2019 Registered Community Organizations (RCO) Trainings





Registration = Notification

RCO Registration is for early notification of Zoning Board cases RCO Registration is needed for Civic Design Review (CDR) participation

- Registration is not needed to attend or submit testimony to Zoning Board
- Anyone may attend or testify at a Zoning Board hearing
- Registration is not needed to be a civic or neighborhood association in Philadelphia
- Registration does not establish greater influence over Zoning Board decisions
- Registration is not notification of all development projects, just appeals to zoning refusals by L&I
- Zoning Board considers multiple factors in determining hardship

Introductions

NE Cluster

W-C-S

Cluster

RCOs Planning Commission Staff



www.Citizensplanninginstitute.org Donna.Carney@phila.gov

June RCO Workshops

Agenda:

- Welcome
- Recording Questions
- Part 1:
 - Development & the Approvals Process
- Part 2:
 - The Role of RCOs & Best Practices
- Review Questions



Resources & Tools

- Workshop Handout +
- Attachments I-VII:
 - I. Zoning and Use Variances, step by step
 - II. Zoning Committee Policies and Procedures
 - III. The Building Blocks of Philadelphia
 - IV. Philadelphia City Code (zoning code, RCO excerpt)
 - V. Planning Commission Regulations (RCO excerpt)
 - VI. RCO Application Form & Rights and Responsibilities
 - VII. Civic Design Review Materials

www.phila.gov/CityPlanning/ PAGE 11 of HANDOUT "Quick Guide"- Zoning page

Questions?

--Writing on flip chart --Answers AFTER presentation --HOLD questions during presentation



What is Development?

- New construction of a building on vacant land
- Rehabilitation of an existing building
- Changing the USE





Developer Team



Development Process – Key Steps

- Site control Acquisition
- Use/Zoning What can the site be used for?
 What can be built here?
- Market Is there a demand for the use?
- Approvals Can the use be approved and permitted?
- Financing Is there funding for the project?
- Construction How will it be built? What will it cost?
- Occupancy How will the building by owned & operated?

Plan vs. Zoning

- A Plan is a vision of what a community wants itself to be.
 - We want to be able to walk to park space
 - We want to be able to shop in our neighborhood
 - We want our streets to be safe for pedestrians



Zoning is a tool that helps to achieve the goals of a plan by regulating.....



Credit: "What is Zoning?"- The Center for Urban Pedagogy, NY



Credit: "What is Zoning?"- The Center for Urban Pedagogy, NY

What Zoning Cannot Regulate

Buildings

- How they are constructed (Building Code)
- How energy efficient they are (Building Code)
- How they deal with storm water (Water Department)
- Building materials (Historical Commission)
 Behavior
- Absentee landlords
- Littering
- Crime
- Vacancy
- Parking in the driveway and storing stuff in the garage

Development Process - Zoning

What can site be used for?

Residential, commercial, office, warehouse facility, etc.

What is the zoning on the site?



What Can I Build There?

- 1- Find base and overlay districts: www.phila.gov/Map- Zoning map
- **2-** Is proposed use permitted? **USE TABLES Chapter 600**
- **3** What can I build? **DIMENSIONAL TABLES Chapter 700-** allowed lot area, lot width, open area, building height, setbacks, floor area, etc.
- 4- Other development regulations that may apply:

Form & Design Open Space & Landscaping Fencing & Wall Standards

Outdoor Lighting Standards

- **5-** Chapter 800- vehicle and bicycle parking; off-street loading
- 6- Chapter 900- sign requirements.
- 7- Other applicable regulations? Historic property?- (Chapter 1000)

Zoning Issues

- Is the project "by right"?
- Are variances needed?
 - Special Exception?
- Does the scale of project require Civic Design Review (CDR)?
- Impacts on Cost?

