

Special Meeting RE: 380 Lexington Street

June 30, 2017

Call to Order at 11:40 a.m.

Purpose of this meeting is to consider the intersection on Trapelo Rd/Lexington St, Waltham MA

Call of Roll: Commissioner Isaacson, Commissioner Daly, Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Cox, Commissioner Wilson arrived at 11:50 a.m.

Representing the City of Waltham:

Mike Garvin, City Traffic Engineering

Jeannette McCarthy, Mayor

Mayor McCarthy is trying to get it before the boards in the planning process. Conservation commission has asked for special wetlands mapping to be done along with an evaluation of the culvert. In doing the due-diligence, I am asking WHC for comments about the house and the land. The Mayor presented a map that shows the location of the house and the property.

The proposed plan:

Difficulties of navigating this intersection and safety concerns and traffic delays. This is at the top of the list in terms of safety concerns and traffic delay for the city. Allot of accidents occur here. To bring this intersection up to current standards for traffic design is to shrink the intersection, instead of 300ft, shrink it down to about 80ft; shrinking the intersection makes it more of a logical left and right turn. In order to move the road, the house at 380 Lexington St is in the way. The house needs to not be there, whether it's demolished or moved, if moved, space is opened up on the opposite side to swop the two. Mayor: Anything we touch in that wetland, we will have to replicate.

Discussion with WHC:

Jack Cox- Can we move the house back where the barn was originally?

Mayor- At this point, I can move the house if you want the house moved, however until they complete the wetlands mapping you have the 100-200ft buffer and sewer there. Potentially we could see where it fits on the lot. There is only one portion of this property that is outside of the 100-200 ft buffer.

There is an outstanding order with the historic commission to reconstruct the barn.

Marie Daly: Where do the wetlands have to be replicated? On site? The mayor needs to find out from Attorney Azadi.

Holmes: Is this significant and worthy of preservation? This structure with an 1820's construction date and original location, alterations to the inside have not removed the significance of this property, I would say the initial findings would say that this house is historically significant and should be preferably preserved.

Mayor: Does that include the land? All or some of the land?

Holmes: As much of the property that can be preserved is a good thing. The fact that it has vinyl siding, preserves the structure better, it's removable and can be restored.

The Mayor would like to schedule a site view for the WHC to view the inside, outside of the house, and the land.

Mayor is questioning the addition on the house, and if it's historic.

Commissioner Daly: 1854 map, shows the L shape, the house has always looked that way. The house is on the state register, and Piety Corner Districts is historic on the National Register and the house has been identified on that register, so is the city planning on seeking federal or state funding for the road construction? And if so, what process would come into play?

Mayor: No, local money will be used. We are not seeking any other money. There may be other reviews state and federal but no money is being requested.

Commissioner Holmes: I believe, if MEPA analyst is prepared then the Massachusetts Historical Commission has comment.

Mayor: Once we receive all departments' comments, we will address the fruit trees come the fall. Kevin Thompson believes the trees can be transported. LET THE RECORD SHOW: MARIE DALY HAS DETERMINED THE FRUIT TREES ARE NOT HISTORIC, THEY WERE PLANTED WITHIN THE LAST 10 YEARS BY THE PRIOR OWNER. I acknowledge the historical significance of the house and your authority on that, but if you or anyone was to go into the house, there is nothing there anyone would want to keep or consider historic.

Commissioner Isaacson: Meeting Minutes from WHC Meeting on December 14, 2015 were read, consensus on the matter was in favor of keeping the property where it is, if not possible, keeping it on the property and preserve it. Can the detail design being done with the moving of the house as being one of the design requirements.

The Mayor: Will study three ways, with the house, without the house, and it being moved.

Possible restrictions on the exterior would be put on the house.

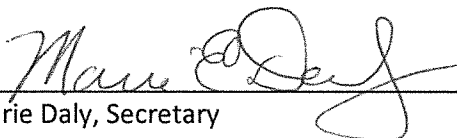
Comments from the Public:

Councilor Bill Fowler- Ward 2 Councilor, opposite side of Totten Pond Road from this house. Who's going to preserve the house and where is the money going to come from? There are more important historic houses here in the city to worry about. This intersection is a big problem in the city, and it needs to be addressed.

Mayor: I do not intend to keep this house, I intend to offset the purchase of this house with the sale of this house.

Site view with the building inspector when available, and whether or not we need to hire a historic preservationist for structural input.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:49 p.m.



Marie Daly, Secretary
Prepared by Pamela Lyons