#### CITY OF NEWTON

#### IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

#### ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE AGENDA

#### MONDAY JANUARY 9, 2012

7:45pm Room 202

### **ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#392-11 TREFF LAFLECHE, 86 Prince Street, West Newton, appointed as an associate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire December 31, 2012 (60 days 1/20/12). [11/14/11 @ 4:53 PM]

#### Appointment by His Honor the Mayor:

#390-11 <u>WILLIAM MCLAUGHLIN</u>, 117 Hammond Street, Chestnut Hill, appointed as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire on September 30, 2012 (60 days 1/20/12). [11/12/11 @ 11:46 AM]

#### Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor:

- #399-11 JAMES MITCHELL, 83 Countryside Road, Newton Centre, re-appointed as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of office to expire December 31, 2012 (60 days 1/20/12). [11/12/11 @ 11:45 AM]
- #400-11

  ALD. GENTILE, HARNEY, SANGIOLO requesting establishment of a Business 5/Riverside Zone: a mixed-use transit-oriented district at the site of the current Riverside MBTA rail station. The proposed new zone shall allow by special permit a single commercial office building not to exceed 225,000 square feet with a maximum height of 9 stories, two residential buildings not to exceed 290 housing units in total, retail space not to exceed 20,000 square feet, along with a multi-use community center. [11/17/11 @3:36 PM]

#### ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

#162-11 <u>ALD. YATES</u> requesting a report from the Director of Planning and Development on the status of the update of the *Open Space and Recreation Plan*, particularly as it pertains to the Charles River Pathway. [05/12/11 @ 10:16AM]

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you have a special accommodation need, contact the Newton ADA Coordinator Trisha Guditz at 617-796-1156 or tguditz@newtonma.gov or via TDD/TTY at (617) 796-1089 at least two days in advance of the meeting.

- #60-10

  ALD. HESS-MAHAN proposing that sections 30-15(s)(10) and 30-24(b) of the City of Newton Ordinances be amended to substitute a 3-dimensional computer model for the scaled massing model in order to facilitate compliance with recent amendments to the Open Meeting Law and that sections 30-23 and 30-24 be amended to reflect the filing procedures in Article X of the Rules & Orders of the Board of Aldermen. [02/23/10 @ 3:24 PM]
- #61-10 <u>ALD. CICCONE, SWISTON, LINSKY, CROSSLEY AND HESS-MAHAN</u> requesting a discussion relative to various solutions for bringing existing accessory and other apartments that may not meet the legal provisions and requirements of Chapter 30 into compliance. [02/23/10 @ 2:48 PM]
- #164-09(2) <u>ALD. HESS-MAHAN</u> requesting that the Planning Department study the dimensional requirements for lot and building size for accessory apartments and make recommendations for possible amendments to those dimensional requirements to the board of Aldermen that are consistent with the Newton Comprehensive Plan. [01/07/10 @ 12:00 PM]
- #81-11

  ALDERMEN JOHNSON, CROSSLEY, HESS-MAHAN, LAPPIN & DANBERG requesting the Director of Planning & Development and the Chair of the Zoning Reform Scoping Group provide updates on the Scoping Group's Progress. These updates will occur at the frequency determined by the Chair of the Scoping Group and the Chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee. [3/14/2011 @ 11:16PM]
- #391-09 <u>ALD. DANBERG, MANSFIELD, VANCE AND HESS-MAHAN</u> requesting an amendment to \$30-19 to allow payments-in-lieu of providing required off-street parking spaces when parking spaces are waived as part of a special permit application.
- #152-10

  ALD. BAKER, FULLER, SCHNIPPER, SHAPIRO, FISCHMAN,
  YATES AND DANBERG recommending discussion of possible
  amendments to Section 30-19 of the City of Newton Ordinances to clarify
  parking requirements applicable to colleges and universities. [06/01/10 @
  4:19 PM]
- #207-09(2) <u>ALD. PARKER, DANBERG & MANSFIELD,</u> proposing that chapter 30 be amended to allow additional seating in restaurants. [07/07/09 @ 12:42 PM]
- #411-09 <u>ALD. DANBERG, MANSFIELD, PARKER</u> requesting that §30-19(d)(13) be amended by adopting the Board of License Commissioners' current informal policies, which waive parking stall requirements for a set

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maximum number of seasonal outdoor seats in restaurants and require that indoor seats be temporarily reduced to compensate for any additional outdoor seats while they are in use, by establishing a by-right limit based on a proportion of existing indoor seats that will allow seasonal outdoor seats to be used without need for additional parking.