Hardships – Use Variance

Issues

- Zoned Industrial Former factory, Industrial district is obsolete
- Applicant is proposing to convert to loft apartments



Hardships – Dimensional Variance

Issues

- Zoned Residential Existing homes do not adhere to required side yard setbacks
- Applicant is proposing to build home that matches existing homes





Special Exception

Base district: CMX-2 Proposed use: Take-out Restaurant

Questions: 1: What will the applicant need to prove?

2: What would objectors need to prove?



Civic Design Review

What is the impact at the pedestrian level?

- Contributes to walkability
- Contributes to street activity
- Open space appropriate and reinforces public enjoymentamenities
- Allows adequate light and air
- Design protects surrounding neighborhood



Approvals

THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF PHILADELPHIA

....

.....

#

....



1111

Reviewer- Zoning Related

- Makes recommendations for zoning code and map
- Review & Signature for many plans seeking permits through L&I:
 - New construction
 - Revisions to lot lines
- Maintains RCO registration process
- Reviews appeals to ZBA & makes recommendations
- Guides Civic Design Review process

PCPC Planning Commission

Decision-Maker: Zoning Related

Front door to any development project:

- Issues zoning permits
- Reviews plans

Also:

- Issues ALL other permits and licenses
- Does inspections for code compliance.
- Manages "clean & seal" program & demolition of dangerous buildings

L&I Dept of Licenses & Inspections

(For office use only) APPLICATION # ZONING CLASSIFICA PREVIOUS APPLICA (Applicantcompletes all inform	APPLICATION FOR USE REGISTRATION PERMIT			CITY OF PHIL DEPARTMENT OF LICENS MUNICIPAL SERVICES BU 1401 JOHN F. KENNE PHILADELPHI/ For more information visit us	ES AND INSPECTIONS ILDING – CONCOURSE EDY BOULEVARD A, PA 19102	
PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME			PROPERTY OWNER'S ADDRESS:			
PHONE#	FAX #	LICENSE	#	-E-MAIL:		
APPLICANT:		ADDRESS	B:			
FIRM/COMPANY:	FAX #					
	HIP TO OWNER:TENANT/LESSEEATTORNE		PROFES	E-MAIL:	EXPEDITOR	
FLOOR/SPACE #		ON OF USES		Last Previous Use	Date Last Used	
FLOOR/SPACE #	PROP	OSED USE OF	BUILDIN	IG/SPACE	•	
					······································	
HEIGHT	STORIES AND HEIGHTS EXISTING BUILDING			ROOF	WCONSTRUCTION	
IN FEET	FRONT SIDE REAR	FRONT		SIDE	REAR	
IN STORIES				, <u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>		
BRIEF DESCRIPTION	J OF WORK/CHANGE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				

		SAL	DEPARTME Municipal S 1401	CITY OF PHILADELPHI NT OF LICENSES & IN Services Building, Conco John F. Kennedy Bouk Philadelphia, PA 19102	SPECTIONS burse Level evard	DATE OF REF 21 MAR ZONING DIST RSA-5	RCH 2013	APPLICATION # 452053
	APPLICANT	GE STREET, PH	ILADELPHIA, PA	19124 ADDRESS 1950 BRIDGE STR	EET, PHILADELP	HIA, PA 191	24	
	APPLICATION FOR: LEGALIZE THE ERECTION OF AN ADDITION TO AN EXISTING ATTACHED SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING. SIZE AND LOCAT AS SHOWN ON SUBMITTED PLAN.							ZE AND LOCATION
	Ч							
	PERMIT FOR THE ABOVE LOCATION CANNOT BE ISSUED BECAUSE IT IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS OF THE PHILADELPHIA CODE. (CODES CAN BE ACCESSED ON LINE AT WWW.PHILA.GOV) <u>CODE</u> <u>REFERENC</u> E							
C	TB. 14- 701-1	THE PROPOSED ZONING IS REFUSED FOR THE FOLLOWING: REAR YARD Min. Depth .> OF 9' OR 20% OF THE 16'-3" - 16% OF THE LOT						
		REAR TARD	Mill. Deput		LOT DEP	тн".	DEF	РТН

