

Zoning Committee Restructure
10-26-20

October 15, 2020

Revised October 26, 2020

To reflect the review and approval of this document by the Zoning Committee at their meeting held on October 20, 2020.

In an effort broaden the impact that our committee can have in Mt Airy and Philadelphia and at the same time make more effective use of committee member's time* we propose the following reworking of the committee structure subject to discussion and input on 10-20-20. The intent is to continue to fulfill our obligation as the **RCO committee** responsible for zoning variance meetings, but add to that more advocacy efforts in 3 areas: **preservation, sustainability and community education** about development and zoning. We also would like to change the name of the committee to "Land Use and Development" or "Land Use, Development & Zoning".

* we recognize that not everyone has the same amount of time available for the committee, but that does not lessen their importance To the committee as long as they attend meetings and participate in a meaningful way.

I. EMAN BOARD (committee reports to the Board)

A. Land Use & Development Committee

everyone on the committee is a member

- *Jeff Hayes*
- *Cassie Lukasiewicz*
- *Nina Curlet*
- *Linda Bell*
- *Scott Siebert*
- *Dan Dahl*
- *Tom Halliwell*
- *Jeremy Gudgeon*
- *Sharon Kim* - Sharon has notified us that she is on leave from the committee until she settles into a routine with motherhood.
- *Dana Fideli*
- *Natalia Serejko*
- *3 non confirmed board members who have indicated interest in the committee (Solomon Silber, Michael Burell, Crystal Carabello)*
- *others from outside the board (w expertise) to supplement current committee*

Since the meeting Cassie and Jeff have interviewed Michael Burrell and he is confirmed as a new member. We have not hear back from Crystal or Solomon.

From this group we would choose the following:

- liaison to Cindy Bass's office (this person will regularly check in w her office and will be responsible for developing a relationship w the office and a better understanding of her expectations for zoning in MA) *Jeff and Cassie*
- recording secretary *Nina*
- Crosstown Coalition Rep(s)- attends Crosstown meetings and reports back to the committee *Cassie, plus the whoever else wishes to attend.*

B. RCO Meeting and Community Education Subcommittee*

No chair for subcommittee selected.

*Members from the committee constitute the subcommittee perhaps with guest members if circumstances dictate.**

This subcommittee prepares materials for our RCO meetings, and develops an effective strategy for community education around zoning issues.

It was agreed that we will reformat our pre-meeting for RCO projects (typically held on 3rd Tuesdays of the month) as follows:

- I. 30 mins for developer presentation in front of the committee*
- II. 30-45 mins for neighbor discussion including a review of the applicant's materials and how to move forward with further neighbor involvement prior the RCO meeting and the ZBA hearing. Notice for this meeting will be by flyer and will include but not be limited to the RCO notification neighbor list (250' circle from the project)*
- III. 30 mins for additional committee business*

In addition it was agreed that we would hold a workshop for the neighbors to learn more about the RCO process. Dana suggested that there a workbook or presentation available from the City that should be looked into.

There was discussion that responsibility for review of applicant materials and appeal could rotate through the committee as a way for people to learn more about the code and share the responsibility of this task.

C. Sustainability Subcommittee

Tom and Scott will co-chair this subcommittee.

*Members from the committee constitute the subcommittee perhaps with guest members if circumstances dictate.**

Continues our work on Wingohocking Watershed, and add other advocacy efforts such as tree cover and perhaps development of a sustainability scorecard to apply to RCO projects or other development projects (look towards what was done for ULS?)

D. Preservation Subcommittee

Dana will chair this subcommittee.

*Members from the committee constitute the subcommittee perhaps with guest members if circumstances dictate.**

Continues our work on advocating for a MA commercial historic district, identifies properties or neighborhoods worthy of historic designation in MA. Develops expertise to assist with or write nominations to PHC.

Dana added: reinstitute the Gowen Estate and/ or Sedgewick Farms tours, raise money to support nominations to the Historical Commission, help individual home-owners with

* participation on a subcommittee does not prevent this person from joining in activities of the other subcommittees. It is expected that all of would still attend RCO meetings and regular committee meetings.

**Jeff and Cassie would be on all subcommittees to keep in touch with what is happening in addition to contributing as a working member.