


Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: August 18, 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:

Monday 8/21/17	
Tuesday 8/22/17	
Wednesday 8/23/17	
Thursday 8/24/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newton Historical Commission, 7:00 p.m, Room 205• Urban Design Commission, 7:00 p.m, Planning Conference Room

- **Newton Historical Commission:** On **Thursday, August 24th**, the Commission will meet at 7:00 p.m. in Room 205. The following full demo requests will be heard: **2163 Commonwealth Avenue, 31 Jacobs Terrace, 46 Exeter Street, 121 Arlington Street, 85 Waban Hill Road North, 5 Harwich Road, 189-193 Adams Street.** Partial Demolition request to be heard: **85 Otis Street, NR; 185 Franklin Street, 432 Cherry Street, LL; 16 Fountain Street, NR.** Waiver requests to be heard: **5 Chester Street, 240 Otis Street.** A detailed agenda for the August 24th hearing can be found at: <http://www.newtonma.gov/civicax/filebank/documents/84346>. **Contact Katy Hax Holmes** at 617.796.1143 or kholmes@newtonma.gov.
- **Urban Design Commission:** On **Thursday, August 24th** the Commission will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Planning Dept Conference Room (B10). The following signs are on the agenda: 55 Boylston Street – **The Container Store**, 335 Boylston Street – **Newton Surgery**, 335 Boylston St – **The Spiegel Center**, 290 Centre St – **Newton Dental Group**, 300 Boylston St – **Dana Farber**, 97M Union St – **Erin Gates Design**, 790 Beacon St – **LYMBR**, 105-119 Elm St – **Constantine Place**, Two Wells Avenue – **Two Wells Avenue**, 4-6 Lincoln St – **Grape Leaf**, 200 Boylston St – **Precision Running**. **Contact Rachel Blatt** at 617.796.1127 or rblatt@newtonma.gov.
- **Zoning Redesign:** We are continuing our Zoning Redesign Drop-In sessions this summer. **Drop-In on 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! Starting next week invitations will go out in Newton utility bills to "Zoning Redesigning Event Series". On **September 27th** the nine-part series will launch and will run to May 2018. Each event is about a different topic and will be held at Newton Free Library, 300 Homer St. from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Check out the series online and **RSVP** at <http://courbanize.com/newtonzoning>. **Contact James Freas** at jfreas@newtonma.gov or zoningredesign@newtonma.gov with questions.

- **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.
- **Village Enhancement projects:** To review materials and stay up-to-date on the **West Newton Square Enhancements Project** and the **Walnut Street Enhancements Project**, visit the respective project websites at www.newtonma.gov/westnewtonsq and www.newtonma.gov/walnutstreet
- **2017 Historic Newton Walks:** Each summer, Historic Newton sponsors Historic Newton Walks tours of Newton sites and neighborhoods that illustrate history. Each tour lasts approximately one hour. Register in advance through the web site, www.historicnewton.org, or come to the tour (space permitting). Watch our web site for updates on tour details, including weather cancellations. Call 617-796-1450 for information. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a water bottle to all tours. *Register in advance through www.newtonma.gov/HNWalks or come on tour day.*
 - ❖ **Sunday, September 10th at 4:00 PM:** Do you like running, history, and beer? This easy-paced, fun running tour through Newtonville and Newton Centre takes in highlights of Newton sports. Follow part of the legendary Boston Marathon route along Commonwealth Avenue, see the fields at Newton Centre Playground designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, and hear about sports legends from Newton High School. Special guest Paul Clerici, author of *Boston Marathon History by the Mile*, joins us to talk about Boston Marathon history in Newton. The total distance is approximately 4 miles. *Meet at the Brewers Coalition, 344 Walnut Street, Newtonville; stay after the run to order beer and snacks*
 - ❖ **Sunday, September 24th at 2:00 PM:** The decade of the 1890s was a boom period in many parts of Newton including West Newton Hill. Architects and builders combined careful craftsmanship with eclectic designs, incorporating turrets, stained glass windows, decorative shingle patterns, porte-cochères and carriage houses. Learn more about the distinctive features of Queen Anne and other styles, as well as the backgrounds of the families who first owned these homes.
- **Crescent Street Housing and Reverend Ford Playground Expansion:** To view the most recent concept design for the housing and sign up to receive updates, go to www.newtonma.gov/crescentst.
- **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.