Decision-Maker

Independent agency of L&I appointed by the Mayor:

- Grants dimensional and use variances
- Grants special exception approvals
- Hears appeals of zoning decisions made by L&I

ZBA

Zoning Board of Adjustment



Example: 1224-40 Frankford Ave

Use: Vacant building and lots Zoning: ICMX and RM-1



Example: 1224-40 Frankford Ave

Proposal: 125-room hotel with restaurant



Refusal (example)

NOTICE OF:	CITY OF PHILADELPHIA	DATE OF REFUSAL 2/19/2015	APPLICATION # 577490			
	DEPARTMENT OF LICENSES & INSPECTIONS Municipal Services Building, Concourse Level	ZONING DISTRICT(S)	ZONING DISTRICT(S)			
REFERRAL	1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102		ICMX – INDUSTRIAL AND RM-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT			
ADDRESS/LOCATION 1224-40 FR	ANKFORD AVE					
APPLICANT: RONALD J. PATTERSON, ESQUIRE FOR OWNERS ADDRESS: 1835 MARKET ST, SUITE 1400 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103						
EXISTING ATTACHED STRUCTUR ABOVE THE EXISTING STRUCTUF LINE). USE- ACCESSORY STOR/ CELLAR; HOTEL LOBBY, BUSINES BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL OFF SECOND TO SIXTH FLOOR; BAW RESTAURANT WITH OCCUPANCY FLOOR. SIZE AND LOCATION AS 3		POOL & POOL DECK A M THE EXTREME FRC FICE AND SIT-DOWN F STAURANT ON FIRST MMODATIONS) 125 R IENT) ON FOURTH FL TEL POOL AND POOL	AND ROOF DECK INT BUILDING RESTAURANT ON FLOOR; OOMS ON OOR; SIT-DOWN DECK ON SIXTH			
	BOVE LOCATION CANNOT BE ISSUED BECAUSE IT IS OF THE PHILADELPHIA CODE. (CODES CAN BE ACC					
CODE SECTION	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	.23325 on tine At	THE REAL OF T			
TABLE 14 – 602-3 THE PROPOSED USE IN REFUSED FOR THE FOLLOWING: TABLE 14 – 602-3 ZONING DISTRICT						
	THE PROPOSED ZONING IS REFUSED FOR THE FOLLOWING					
TABLE 14 - 701-2 & 14- 701-4	OPEN AREA REQUIRED (FOR RM-1 DISTRICT)	REQUIRED 30%	PROPOSED NONE			
TABLE 14 - 701-2 & 14- 701-4	REAR YARD MINIMUM DEPTH	9FT	NONE			
TABLE 14 – 701-2 & 14- 701-4	REAR YARD MINIMUM AREA	144 SQ FT	NONE			
TABLE 14-802-3	OFF STREET PARKING SPACES	42 SPACES	NONE			
TABLE 14-802-4	PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	2 SPACE	NONE			
TABLE 14-806-1	OFF STREET LOADING SPACES BICYCLE PARKING SPACE	5 SPACES 8 SPACES	2 SPACES NONE			
TABLE 14-804-1		ALLOWED				
TABLE 14 - 701-2 & 14- 701-4	MAXIMUM HEIGHT (RM-1 DISTRICT)	38 FT	66 FT			
TABLE 14 - 701-2 & 14- 701-4	MAXIMUM HEIGHT (ICMX DISTRICT)	60 FT	71 FT			
TABLE 14 - 701-2 & 14- 701-4 TABLE 14 - 701-2 & 14- 701-4	FLOOR AREA RATIO (FAR)	500%	542%			
REMARKS: FIVE (5) USE REFUSALS SIX (6) ZONING REFUSALS. FEE FOR FILLING AN APPEAL	- \$250.00					
Ce:						
OWNER	- Jame tosae	~~~~				
RIVER CITY FLATS, LP 829 N 29 TH ST PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103	PAULOSE ISSAC	2/19/15 DATE				
	PLANS EXAMINATION ENGINEER Phone number 215 686 2563. email: Paulose.lssac	@phila.Gov				
NOTICE TO APPLICANT:		5				
AN APPEAL FROM THIS DECISION	MUST BE MADE TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTN					
TITTELOOR, 1401 JEK BOULEVARD	, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102, WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS	OF DATE OF REFUSAL				

