

MINUTES: Waltham Historical Commission Meeting  
May 14, 2018

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Call of the Roll:

Present: Commissioner Daly, Commissioner Isaacson, Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Russo, Commissioner Cox

Absent: Commissioner Holmes, and Commissioner Dufromont

3. Reading and acceptance of April 9, 2018, minutes:

Amendments: None

Motion to accept the minutes as amended, made by Commissioner Cox

Second: Commissioner Russo

In favor: ALL                      Against: None                      Abstain: None                      Recused: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont and Commissioner Holmes

Motion to move hearings and CPC business out of order made by Commissioner Daly

Second: Commissioner Cox

In Favor: ALL                      Against: None                      Abstain: None                      Recused: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont and Commissioner Holmes

4. Chair: Announcements: Commissioner Daly and Commissioner Isaacson went on a tour of 380 Lexington St house with a consultant, who was hired by the City of Waltham to inspect the home. As it turns out, we just received the report from the consultant today, which you the commission have not seen yet. We will add this to drop box. Please be sure to read this prior to the June meeting, as the project will come back before us at the June meeting.

Chair: Reading and description of correspondence: Commissioner Isaacson did send the Mayor an email regarding the fence at the high school, and the request for a map of the area that fence will be placed.

5. Chair: Public hearings:

a. Demolition Delay Hearing: 78 Cherry Street

Applicant Name: Arthur Bennett representing the owner, Stephen Douglas

Comments by Applicant: Mr. Bennett read a brief report on his findings on the history of the home. The home is listed as a legal four family home however; the home now is non-conforming so the new structure will be an up to code three family home.

Discussion by WHC: Commissioner Isaacson brought up the fact that if it's legally a four family, and the new structure will only be three, you are losing a unit, and potentially a home for a family. Commissioner Cox stated that vinyl siding can be removed, and is not permanent. Commissioner Cox asked questions pertaining to the design/architecture of the house, and the gables. Please note, no design plans were submitted to the commission.

After stepping out of the room for a minute Mr. Bennett/Douglas would like a vote tonight on whether or not the house is historically significant. Applicant was advised that they could return in the future with a design for the replacement house and the decision would be reconsidered.

Motion that the property be delayed 12 months made by Commissioner Russo

Second: Commissioner Cox

In favor: All      Against: Commissioner Wilson      Abstain: None      Recused: None  
Absent: Commissioner Dufromont, and Commissioner Holmes

b. Demolition Delay Hearing: 25 Fiske Street

Applicant Name: Carl Attardo

Comments by Applicant: Mr. Attardo stated that he is not the owner of the house, and the owner is not listed on the application. He didn't think the owner needed to be listed on the application.

Discussion by WHC: The owner is not on the application; therefore we (WHC) cannot proceed forward with this public hearing. Pam will provide Mr. Attardo a copy of the WHC ordinance, which clearly states the owner must sign the application or provide a letter approving the appearance of the applicant. Pam will contact the building department as well to inform them as well. Mr. Attardo was invited to come back and attend the June public meeting if he submits a new application with the owner's signature, or letter from the owner approving the appearance of the applicant.

6. Development Prospectus hearings: 95 Moody Street

Applicant Name: Bret Francis on behalf of the owner Doreen O'Connor

Comments by Applicant: 14 unit small apartment building with parking.

Discussion by WHC: Commissioner Isaacson presented some history on the building that had once stood on that lot and its historic nature. Commissioner Isaacson would like to know if a plaque could be put up as a historical reference for the workshop of Weathervane Manufacturing Leonard Cushing, that once stood on that property.

Commissioner Cox has stated that the location is very significant, and very important, being so close to the Boston Manufacturing mill, a gateway to Moody Street, Grover Cronin's, and the Waltham Common, so it's in an area of tremendous historical significance for the city. The design of the building is very important.

Motion that the lot is not historically significant made by Commissioner Daly

Second: Commissioner Cox

In favor: ALL      Against: None      Abstain: None      Recused: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont, and Commissioner Holmes

Commissioner Cox has offered to write a letter on behalf of the WHC addressing some of the concerns of the commission to be signed by the Chair, Commission Isaacson and be submitted to the City Council along with the prospectus.

7. Stonehurst: Monthly Report, Stonehurst Curator Ann Clifford

Summary: A report was submitted by Ann Clifford which can be found within the May WHC meeting folder.



Commissioner Wilson is going to check whether or not the WHC can use the left over funds from the grant, to hire a structural engineer to look into the decaying posts and beams which support the main entrance of the house and other unforeseen issues stemming with the roof.

Motion to allow Commissioner Isaacson to sign a letter, drafted by Ann and Bill Forte to submit to the CPC moved by Commissioner Cox

Second Commissioner Russo

In Favor ALL    Against: None    Abstain: None    Recused: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont, and Commissioner Holmes

Motion to increase the spending on the rug to \$5,000 dollars moved by Commissioner Cox

Second Commissioner Russo

In Favor ALL    Against: None    Abstain: None    Recused: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont, and Commissioner Holmes

A discussion was held among the WHC members regarding what items should fall under the Stonehurst report and what should be separate agenda items. For any item that would be considered separate from the routine Stonehurst report, Ann should contact Commissioner Isaacson to discuss the nature of the item in a timely manner so the item may be put on the agenda one week prior to the meeting.

Report submitted to the Secretary by the Curator

8. Wellington House report: A report was provided by Pam, mostly discussing the update on applying for the CPC application. Currently, we are waiting for the Mayor to send over her action item list that was compiled on the walk through of the house.

9. Liaison & Subcommittee reports:

a. Fernald- No report

b. CPC- The city voted "YES" to purchase Ariggo Farms, at some point the WHC will be called upon to determine what parts of the house are historic.

c. Historic Inventory- A small report was submitted by Commissioner Daly on the progress of the Stonewall project, which included abutter letters, CORI background checks and how the city will be receiving the data via photographs, uploaded in maps etc. Eric Rizzo will make sure all the data is compatible with the city files.

d. Edu & Outreach- approve the spending Alphagraphics invoice of \$288.09 for the Old Post Road brochure moved by Commissioner Russo

Second: Commissioner Daly

In Favor ALL    Against: None    Abstain: None    Recused: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont, and Commissioner Holmes

Plaques- Eric Rizzo gave Commissioner Russo a list of all the houses that are at least 75 years old. The program is still in the works.

10. Old Business: NONE

11. New Business

a. Discussion of Charles River Museum Chimney Restoration Project

Douglas Yaggy, Director of Acquisitions, Tremont Ventures, LLC  
Requested a letter of support from the WHC to be attached to the CPC application. Two major concerns are repointing the chimney, and a large window that needs replacement. The chimney is iconic with respect to the presence of the mill in the center of Waltham.

Motion to write a letter in support of the proposed work to the mill building moved by Commissioner Wilson

Second: Commissioner Cox

In Favor: ALL    Against: None    Abstain: None    Recused: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont, and Commissioner Holmes

## 12. Adjournment

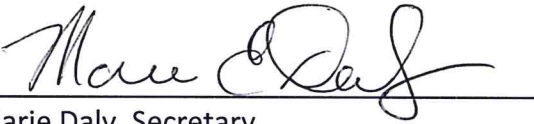
Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Wilson

Second: Commissioner Daly

In favor: All    Against: None    Abstain: None    Recuse: None

Absent: Commissioner Dufromont and Commissioner Holmes

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marie Daly", written over a horizontal line.

Marie Daly, Secretary

Prepared by Pamela Lyons