

Green Fingers Garden Club Neighbor to Neighbor

The Civic/ Conservation Committee Report
June 2021

HISTORY: Neighbor to Neighbor, a separate 501c3 organization, has operated from basement space at Christ Church since 1975. During the 2008/09 financial crisis the number of clients seeking assistance with food increased by 50% and didn't recede all that much in the recovery.

NEW BUILDING: That triggered the early discussions of needing a larger space. In June 2014 members of the church voted to proceed with the plan of offering Neighbor to Neighbor (Neighbor) a long term lease on land on the church campus for the construction of a building dedicated to Neighbor's operations. In October 2016 the Planning and Zoning Commission granted approval for the construction of such a building. After delays due to legal appeals by neighbors and COVID, construction of the modular units for the building commenced early this year. The modular units were put in place 4 weeks ago (week of April 26). Mid November is the conservative estimate of when Neighbor will be operational in the new space.

LANDSCAPING: The landscaping plan includes basic perennial plantings near the building as well as extensive screening of trees and shrubs on the borders with the Putnam Hill and Putnam Park. The plan is attached. Some of the screening was planted last fall with the idea that it would be established for this growing season and get a head start on providing the screening. The balance of the planting will occur this fall as it ceases to be a construction site. We are very pleased that the existing stand of tall and beautiful trees between the new building and the Tomes-Higgins House was not impacted by the work.

