


Newton Center for Active Living (NewCAL) project

NewCAL Working Group Meeting					
Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2020					
Date: Zoom Meeting (online)					
Time: 9:30 AM					
Attendees:					
Working Group		Present	City Staff		Present
Sandra Butzel	<i>Community Member</i>	---	Jonathan Yeo	<i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	---
Bea Goldsmith	<i>Community Member</i>	---	Seth Bai	<i>Veteran's Services</i>	---
Brooke Lipsitt	<i>Community Member</i>	√	Devra Bailin	<i>Planning</i>	---
Norm Meltz	<i>COA Member</i>	√	Amanda Berman	<i>Planning</i>	---
Jack Neville	<i>P&R Commission</i>	---	Ellen Ishkanian	<i>Mayor's Office</i>	---
Richard Rasala	<i>Community Member</i>	√	Zachery LeMel	<i>Planning</i>	---
Sue Rasala	<i>COA Member</i>	√	Thomas Rooney	<i>Public Buildings</i>	---
John Rice	<i>Community Member</i>	√	Rachel Sherman	<i>City IT</i>	---
Susan Albright	<i>City Councilor</i>	√	Linda Walsh	<i>Public Health</i>	---
Nicole Banks	<i>P&R Commissioner</i>	---	Deb Youngblood	<i>Health/Human Services</i>	---
Jayne Colino	<i>Senior Services Dir.</i>	√			
Jini Fairley	<i>ADA Coordinator</i>	√	Consultants		
Barney Heath	<i>Planning Director</i>	---	Tom Murphy	<i>NV5</i>	---
Maureen Lemieux	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	---	Melissa Gagnon	<i>NV5</i>	√
Josh Morse	<i>Public Buildings Comm.</i>	---	Joel Bargmann	<i>BH+A</i>	√
Nancy Scammon	<i>P&R Department</i>	√	James Bruneau	<i>BH+A</i>	---
Alex Valcarce	<i>Public Buildings</i>	---	Dan Chen	<i>BH+A</i>	√

Melissa Gagnon (NV5) opened up the online Zoom meeting at 9:30AM.

The intent of this meeting was to review the overall meeting schedule, a draft flyer for the upcoming Community meeting scheduled for 01/05/21 and highlights of recent meetings with the DRC on 12/16/20 and the NHC on 12/17/20.

01/05 Meeting flyer review: Remove existing building image to only include renderings of the two alternatives being studied. The images should be labeled to note adaptive reuse and new construction. A note shall be added indicating these are sample studies and representative options of what will be presented, and are not final solutions. Sentences should be shorter with more focus on community.

01/05 Presentation review: A dashed outline of the existing building added to the alternative site plan renderings would be helpful. Text on the “case for” and “case against” slides for the adaptive reuse and new construction slides should be formatted as bullet points, rather than full sentences.

12/16 DRC Meeting review: A comment was made re: the fitness room feeling small. There is a lot of flexibility built into the plan with a 1510 SF Activity Room which is sub-dividable as well as the 1550 SF Dining area. The 6300 SF gymnasium is also sub-dividable.

12/17 NHC Meeting review: A 10-minute NewCAL presentation was made to the NHC although there was no feedback received. It was suggested that perhaps going forward a letter should be sent to Doug Cornelius (NHC Chair) with specific questions re: feasibility of alterations to the existing building. Specifically areas in question are with regard to a proposed lift and ramp as well as the prospect of extending the tall windows to create more inside/outside transparency.

A special meeting with two direct abutters is needed.

Additional Upcoming Meetings (all online with remote participation via Zoom):

- 12/29/20 Working Group meeting (to review 01/05 presentation)
- 01/05/21 Community Update meeting
- 01/14/21 DRC Meeting (to be confirmed)
- 01/19/21 Working Group meeting
- (TBD) Council on Aging meeting

Melissa G shall coordinate with Alex and Jayne and distribute Zoom info for all meetings noted, as it becomes available.

NV5 shall send out notices to the WG of any additional upcoming meetings relative to this project.