



City of Somerville  
**PLANNING BOARD**  
City Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

**2 MAY 2024 MEETING MINUTES**

This meeting was conducted via remote participation via Zoom.

NAME	TITLE	STATUS	ARRIVED
Michael Capuano	Chair	<i>Present</i>	
Amelia Aboff	Vice Chair	<i>Present</i>	
Jahan Habib	Clerk	<i>Present</i>	
Michael McNeley	Member	<i>Present</i>	
Debbie Howitt Easton	Alternate	<i>Present</i>	
Luc Schuster	Alternate	<i>Present</i>	

City staff present: Raisa Saniat (Planning, Preservation, & Zoning), Stephen Cary (Planning, Preservation, & Zoning), Sarah Lewis (Director of Planning Preservation, & Zoning)

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm and adjourned at 7:32pm.

**OTHER BUSINESS: Subcommittee Discussion**

The Board discussed ways for the Board to engage with policy changes and the Zoning Ordinance. It was noted that Staff will continue to work with the Legal Department to clarify the Board's jurisdiction and the process for proposing and implementing zoning amendments. The Board discussed recommending discussions with experts on various topics to inform the Board's operations and potential initiatives. There was discussion regarding creating a list of priorities and coordination concerns. The Board agreed to continue this discussion at a future meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS: Joint Hearing with the Land Use Committee**

- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to Article 2, Article 3, Article 4, Article 5, Article 8, and Article 10 of the Zoning Ordinance to remove conflicts with the State Building Code.

*The Board entered into a Joint Hearing with the Land Use Committee at 6:30pm.*

*The Board reconvened its meeting at 7:30pm, with a quorum present.*

The Board discussed meeting next on 16 May 2024.

*NOTICE: These minutes constitute a summary of the votes and key discussions at this meeting. To review a full recording, please contact the Planning, Preservation & Zoning Division at [planningboard@somervillema.gov](mailto:planningboard@somervillema.gov).*