

## Newton Center for Active Living (NewCAL) project

NewCAL Working Group Meeting					
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020					
Date: Zoom Meeting (online)					
Time: 9:30 AM					
<b>Attendees:</b>					
Alex Valcarce	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	Y	Maureen Lemieux	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	---
Amanda Berman	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Nancy Scammon	<i>Parks &amp; Rec Dept.</i>	Y
Barney Heath	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Norm Meltz	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Bea Goldsmith	<i>Community Member</i>	Y	Rachel Sherman	<i>City IT</i>	---
Nicole Banks	<i>Parks &amp; Rec Dept.</i>	---	Richard Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Brooke Lipsitt	<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>	---
Devra Bailin	<i>Planning Department</i>	Y	Sue Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	Y
Ellen Ishkanian	<i>Mayor's Office</i>	---	Susan Albright	<i>City Councilor</i>	Y
Gabriel Holbrow	<i>Planning Department</i>	---	Thomas Rooney	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	---
Jack Neville	<i>Parks &amp; Rec Dept.</i>	---	Zachery LeMel	<i>Planning Department</i>	---
Jayne Colino	<i>Senior Services Director</i>	Y			
Jini Fairley	<i>Working Group</i>	Y	Tom Murphy	<i>NV5</i>	---
John Rice	<i>Community Member</i>	Y	Melissa Gagnon	<i>NV5</i>	Y
Jonathan Yeo	<i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	Y	Joel Bargmann	<i>BH+A</i>	Y
Josh Morse	<i>Public Buildings Dept.</i>	Y	James Bruneau	<i>BH+A</i>	Y
Linda Walsh	<i>Public Health Dept.</i>	---			

Josh Morse opened up the online Zoom meeting at 9:30AM. It was reported that the Council on Aging (COA) meeting, which took place last week, went very well and NPB has reached out to engage City councilors from wards 2 and 6. Josh Morse presented options for NewCAL (similar to the Community meeting on June 10). Overall, there was consensus in favor of the Newtonville location. NewCAL could be the catalyst for re-engaging the vision plan for Newton Centre. It was noted that COA is supportive of the direction the project is heading in and understands the process. Given the current climate, budget concerns were expressed.

A joint City Council meeting with Public Facilities and Programs and Services committees is scheduled for June 17. [Subsequently, the meeting was rescheduled to June 24 at 7:00PM.]

NV5, BH+A and Newton Public Buildings prepared a draft criteria matrix as an initial exercise to qualify the three design options on each site. This is currently a working tool although when complete, the evaluation will be shared with the community. Some criteria points include:

- Accommodates significant SF programming space on ground level
- Ease of navigation throughout the building

Some points re: the various options were discussed:

- A 4-story building will have a smaller footprint
- Covered parking will address potential parking lot lighting issues
- Programmatic compromises will be needed when working around an historic structure
- Elements from the existing building which could be salvaged and incorporated in the new building design would need to be identified. Examples of those items include: Stained glass windows, art deco chandeliers, wrought iron railings, fluted columns
- Potential impact of retaining elements on site
- Potential impact of incorporating salvaged elements into new building
- More programming areas on ground floor means less reliance on the elevator

### Next Steps

06/24/20	Update to Public Facilities and Programs and Services Committees
07/09/20	COA to vote on the preferred site
07/14/20	Working Group to recommend preferred site to Mayor Fuller
08/26/20	Presentation to the DRC
08/27/20	File with Newton Historic Commission (if preferred site is Newtonville)
TBD	Updated presentation to Public Facilities and Programs and Services Committees

### Additional Upcoming Meetings

All upcoming meetings will be online with remote participation via Zoom:

- 06/17/20 Joint City Council meeting 7:00PM (changed to 6/24/20)
- 06/23/20 Working Group meeting 9:30AM (changed to 7/07/20)