- #49-11

  ALD. JOHNSON, Chair of Zoning and Planning Committee, on behalf of the Zoning and Planning Committee requesting that the Director of Planning & Development and Commissioner of Inspectional Services review with the Zoning & Planning Committee the FAR data collected during the eight months prior to the new FAR going into effect and the 12 months after. This committee review should occur no less than bimonthly but could occur as frequently as monthly, based on the permits coming into the departments. [02-15-2011 @8:44AM]
- #153-11

  ALD. DANBERG, ALBRIGHT, HESS-MAHAN, JOHNSON requesting that Chapter 30 be amended by adding a new Sec. 30-14 creating certain Retail Overlay Districts around selected village centers in order to encourage vibrant pedestrian-oriented streetscapes which would allow certain uses at street level, including but not limited to financial institutions, professional offices, and salons, by special permit only and require minimum transparency standards for street-level windows for all commercial uses within the proposed overlay districts. [05- 10-11 @3:19 PM]
- #153-11(2) <u>ALD. DANBERG, ALBRIGHT, HESS-MAHAN, JOHNSON</u> requesting the map changes necessary to establish certain Retail Overlay Districts around selected village centers. [05-10-11@3:16 PM]
- #65-11(3) <u>ZONING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE</u> requesting that the terms "flat roof" and "sloped roof" be defined in the zoning ordinance.
- #154-10(2) ZONING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE requesting to amend **Section 30-1 Definitions** by inserting revised definitions for "lot line" and "structure" for clarity. [04-12-11 @11:34AM]
- #154-10 <u>ALD. JOHNSON, CROSSLEY and HESS-MAHAN</u> requesting to amend **Section 30-1 Definitions**, by inserting a new definition of "lot area" and revising the "setback line" definition for clarity. [06/01/10 @ 9:25 PM]
- #150-09(3) ALD. ALBRIGHT, JOHNSON, LINSKY proposing that a parcel of land located in Newtonville identified as Section 24, Block 9, Lot 15, containing approximately 74,536 square feet of land, known as the Austin Street Municipal Parking Lot, currently zoned Public Use, be rezoned to Business 4. (12/10/10 @9:21AM)

Zoning and Planning Committee Agenda Monday January 9, 2012 Page 4

- #153-10 ALD. JOHNSON, CROSSLEY AND HESS-MAHAN requesting to amend **Section 30-15 Table 1** of the City of Newton Ordinances to allow a reasonable density for dwellings in Mixed Use 1 and 2 districts. [06/01/10 @ 9:25 PM]
- #183-10 ALD. JOHNSON, CROSSLEY AND HESS-MAHAN requesting to amend Section 30-13(a) Allowed Uses in Mixed Use 1 Districts by inserting a new subsection (5) as follows: "(5) Dwelling units above the first floor, provided that the first floor is used for an office or research and development use as described above;" and renumbering existing subsection (5) as (6). [06/07/10 @12:00 PM]

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Johnson, Chairman

## TREFFLE E. LAFLECHE, AIA, LEED AP

Principal



Treff's professional experience has focused on providing client focused and context sensitive design and project management services. Treff has achieved local and national recognition for his expertise in the merging of historic and contemporary aspects of New England residential and institutional architecture. He is a creative leader in a collaborative search for appropriate design solutions. His dedication to excellence is evident from the smallest detail to the broadest planning gesture.

#### **COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE**

#### City of Newton FAR Zoning Working Group

This 7-person team of Newton professionals and citizens has been working closely with the Newton Planning and Inspectional Services departments as well as Newton ZAP to examine, evaluate and make recommendations regarding current FAR regulations in response to the elimination of Footnote 7 in the Newton Zoning Ordinances.

