



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 30, 2015
REPORT OF THE LAND USE COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Dennis M. Sullivan	Chair	Present	
Mark Niedergang	Vice Chair	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Absent	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Robert J. McWatters	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Rebekah L. Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Absent	
Katjana Ballantyne	Ward Seven Alderman	Absent	
John M. Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Alderman at Large	Present	

Others present: George Proakis, Omar Boukili

1. Approval of the March 5, 2015 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
----------------	-----------------

198429: Requesting the adoption of a New Zoning Ordinance (updated) to supersede the current Zoning Ordinance as originally adopted on March 23, 1990.

Members discussed the city's proposed new comprehensive zoning plan and mentioned some of the concerns expressed by residents at the previous public hearing on the matter. Members were made aware of the time constraints associated with this proposal, however several members felt the need to take additional time to review and modify it, where needed. Some of the concerns raised at this meeting involved:

- Stalling development,
- working public's concerns into plan,
- securing Administrative support for the BOA,
- involving the BOA,

- what the proposal would ultimately result in and what would happen if it is not acted on,
- the importance of residential development,
- the city's readiness for big companies wanting to come here,
- office space and R&D,
- how Union Square fits in with the plan and
- changes to the table of uses.

Some members felt that the measure should be voted down at this meeting, however, Mr. Boukili cautioned members not to vote the item down because the Administration might not come back with an entirely new document. He said that the draft is subject to change, debate and comment.

Mr. Proakis planned on making a presentation this evening, but instead, he will email the presentation to all aldermen.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
----------------	--------------------------