


# Newton Center for Active Living (NewCAL) project

NewCAL Working Group Meeting					
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022					
Date: Zoom Meeting (online)					
Time: 9:30 AM					
<b>Attendees:</b>					
Working Group		Present	City Staff		Present
Susan Albright	City Councilor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seth Bai	Veteran's Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sandra Butzel	Community Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Devra Bailin	Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jayne Colino	Senior Services Dir.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Banks	P&R Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jini Fairley	ADA Coordinator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amanda Berman	Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bea Goldsmith	Community Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barney Heath	Planning Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joan Belle-Isle	COA Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ellen Ishkanian	Mayor's Office	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maureen Lemieux	Chief Financial Officer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Zachery LeMel	Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brooke Lipsitt	Community Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jack Neville	P&R Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>
Josh Morse	Public Buildings Comm.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rachel Sherman	City IT	<input type="checkbox"/>
Richard Rasala	Community Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linda Walsh	Public Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sue Rasala	COA Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Rooney	Public Buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>
John Rice	Community Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Consultants</b>		
Nancy Scammon	P&R Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Murphy	NV5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alex Valcarce	Public Buildings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Gagnon	NV5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jonathan Yeo	Chief Operating Officer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Frank Kennedy	NV5	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Joel Bargmann	NV5	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Dan Chen	BH+A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Ruofeng You	BH+A	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Camile Wimpe	BH+A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Josh Morse opened the online Zoom meeting at 9:30AM.

The intent of this meeting is to continue to prepare for 5-58 Site Plan Approval.

## Upcoming Meetings and Site Plan Approval

June 15 - Design Review Committee (DRC) – the goal of this meeting is to seek approval for a letter to submit to the City Clerk’s office, which will trigger the Site Plan Approval process.

June 16 - Due to a scheduling conflict, the City proposed cancelling the Community meeting on June 16. It was agreed that the community would be invited to the DRC meeting scheduled the night prior, on June 15. NV5 will send out an email blast notifying community members of the meeting adjustment.

July 21 - The next community meeting is scheduled for July 21.

## Recently Filed Suit

The City noted that several members of the community have filed suit claiming that the NewCAL project is violating Article 97 protection of open space and challenging the decision of the Newton Historic Commission with regards to the landmark application. It was noted that the NewCAL schedule will remain unchanged as the project will continue to work towards Site Plan Approval with the Design Review Committee and City Council over the next few months, which will be followed by the completion of the design development and construction document design phases.

## Interior Update

Dan Chen presented six (6) interior 3-D renderings, based on feedback at the last Working Group meeting on May 24. The images simulated the entrance experience from vantage points of the main entry vestibule, double height space as well as from the rear entry and reception. Primary updates included the following:

- Creation of a seating area in the vestibule as well as in the main lobby
- Door added at lounge, creating a separation from the lobby
- Library rendering (new)
- Furniture layouts and placements in 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rooms

The following highlights were noted:

### Vestibule and Lobby

- A built-in seating was created along the right-side wall in the main entry vestibule.
- A built-in seating was created at the main lobby, at a box shaped area carved out from beneath the main stair
- Double doors at lobby would create a closed off lounge area
- The existing chandelier (salvaged item) was shown in the double height lobby.
- Interior and exterior horizontality needs to be coordinated.

- Historic mitigation plan may want to be considered/incorporated when selecting/locating artwork.
- Concern was expressed about vestibule automatic door button being too far from the doors.
- Concern was expressed about potential of someone hitting their head at the built-in stair seating.
- It was noted that a single door to the library feels small. Double doors may be better suited.
- The light fixture above the reception desk may be another opportunity for historic mitigation.
- Library furnishings – consideration needs to be given to visitor mobility. Merits and appropriateness of individual seating, rather than couches, was discussed to encourage independent and quiet work.

### **Design Review Committee Presentation**

The following content will be presented for review with the DRC on June 15: Stormwater calculations and drainage, civil engineering, test pits which were performed two weeks ago, landscaping/trees and site furnishings, energy usage and embodied carbons feedback, floor plans, exterior elevations, and materials.

### **Additional Business**

- Working Group meetings will be longer in the next phase of Design Development as more details of the design will be studied.
- The City is working through evaluating logistics of options for possible swing space during construction.
- Norm Meltz has resigned from the NewCAL Working Group.

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

- 06/15/22 Design Review Committee Meeting – 6:00PM
- ~~06/16/22 Community Update Meeting – 6:30PM (CANCELLED due to scheduling conflict)~~
- 07/13/22 Public Facilities Meeting (P&S invited): 5-58 Site Plan Approval - Public Hearing – 7:00PM
- 07/21/22 Community Update Meeting – 6:30PM
- 07/27/22 Public Facilities (P&S invited): 5-58 Site Plan Approval (reserved, if needed) – 7:00PM
- 07/25/22 or  
08/08/22 Full Council Vote – 7:45PM

NV5 shall coordinate with the City of Newton in distributing Zoom info for all meetings noted.