**Urban Design Commission**

(dropped out)

**Glenwood Ridge Neighbors (Norma Swenson)**

Glenwood Ridge Neighbors was established many decades ago to give these living in close proximity a way to be in touch about issues of common concern regarding our life here. It includes approx 60 addresses on Ridge Avenue, Glenwood Ave and a few abutters on Parker Street. This group was an identified group in the recent Zoning Engagement Project and at its annual Block Party distributed ZAP literature and carried on discussions with party attendees.

**Waban Area Council (Rena Getz)**

The Waban Area Council is one of four Neighborhood Area Council promulgated through Newton’s City Charter in 2013. We act as intermediaries between the city, city council and the residents of our respective catchment area (approximately 5,645 residents). We meet monthly and host forums to engage and educate residents of pending city actions. One of our many responsibilities is to serve in an advisory role for the Mayor and City Council on “planning and zoning actions.”

**Newtonville Area Council (Jennifer Bentley)**

**Neighbors for a Better Newtonville (Margaret Ward and Robert Kavanagh)**

Neighbors for a Better Newtonville is a citizen committee formed in 2015 with a concern to preserve the village character of Newtonville, limit gentrification, protect our local businesses.  We have an outreach list of 1,300 members and an active member list of about 70 members.  We have, at times, worked with the Newtonville Area Council to contact Newtonville residents of important events.  Our concerns range from environmental issues to zoning matters and from business issues to transportation problems.

**Neighbors for a Historic Newtonville (Ellen Fitzpatrick)**

Neighbors for Historic Newtonville represents a group of ~ 10 neighbors, many of whom were involved in helping to establish the Newtonville Local Historic District over twenty years ago. We have met periodically over the ensuing years and have been joined by newer residents as well.

**Newtonville Neighbors for Historic Preservation (Chris Klaehn)**

Newtonville Neighbors for Historic Preservation strives to make Newton more diverse, affordable, and welcoming to people of all incomes, races, ages, and abilities. They were founded in 2023 and represent a dozen neighbors in the Newtonville Historic District.

**Lowell Avenue Neighbors (Peter Harrington)**

The Lowell Avenue Neighbors is an action committee of the Newtonville informal neighborhood group that has existed for over 22 years. Current membership of the group is 200 members with 20 members of this action committee. This neighborhood group works to protect and preserve our economic and cultural diversity, establish and maintain our Historic District, and watch over private and municipal plans to urbanize our neighborhood.

**Nonantum Neighborhood Association (Terry Sauro)**

Nonantum Neighborhood Association (NNA) is a volunteer community organization committed to fostering ideas, initiatives, improvements, and building a strong foundation of growth and prosperity through dedicated advocacy for both residents and the businesses of the village of Nonantum. They were founded 12 years ago and serve Nonantum.

**Jackson Homes Historic Neighborhood Association (Wendy Plesniak)**

Our group is the Jackson Homes Historic Neighborhood Association (JHHNA). We were formed in 2017, and we serve the interests of just over 100 people and their families in our Newton Corner neighborhood. Our speaker will be Dr. Ravikanth Pappu.

**Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission**

(dropped out)

**Newton Villages Alliance (Kathleen Kouril Grieser)**

The Newton Villages Alliance, founded almost a decade ago, is a community and open space advocacy organization serving residents in all of Newton's 13 villages. The mission of the Newton Villages Alliance is to preserve the character and scale of Newton’s villages and residential neighborhoods, educate individuals about these matters, and advocate for views of residents being a key part of Newton’s decision making process.

**Newton Interfaith Coalition for Housing Equity (Nancy Zollers)**

The Newton Interfaith Coalition for Housing Equity formed 18 months ago with a mission to significantly impact Newton housing affordability, diversity and abundance as an imperative of our faith. We are a coalition of the willing including from United Parish of Auburndale, Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, Sacred Heart/Our Ladies, Union Church in Waban, Temple Shalom, Newton Highlands UCC, New City Church and still other Houses of Worship continue to join.

**Lower Falls Improvement Association (Cyrisse Jaffee)**

The Newton Lower Falls Improvement Association (LFIA) is a neighborhood organization that has been active since 1915, seeking “to promote the neighborly interests of its members; to foster community spirit; and to do such things as may be appropriate or necessary to accomplish civic improvement.”

**Economic Development Commission (Phil Plottel)**

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) presently consisting of 15 members (currently there are three vacancies) appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council was established under General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8A to promote and develop business and industry within the City of Newton. The Commission is charged with strengthening the local economy, leading to new job opportunities for residents and expansion of the City's tax base.