#### Chair, Historic Newton Capital Campaign Steering Committee

This sub-committee of the Joint Board of Historic Newton is responsible for raising the \$5.5M Historic Newton Capital Campaign goal.

# Member, Historic Newton Board of Directors Durant-Kenrick Homestead & Grounds Transition Committee

This sub-committee of the Joint Board of Historic Newton is responsible for the design, public approval, acquisition and construction of the restoration and renovation of the historic 1732 Durant-Kenrick Homestead & Grounds in the City of Newton.

#### PROJECT EXPERIENCE

#### Jesuit Community of the Weston School of Theology, Boston, MA

Residences for 65 members of the Jesuit Community on Boston College's Brighton Campus

#### Appalachian Mountain Club, Crawford Notch, NH

Highland Center Lodge and Education Center, in collaboration with Carlone & Associates

#### First Unitarian Society in Newton, Newton, MA

Master plan, exterior and interior renovations

#### First Parish Unitarian Universalist, Beverly, MA

Master plan and feasibility study

#### Marist Brothers Retirement Community, Framingham, MA

Housing, dining and chapel

#### Commonwealth School, Boston, MA

Multiple Renovations including; dining room, kitchen, library, and science labs

#### Lesley University, Cambridge, MA

Office of Student Affairs, renovation and addition

## **Private Residences throughout New England**



#### Professional Experience

LDa Architects, LLP, Cambridge, MA, 1992-Present

#### Education

University of Virginia Master of Architecture, 1987

Dartmouth Coilege Bachelor of Arts, 1977

#### Certification

Registered Architect Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut, New York, South Carolina

NCARB Certified, 2000

#### Teaching

Boston Architectural Center
Design Instructor/Thesis Advisor

University of Virginia School of Architecture Studio Instructor

CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA. 02159

## William M. McLaughlin

- Newton Resident for 16 years
- Massachusetts Native (grew up in Arlington and Belmont)
- BA in Economics from Harvard College (1986)
- Real Estate Development and Investment Professional for 23 years
  - o Extensive Land Use/Zoning Experience
  - Overseen Approx. \$3 Billion in Ground Up Development, Rehabilitation, and Investment
  - o Managed Local and State Level Entitlement Processes in over 20 MA communities and elsewhere
  - o Frequent Guest Lecturer at Area Graduate School Programs on Topics of Real Estate Development, Investment, and Finance, Affordable Housing, Planning and Zoning Issues.
  - o Leading Expert on Mixed Income Housing Development
  - On Board of Managers of Large Somerville MA based Industrial Real Estate Investment LLC.
- Charitable and Other Community Activities Include:
  - o Can-Do Advisory Board
  - o Newton Wellesley Hospital Board of Overseers
  - o Board of Directors, Caritas Communities, Inc.
  - O Current or Former Coach, NCLL, NGS, NAA
  - o Past Chair, Greater Boston Real Estate Board, Past President, Rental Housing Association
- Married (Linda), with 6 children ages 7-17.

## Application for Committee Appointment City of Newton, MA



Name: James H. Mitchell Date: November 30, 2006

Wife: Nancy Brunell Mitchell, Esq. - Assistant General Counsel, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Conservation & Recreation (1979-Present)

Children:

Jenna NSHS '02, Cornell '06, Columbia '07

Emily NSHS '04, Cornell '08

Occupation, if applicable: Lawyer & Partner in Real Estate Management & Development firm

Committee(s) you might wish to serve on: License, Board, Zoning Board of Appeals

What activities or issues interest you?

As a lifelong resident, I am interested in serving the City of Newton to give back, and to help maintain and improve its unique character and quality of life for its residents

Relevant expertise, experience, and education"

Lifelong resident of Newton. Graduate of Bowen School, Meadowbrook Jr. High & Newton South High School '68; Graduated University of Massachusetts Amherst B.B.A. '72 with an area of concentration in Urban & Regional Studies; Graduated Suffolk University Law School (evening division) '76. Member in good standing of the Massachusetts Bar since 1977. Practiced law in Boston from 1977 to 1981 concentrating in real estate and municipal taxation. Since 1972, I have been a principal in Bobson Realty, a family-owned real estate investment, management and development firm. I have had experience practicing and appearing before various zoning and planning board in eastern Massachusetts.

