

MINUTES: Waltham Historical Commission Meeting
June 11, 2018
Location: Stonehurst, Robert Treat Paine Estate

1. Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Call of the Roll:

Present: *Commissioner Isaacson, Commissioner Dufromont, Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Daly, Commissioner Russo, Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Cox*

Absent: None

3. Reading and acceptance of May, 2018 minutes:

Amendments: 1. None

Motion to accept the minutes, made by *Commissioner Daly*

Second: *Commissioner Wilson*

In favor: ALL Against: None Abstain: *Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Dufromont*

Recused: None

4. Chair: Announcements: None

Chair: Reading and description of correspondence: None

Motion to take 380 Lexington Street out of order moved by *Commissioner Dufromont*

Second: *Commissioner Holmes*

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

Motion to take 533 Moody Street out of order moved by *Commissioner Dufromont*

Second: *Commissioner Holmes*

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

5. Chair: Public hearings:

a. Demolition Delay Hearing: 25 Fiske Street

Applicant Name: Carl Attardo

Comments by Applicant: The plan is to demolish the building and put up two new units, 3 bedroom, and 2 ½ bath condos. Currently there are numerous tenants in the house now. For cost reasons, the owner is not interested in restoring the home.

Discussion by WHC: *Commissioner Daly* read a brief report of her findings on the history of the property. In 2015, the garage on the property came before the commission, which was declared unfit by the city, so we (WHC) approved the demolition of the garage. Architecturally it has significance and is a part of the street scape. This home meets two of the criteria, the age and the architecture context.

Motion that the property is preferably preserved made by *Commissioner Holmes*

Second: *Commissioner Cox*

In favor: Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Isaacson, Commissioner Cox, Commissioner Russo Against: *Commissioner Daly* Abstain: None

Recused: *Commissioner Dufromont*

Recess 9:00 p.m., meeting reconvened at 9:02 p.m.

b. Demolition Delay Hearing: 81-83 Orange Street

Applicant Name: Jeff Senarian

Comments by Applicant: Looking to demolish the existing structure, and build two new units. A drawing of the new structure was presented to the commission.

Discussion by WHC: *Commissioner Daly* read her report on the historical findings on the property. The house fits the age, worker housing, streetscape and the architecture has some nice features but may be the weakest of the four criteria/ borderline. The commission would like to see a hip roof, and a similar set back that is there now.

Motion that the property is preferably preserved invoking a 12 month delay, with the option to come back in September with new design plans made by *Commissioner Holmes*

Second: *Commissioner Wilson*

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

6. Development Prospectus Hearings: None

7. Stonehurst: Monthly Report, Stonehurst Curator Ann Clifford

Summary: Ann Clifford read her report to the commission; topics discussed included, landscape and invasive management, construction project on the roof, and education and outreach programs being offered for the month of June.

Motion that the balustrades be brought to conformity for historical accuracy according to the construction specs moved by *Commissioner Dufromont*

Second: *Commissioner Cox*

In Favor: ALL Abstain: None Recused: None Absent: None

Motion to approve the spending on a copy of a painting of Abigail Treat in the amount of no more than \$1089 moved by *Commissioner Cox*

Second: *Commissioner Russo*

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

Report submitted to the Secretary by the Curator

8. Wellington House: No new report to present to the commission at this time.

9. Liason & Subcommittee Reports

a. Fernald- No report

b. CPC- Brief update on the appropriation of the available Wellington funds, and the Charles River Museum project, mostly regarding the funds being requested by the applicant.

- c. Historic Inventory- *Commissioner Daly* gave a brief update on the Stonewall Survey project, the information is being transmitted and the files are being put together, and cataloging the photos has begun.
- d. Edu. & Outreach – nothing new to report.

10. Old Business

- a. Discussion of 380 Lexington Street

Motion to take 380 Lexington Street out of order moved by *Commissioner Dufromont*
Second: *Commissioner Holmes*

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

Summary: Steve Cazassa, Eric Carlson, Joe Pedulla and Mike Garvin

We are here asking for your determination of the historical significance of the house on 380 Lexington St and consideration on your disposition of the report submitted on May 7, 2018.