14-303(13): Public Notice

Sign Notice for ZBA Hearings

- ZBA may require multiple signs on large or interior lots
- Must be posted in advance of ZBA hearing
- Must post again for any hearing continued for 7 days or more



Neighborhood Notice and Meetings

Formalizes the role of community organizations in the development process (RCOs)

Creates a standard for notice and meetings

Applicable when application requires either:

- Zoning Board approval (variance/special exception) or,
- Civic Design Review

Process: Notification by PCPC

- ZBA sends appeal info to PCPC; PCPC contacts the office of the District Councilperson
- Within 7 days of appeal, PCPC sends information to applicant and Registered Community Organizations (RCOs)





Affected Addresses (New)



Within 250 ft AND everyone on the "block" (e.g. 1500 block)

Project Information Form (PIF)

- Questions on Project Information Form have to do with:
 - Land Use
 - Housing Units
 - Square Footage
 - Parking, Timeline, Landscaping, Lighting
 - Transportation Impacts, Job Creation
 - Affordable Housing, Partnerships with Local Groups

Process: Notification by Applicant

- Within 20 days of notice from PCPC, applicant contacts affected RCOs
- Coordinating RCO sets meeting in cooperation with other affected RCOs. Date must be within 45 days of appeal*
- Within 20 days of notice, applicant distributes written notice to affected addresses
Process: RCO Meeting

- RCO meeting is held
- RCO sends meeting summary to City Council, City Planning Commission, and ZBA/CDR

Meeting Summary (example)

Meeting Summary Form to Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA)

Fishtown Neighbors Association P.O. Box 3744 Philadelphia, PA 19125

March 28th, 2015

Honorable Julia Chapman Chair, Zoning Board of Adjustment Municipal Services Building, Room 1130 1401 JFK Blvd Philadelphia, PA 19102

Re: RCO Meeting Summary Form ZBA Calendar No. 24718 Permit No. 755590 Property Address: 1224 Frankford Ave Hearing Date: April 1, 2015

Dear Honorable Julia Chapman:

Below is summary of a public community meeting held regarding the above-referenced zoning proposal.

Final Position Taken by Coordinating RCO is one of:

- X Support
- Oppose
- Non-Opposition
 Did not reach agreement on the application

Vote Count(s) [as applicable]

	RCO Board/ Committee		Other (e.g. affected addresses, members, etc.)- please describe: Neighbors within 500'
Support		82	57
Oppose	- No. 4	7	9
Non-Opposition			

Date of Meeting: February 17th, 2016

Location of Meeting: 1202 E Montgomery Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19125

Participating RCOs: FNA, NKCDC

Number of Attendees: 155

Letter with Explanation of/Rationale for Position Attached? Y

Sincerely.

Matt Karp, Chair, FNA Zoning Committee

cc: Jeffery Young, Councilman Clarke's office Philadelphia City Planning Commission

Meeting Summary Letter (example)

Our mission is to serve our families and neighbors by promoting community activities, civic involvement, education, and sofety by fostering the smart growth of our unique and diverse riverfront neighborhood.



March 28th, 2015

Honorable Julia Chapman Chair, Zoning Board of Adjustment Municipal Services Building, Room 1130 1401 JFK Blvd Philadelphia, PA 19102

Re: Calendar No. 24716 (1224 Frankford Ave)

Dear Chair Chapman and Board Members:

I am writing you on behalf of the Fishtown Neighbors Association supporting the project at the above address. On February 17th, 2015 the FNA hosted a well-publicized meeting for the developer to introduce plans to the community proposing the creation of a hotel with 125 rooms, restaurant, jazz bar, banquet hall, and rooftop restaurant.