List you community activities with offices held, if any:

Member, Newton Board of License Commissioners (2005 to present) Past President of Temple Beth Avodah ('95-'97); Member, Mayor's Needham Street Advisory Committee (1998); Active volunteer pilot with AngelFlight Northeast with over 25 missions (1996-present)

SENTING AS IS US



Setti D. Warren Mayor

Candace Havens Director Planning & Development

> Amanda Stout Senior Economic Development Planner

> > Commissioners

Daphne Collins, Chair Christopher Steele, Vice Chair Jack Leader, Secretary

Barry Abramson
David Abromowitz
Charles Eisenberg
Robert Gifford
Jane Ives
Peter Kai Jung Lew
Ronald Lipof
Joyce Moss
John R.A. Pears
Philip Plottel
Darryl Settles

## CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## **Economic Development Commission**

The Honorable Setti D. Warren, Mayor
The Honorable Scott Lennon, President and Members of the Board of Aldermen
City of Newton
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

December 16, 2011

RE: Docket Item 400-11 Riverside Station

Dear Mayor Warren, President Lennon and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

The EDC submits this letter highlighting some of the economic implications that we foresee at the Riverside MBTA site and urges that the City closely examine the financial and economic development consequences of Docket Item 400-11. The development of a mixed-use, transit oriented project at Riverside is an established City economic development priority, and one that this Commission has paid close attention to over the years. We consider the recent Docket Item 400-11 a first step towards achieving that goal.

The Newton Comprehensive Plan of 2007, as voted on and approved by the Newton Board of Aldermen, states that *Riverside represents a significant development opportunity which the City can ill afford to ignore. Riverside has the capacity, access to highways, public transportation and location to attract several million square feet of high quality mixed use development. In fact, it is important to develop a dense enough project on this site to help pay to solve the access issues(.), as well as mitigate the effects on the neighborhood and city.* 

Based on the facts available today, the EDC performed an analysis looking at the impact on Newton's Annual Gross Tax Revenue for two different scenarios. These estimates illustrate the possible financial ramifications for the City. We hope you will seriously consider these numbers when weighing the cost benefit of Docket Item 400-11.

The results are presented in the table below:

1000 Commonwealth Ave. Newton, MA 02459 T 617/796-1120 F 617/796-1142

www.newtonma.gov

Option	Use	Development Size	Tax Revenue Conservative
Normandy DEIR 2010	Commercial	445,700 sf	\$2,200,000
	Residential	290 units	\$600,000
	DEIR Total		\$2,800,000
Docket Item 400-11	Commercial	245,000 sf	\$1,200,000
	Residential	290 units	\$600,000
	Docket Item 400-11 Total		\$1,800,000

Clearly, financial benefits should not be the only economic development consideration. Creating a sustainable, pleasant, and vibrant place to work and live must also be considered. We urge you to select a zoning envelope that can unlock and realize our best vision for the site - a **place** that offers employment, housing, retail and dining opportunities, social and cultural amenities, public green spaces connected to the Charles River, transportation options and access, sensitively connected to the Lower Falls and Auburndale neighborhoods.

We understand that reasonable concerns about impacts on schools, storm water and traffic must be addressed. The EDC is concerned that the zoning parameters of Docket Item 400-11 are set too low and the constraints on such a valuable property will hinder its full economic development potential and leveraging capacity to generate sufficient revenue for community mitigation and citywide benefit. The rational choice is to set the limits for Riverside at a scenario which will allow the property to respond not only to a project at hand but also to development opportunities in the future.

That we have a developer eager to move forward on the site speaks volumes of their commitment, the positive market potential of the site and our City. As this project continues to evolve, the EDC looks forward to working with you and is available for advice and support to make a development at Riverside fiscally responsible and beneficial for all the stakeholders involved.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Daphne M. Collins, Chair

**Newton Economic Development Commission** 

CC: Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development

Greg Schwartz, Alderman-elect David A. Kalis, Alderman-elect Marc Laredo, Alderman-elect