

## Newton Center for Active Living (NewCAL) project

NewCAL Working Group Meeting					
Date: Tuesday, January 7, 2020					
Date: Newton City Hall - Room 204					
Time: 9:30 AM					
<b>Attendees:</b>					
Alex Valcarce	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	---	Linda Walsh	<i>Public Health Dept.</i>	---
Amanda Berman	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Maureen Lemieux	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	---
Barney Heath	<i>Planning Department</i>	Y	Nancy Scammon	<i>Parks &amp; Rec Dept.</i>	Y
Bea Goldsmith	<i>Community Member</i>	Y	Norm Meltz	<i>Working Group</i>	Y
Bob DeRubeis	<i>Parks &amp; Rec Dept.</i>	---	Rachel Sherman	<i>Working Group</i>	---
Brooke Lipsitt	<i>Community Member</i>	Y	Richard Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Carol Schein	<i>Community Member</i>	Y	Sandra Butzel	<i>Community Member</i>	---
Deb Youngblood	<i>Health/Human Services</i>	---	Seth Bai	<i>Veteran's Services</i>	---
Ellen Ishkanian	<i>Mayor's Office</i>	Y	Sue Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Gabriel Holbrow	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Susan Albright	<i>City Councilor</i>	Y
Jack Neville	<i>Parks &amp; Rec Dept.</i>	Y	Thomas Rooney	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	---
Jayne Colino	<i>Senior Services Dir.</i>	Y	Zachery LeMel	<i>Planning Department</i>	---
Jini Fairley	<i>Working Group</i>	Y	Tom Murphy	<i>NV5</i>	---
John Rice	<i>Newton Resident</i>	Y	Melissa Gagnon	<i>NV5</i>	Y
Jonathan Yeo	<i>Working Group</i>	---	Joel Bargmann	<i>BH+A</i>	---
Josh Morse	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	Y	James Bruneau	<i>BH+A</i>	Y

Josh Morse opened up the meeting at 9:30AM.

The NewCAL Working Group took a vote to make a formal recommendation to Mayor Fuller that the Albemarle site, as well as any other park sites, are no longer pursued for the NewCAL project. Josh will inform the Mayor of this decision. The long list of Tier 2 sites has been downsized, based on whether the NewCAL program can fit on the site. There needs to be a willingness to be creative and flexible with regard to some of the programming elements, including the gymnasium, parking and exterior green space. Flexibility will allow the program to

be attained on a smaller site. The current program is 36-38,000SF. A 3-story configuration would require a footprint of 12-14,000SF. 20-25,000SF is the minimum total site area needed.

Some Tier 2 sites are not being pursued as there are established civic buildings on those sites. The main library would require a parking structure with NewCAL on top, the City Hall is on the National Registry of Historic Places and would have many legal hurdles and the Rumford Ave landfill office site would require relocating the transfer station and 21E site mitigation. The Cypress Street parking lot is not feasible as an easement takes 2/3 of the site. The following additional sites were discussed:

- Existing Senior Center
- Newton Centre Triangle Parking Lot
- 150 Jackson Road
- West Newton Armory
- Elliot Street DPW Yard
- Crafts Street DPW Yard
- Newton Education Center
- Pine Street Dump
- Police Headquarters (West Newton)
- West Suburban YMCA

Based on the extreme costs and long schedules associated with the Elliot and Craft Street DPW Yards as well as the former Pine Street Dump site, these three locations were removed from sites being considered.

A charrette format was discussed for the Community meeting on 1/16/20, for the public to provide comments re: pros and cons of each site. Boards will be created for viable sites only, which were determined to be the following: Existing Senior Center, Newton Centre Triangle Parking Lot, 150 Jackson Road, West Newton Armory, Newton Education Center, West Suburban YMCA and the Police Headquarters.

The seniors need to mobilize.

The COA took a vote at their last meeting in favor of a centralized facility.

Future Community meetings will be at the Senior Center at 345 Walnut Street at 6:00PM.

The next Working Group meeting is on Tuesday, January 21, at 9:30AM.