Discussion by WHC: *Commissioner Isaacson* does not feel like the report provided any new information that wasn't already known. The question that we need to determine is given the house in its current condition and given the current situation with the intersection, is the house historic enough to warrant us trying to preserve it somehow. The house is in conflict with the current traffic plan says *Steve Casazza*. If we were to preserve the house and have it shifted on the lot, would that change the design of the intersection, asked by *Commissioner Isaacson*? *Michael Garvin*, City Traffic Engineer, in order to get the necessary traffic and safety improvements the house can't remain where it is today. The historic report laid out the three options for the city, the house remains where it is, the house is moved on the property, or the house is demolished. There is a corner of the property the house could be moved to get the proper alignment of the road. Whether the house is moved or is demolished, the road alignment would be the same. *Commissioner Daly* believes the consultant's report does not answer our question of "can the house be moved?" *Joe Pedulla* addressed the report, stating the consultant did not comment on that aspect, since it was not their expertise.

Commissioner Isaacson met with a professional house moving company today at the house, to discuss the possibility of moving it. Practically speaking, you could move the house with the chimney with no problems, however to move the house and pour a new foundation would cost a few hundred thousand dollars, and in the mover's professional opinion, the house was not worth moving based on its current condition.

Commissioner Cox spoke about what on the exterior façade that detracts from its original historic nature? The windows, siding, the doors, stone steps that we not there before, however, the house could be restored. Selling the house and saving the money on the demolition is something to consider too.

Commissioner Holmes spoke about her reasons for requesting a historic architect and a report, along with discussing the historic criteria of the house. *Commissioner Holmes* believes the house does not meet the 7 criteria any longer, the significance has been compromised.

Commissioner Daly would like to know if the house were to be demolished would there be a small area of open space? If so, name that area after the Abner Sanderson family to commemorate them.

Commissioner Russo would like proper documentation on the preservation of the house if it's demolished, and have that information available for other's who are interested in historic home preservation and renovation.

Commissioner Wilson is in favor of keeping the house and moving the house on the property.

Steve Casazza stated the city is asking if the house is historically significant and does it need to be preserved? *Commissioner Isaacson*: this is not a demolition delay hearing, therefore, *Commissioner Holmes* confirmed the commission will comment on whether or not the house still retains historical significance and can it be moved.

Motion that the historical commission recommend that the city not spend the effort and money to move this house on the lot because the house has lost its historical significance made by *Commissioner Daly*

Second: *Commissioner Holmes*

In Favor: *Commissioner Daly, Commissioner Dufromont, Commissioner Holmes, and Commissioner Isaacson*

Against: *Commissioner Wilson, Commissioner Cox, and Commissioner Russo*

11. New Business

a. Discussion of 533 Moody Street Fire Station

Motion to take 533 Moody Street out of order moved by *Commissioner Dufromont*

Second: *Commissioner Holmes*

In Favor: ALL

Summary: Tom MacInnis Acting Fire Chief & Mark Sacciccio from CDR Maguire

Here to discuss options for coming up with a new design for the Moody St Fire house.

The old building built in the 1800 was built for horse and carriages, we can barely fit trucks in, it's not big enough, rehabbed the building in 1988 with a small addition in the front and back, however it does not meet our needs any longer. A plan was presented before the commission at tonight's meeting which showed parking and a new design which has the original building intact, the original fire house will not be torn down.

Discussion by WHC: The exterior will be brick, with the plan to match brick color to the original. The windows will be the same size as the original building.

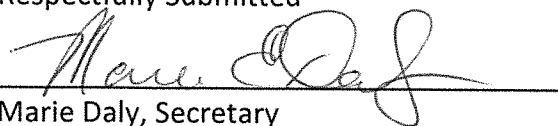
12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by *Commissioner Daly*

Second: *Commissioner Dufromont*

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

Respectfully Submitted



Marie Daly, Secretary

Prepared by Pam Lyons