The local neighbors (within 500') voted '57' yes and '9' no; the community voted '82' yes and '7' no. The total vote was '139' yes to '16' no, supporting the project.

The project was described as a 125 room boutique hotel with a restaurant, jazz bar, banquet hall, and rooftop restaurant. The program also contains a shared office space, and rooftop pool club. The loading dock for the hotel will be located on Leopard St and will only be used for loading between 9am and 4pm (see proviso). The parking for the hotel will be done through a valet on Frankford Ave and the cars will be held at 1320-48 North Front St (see proviso). The trash area for the hotel will be enclosed in the loading area.

The existing building on the site will be preserved and expanded by one bay to the East designed to match the existing façade. The existing mural on the building will be preserved and visible inside of the new hotel structure.

The neighbors were receptive and supportive of:

- The reuse of a long vacant building
- There was praise for the included valet parking and remote parking lot.
- Businesses on Frankford Ave would be impacted for the positive with the influx of people to the building's functions.
- Proposed security cameras on the site.
- New streetscape lighting to the parking area
- The pool not being used for the hotel guests

The neighbors were concerned with and opposed to:

- The proposed remote parking lot is not believed to be sufficient to hold all of the cars that come to the hotel and the restaurants inside.
- The reduction of natural light and views on Leopard and Frankford Ave
- Increase in noise on the street from the hotel and the rooftop pool.

Our mission is to serve our families and neighbors by promoting community activities, civic involvement, education, and sofety by fostering the smart growth of our unique and diverse riverfront neighborhood.



Requested Provisos:

- The lot at 1320-48 North Front is used for valet parking for this project and its variance is approved by the ZBA (Appeal number 24363)
- 2) Use of the loading dock on Leopard St restricted to 9am-4pm

On behalf of the neighbors of Fishtown, we would ask you to grant the requested variances. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Matt Karp, Chair, FNA Zoning Committee

Cc: Ronald Patterson, Applicant Roland Kassis, Owner Jeffery Young, Councilman Clarke's office Michaela Allwine, NKCDC

Process: ZBA/CDR Hearing

ZBA Hearing: Possible Outcomes

- Approval
- Approval with Provisos
- Continued
- Decision Held
- o Denial/Dismissal

APPEARANCE	STATEMENT	ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
CALENDAR NUMBER	PREMISES	
ENTER MY APPEARANCE FOR:	PROTESTANT	PARTY
NAME (PRINT)		TELEPHONE NUMBER
ADDRESS		ZIP CODE
CAPACITY		

Stand and Stretch



Role of RCOs





Competitive



Cooperative



Collaborative

Effective community organizations work together to improve quality of life.

Registered Community Organizations

Qualifying Criteria

- An adopted statement of purpose
- Geographic area with no more than 20,000 parcels and boundaries set forth in the organization's governing rules
- Regular meetings that are publicly-announced (hard copy or electronically) and open to the public
- Open meetings held on a regularly scheduled basis
- Leadership chosen by membership-at-large through elections
- Status valid for 2 years



Registered Community Organizations

Responsibilities

1. Alert membership of ZBA hearing cases and Civic Design Review cases

2. Agree to meet with applicants within 45 days

3. If selected as a "Coordinating" RCO, schedule and host public meeting with applicant

4. Document the meeting & send written meeting summary to applicable parties

5. Representative sits on CDR committee for projects within boundaries



1-Purpose

- Why are we having this meeting?
- What's the desired outcome?
 - To accomplish "X" that can only be done in a group: discuss issues that need multiple perspectives or make decisions
 - Don't have a meeting if you don't need DISCUSSION to reach a DECISION



2-Product

- What will we produce out of the meeting?
 - If your meetings seem to be "all talk and no followthrough," consider how a product might change this



3-People

- Who needs to be there and what roles will they play?
 - What questions are we answering with this meeting?
 - Who are the right people to answer the questions?



