

Explanatory language about the use of virtual meetings during the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak, Governor Baker issued an emergency Order on March 12, 2020, allowing public bodies greater flexibility in utilizing technology in the conduct of meetings under the Open Meeting Law. The City of North Adams greatly values the participation of its citizens in the public meeting process, but given the current circumstances and recommendations at both the state and federal levels to limit or avoid public gatherings, including Governor Baker's ban on gatherings of more than 25 people, together with the present closure of North Adams City Hall and other public buildings to the public, the City of North Adams has decided to implement the "remote participation" procedures allowed under Governor Baker's emergency Order for all boards, committees, and commissions. This means that:

1. All or any of the members of the public body may choose to participate in a public meeting via remote access. Meetings may be virtual, in their entirety.
2. The public will not be allowed into a Board/Committee meeting, even where there are any members of the public body and/or City of North Adams staff or official(s) physically present at the meeting location during the meeting. "Public comment" portions of meetings will be temporarily suspended.
3. However, the public will be provided with alternative access through which they can watch or listen to meetings "in real time," and meeting notices will specify the manner in which members of the public may access audio or video of the meeting as it is occurring.
4. If, despite our best efforts, our technological capabilities do not adequately support public access to virtual or remote meetings, the City of North Adams will ensure that an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings at the meeting is posted on the City of North Adams website as soon as possible after the meeting.
5. Notices for public hearings will contain additional information about how the public may participate via electronic/technological means.
6. For executive session meetings, public access to the meeting will be limited to the open session portion(s) of the meeting only. Public access to any audio, video, internet or web-based broadcast of the meeting will be discontinued when the public body enters executive session.
7. Where individuals have a right, or are required, to attend a public meeting or hearing, including executive session meetings, they will be provided with information about how to participate in the meeting/hearing remotely.
8. Meeting notices will still be posted at least 48 hours in advance (not counting Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays), unless it is an emergency meeting as defined under the Open Meeting Law (in which event, the meeting notice will be posted with as much advanced notice as is possible in the circumstances). Minutes will still be taken.



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Planning Board

Meeting Notice

Monday, April 13, 2020

The North Adams Planning Board will hold a meeting on Monday, April 13, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. via teleconference.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the North Adams Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the City of North Adams website, at http://www.northadams-ma.gov/index.php?nav_id=13. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so in the following manner: via teleconference at <https://zoom.us/j/117163797>, see specific call instructions located at the end of the meeting notice. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the City of North Adams website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

AGENDA

Chair statement for virtual meetings

Roll call 6:00 p.m.

Public hearings new business

- **Case No: SPA2020-13** Application of Kristi and Ken Cooper for property located at 65 (49-61) Main Street. Special permit requested for a change of use for a retail space in a CBD zone.
- **Case No: SPA2020-14** Application of Rojo Wine Bar, LLC for property located at 28 Holden Street. Special permit requested for a change of use to operate a restaurant/wine bar in a CBD zone.

Approval of minutes

- Planning Public Hearing – March 9, 2020
- Regular meeting – March 9, 2020

New business

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Other business

- Request from DragonWell Tea Shop for property located at 149 Eagle Street to revise hours of operation.
- Request from Action Sign Company on behalf of Walmart for property located at 1415 Curran Highway to update signage.

Adjournment

Michael Leary, Chairman
North Adams Planning Board
April 7, 2020

City of North Adams is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Planning Board

Time: Apr 13, 2020 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the Second Mon, until Oct 12, 2020, 7 occurrence(s)

Apr 13, 2020 06:00 PM

May 11, 2020 06:00 PM

Jun 8, 2020 06:00 PM

Jul 13, 2020 06:00 PM

Aug 10, 2020 06:00 PM

Sep 14, 2020 06:00 PM

Oct 12, 2020 06:00 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: [https://zoom.us/meeting/vJUqdu-rqTlthO4_ID983fs-](https://zoom.us/meeting/vJUqdu-rqTlthO4_ID983fs-HKZMxnupAA/ics?icsToken=98tyKuipqTosGdOct1_9Z7ctA8H_b8_Ilnlh_pxRuEa9UCZALyvdmDM9aPKdvMfmB)

[HKZMxnupAA/ics?icsToken=98tyKuipqTosGdOct1_9Z7ctA8H_b8_Ilnlh_pxRuEa9UCZALyvdmDM9aPKdvMfmB](https://zoom.us/meeting/vJUqdu-rqTlthO4_ID983fs-HKZMxnupAA/ics?icsToken=98tyKuipqTosGdOct1_9Z7ctA8H_b8_Ilnlh_pxRuEa9UCZALyvdmDM9aPKdvMfmB)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/117163797>

Meeting ID: 117 163 797

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,117163797# US (New York)

+13126266799,,117163797# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 117 163 797

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abdQYhV9Ep>