday, August 9th**. If the Newton Housing Authority's off-cycle proposal for **Jackson Road New Senior Housing (Haywood House)** [Newton Corner] is received by the July 7 deadline, the full text of the proposal will be available by July 11 from the program website, www.newtonma.gov/cpa, under **Proposals & Projects – Pending**, and the proposal will be scheduled for a **public hearing** and possible CPC funding vote on **August 9**. For assistance, **contact Alice Ingerson**, Program Manager, at aingerson@newtonma.gov or 617.796.1144.
- **Community Preservation Committee:** The Newton Housing Authority's off-cycle proposal for **Jackson Road New Senior Housing (Haywood House)** [Newton Corner] is now on the program website, www.newtonma.gov/cpan under **Proposals & Projects – Pending**. The CPC's **PUBLIC HEARING** on this \$2 million CPA request is scheduled for **August 9th**. Written comments on the proposal will be forwarded to the CPC ahead of the hearing if received by **Monday, July 24th**, which also the deadline to submit any other requests or written materials for the August 9 meeting. For assistance, **contact Alice Ingerson**, Program Manager, at aingerson@newtonma.gov or 617.796.1144.