Community Assets- where are they?

ocal Institutions Businesses Churches Youth Schools Block clubs **Professional Associations** ibraries

from "Building Communities from the Inside Out", Asset-Based Community Development Institute p. 6

Citizens Planning Institute ©



What kind of agenda do we need?

Process depends on what kind of decision-making needs to happen.



Citizens Planning Institute ©

Meeting Tools

Minutes/Documentation

- Use Agenda template to fill in and record Action Items and Who's Responsible.
- If reporting on non-consensus issues, make sure to assign who/group is associated with each stand.
- Template for documenting meeting in handout

5-Pitfalls

- What are some potential risks in this meeting and how will we address them?
 - Could be as simple as ground rules, like sign-in for speakers and time limits
 - Never let go of the microphone
 - How will we handle off-topic remarks?



6-Prep

- What would be useful to do in advance?
- Is there material that should be sent in advance to participants? NO ONE R E A D S!*



*Unless it has to do with something that directly affects them.

Graphic Credit: Lisa Whited

7-Practical Concerns

- What are the logistics?
- Who's responsible?
- Where is the meeting?
- When is the meeting?



- How will people find out about it?
- Who's bringing the food?

Attracting & Keeping Volunteers

Station WIIFM*



*What's in it for me?

Graphic Credit: Lisa Whited

Finding ZBA Appeals

- www.phila.gov/zba/appeals-calendar
- "Zoning Appeals" (top left, filter under "Region" to show Council Districts or Planning Districts)
- Click on appeal# to find detailed info about case

Regions Select a region to filter the table data.							Listing Appeals from May 26, 2019 to Jul 6, 2019 The list of appeals is between the first and last dates on the calendar.				
All regions 🔻						•	Filter by addres application des	ss, appeal number, cription:	or [1708]		
Use t	he arrow	is to sea	rch by da	te.			Date	¢ Time ¢	Address	Туре	Appeals #
~	<	Ju	ine 20	19	>	>>	06/26/2019	09:30 AM	1708 W TIOGA ST	ZBA	36978
Sur	n Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			One record		
	26 2	7 2	8 29	30	31	1					
	2	3	4 5 ZBA	6	7	8					
	9 1	0 1	1 12 ZBA	13	14	15					
	16 1	7 1 ZBA	8 19 ZBA	20	21	22					
	23 2	24 2 ZBA	5 26 ZBA	27	28	29					
	30			4		6					

Finding ZBA Appeals								
← → C ① https://openmaps.phila.gov	ov – go to L&I Zoning Board Appeals							
Philadelphia OpenMaps								
Filter By Text:	Search the map							
Filter By Category:	Rent Stranklin Z Paine Plaza S Cuthbert St							
Licenses and Inspections - Demolitions	Four Penn Center & Two Penn N Bro Masonic Temple Z Philadel Crimir & Crimir							
Licenses and Inspections - Imminently	E Center							
Dangerous	Zoning Board Appeal							
🚯 🔲 Licenses and Inspections - Inspections	City >							
🚺 🔲 Licenses and Inspections - L&I Review	Owner Name Park City Z TOMPROS KATHERINE CALOMIRCALOMIRIS JEN Hall Hall							
Board Appeals	Organization							
Licenses and Inspections - Permits	none Primary Applicant RONALD PATTERSON, ESQ. The Wanamaker							
🚺 🔲 Licenses and Inspections - Violations	Appeal Number							
Licenses and Inspections - Zoning Board Appeals	Stock Exchange PI							

Resources & Tools

- RCO Registration and Operations handout p. 1-13
- Zoning and Use Variances, Step-by-Step
- Zoning Committee Policies and Procedures
- "The Building Blocks of Philadelphia"
- Philadelphia City Code (relevant sections)
- Planning Commission Regulations (relevant sections)
- RCO Application Form and Rights & Responsibilities