

Minutes of the Waltham Historical Commission Meeting September 14, 2015

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m.
2. Commissioners Cox, Daly, Green, Isaacson, Richardson, and Wilson present.
3. A motion was made by Ms. Daly, and seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the June 8, 2015 meeting minutes with the following correction. Under the railroad trestle bridge item, it is the property owners that would like to demolish the bridge as opposed to the Department of conservation and recreation. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.
4. The Chair made the following announcements:
  - a. A CPC Special meeting was held on 8/26/2015 regarding the Mayor's proposal requesting funds to demolish some buildings deemed not historic on the property – Ms. Daly recused herself to avoid any potential conflict.
  - b. A Principal Office Assistant Position for the Historical Commission was approved by the Council and we are in the process of accepting applications.
5. The chair requested the Stonehurst agenda item be heard out of order with no objection. The following report was presented by Ms. Ann Clifford, Curator.
  - a. Roof – Building dept. CPA request/Capital Improvement request
    - i. Mr. Green stated it is not the Commission's responsibility to draft the CPA request. He suggested Ms. Clifford draft CPA request for submission and to inform Mr. Waters acting Head of Planning, Mayor's office, and building Department on an Emergency Basis.
  - b. Budget spreadsheet was briefly discussed
  - c. The following agenda items were tabled for the next meeting with no objection:
    - i. Request of change of security deposit
    - ii. Request for approval to fix fraying rug
    - iii. Request for UV filter windows
    - iv. Other items outlined in packet provided
  - d. Mr. Cox moved to approve the report, and Mr. Wilson seconded. The report was **approved**, all in favor.
6. Chair: Reading and Description of Correspondence
  - a. Mr. Green discussed some of the correspondence received over the summer.
7. Chair: Public Hearings:
  - a. **Development Prospectus Hearing:** 37 River Street – Mr. Don Madden presented on behalf of Sprint. The commission stated that 37 River Street was part of the Metz Car Company, which gives it historical significance to the city of Waltham. Mr. Richardson moved that the property has historical significance in relation to the development prospectus, Mr. Cox seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.
  - b. **Development Prospectus Hearing:** 144 Moody Street – Commissioner Daly identified that the historical society leases space near this property to disclose any potential conflicts of interest. The chair and applicant moved forward with no objection. The commission stated that 144 Moody Street was part of Boston

Manufacturing Mill complex, specifically the Weaving Mill. After a discussion regarding the building practices regarding antennae. Mr. Cox moved that the property has historical significance in relation to the development prospectus, Isaacson seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.

- c. **Demolition Delay Hearing: 44 Summer Street** – After a brief report on the history of the property provided by Ms. Daly, and comments by Mr. Isaacson and Chairman Green. A public hearing was held.
  - i. Applicant, Mr. Walter Ohnemus of 32 Cowasset Lane, Waltham, MA, presented his application for demolition.
  - ii. Several questions were asked by the commission.
  - iii. Discussion was held by the commissioners.
  - iv. Public comment was taken
    - a. Mr. Hobart Winchell of 56 Harris Street, Waltham, MA commented that the house has been well cared for. And has historic meaning.
  - v. Mr. Richardson moved to invoke the demolition delay ordinance as a preferably preserved property, Ms. Daly seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.
- d. **Demolition Delay Hearing: 1-2 Jackson Place** – After a brief report on the history of the property, including some of the architectural detail, provided by Mr. Isaacson, comments by Mr. Cox; Ms. Daly; Mr. Green, and a letter from the building inspector read by Chairman Green. A public hearing was held.
  - i. Applicant, Mr. Mark Roger of 83 Old County Road, Waltham presented his application for demolition.
  - ii. Several questions were asked by the commission.
  - iii. Discussion was held by the commissioners
  - iv. Public comment was taken
    - 1. Ms. Debra DellaCamera, the wife of the applicant, of 83 Old County Road, Waltham spoke in favor of the demolition.
    - 2. Ms. RoseAnn Giardina, of Jackson Street, Waltham spoke in favor of the demolition.
  - v. Mr. Cox moved to invoke the demolition delay ordinance as a preferably preserved property, Ms. Daly seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.
- e. A recess was held beginning 9:23p.m.
- f. The meeting was called back to order 9:32p.m.
- g. **Development Prospectus Hearing: 9 Hope Avenue** - Mr. Robert Connors, Esq., 6 Lexington Street provide some information about the proposed project. The commission stated that it is one of the earliest community hospitals and has significant importance to health care in Waltham. Ms. Daly moved that the property has historical significance in relation to the development prospectus, Isaacson seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.
- h. **Demolition Delay Hearing: 9 Hope Avenue** - Basic history was previously provided by Chair green, further history provided by Ms. Daly and Mr. Isaacson. A public hearing was held.
  - i. The Applicants through, Mr. Robert Connors, Douglas Kelleher of Epsilon Associates, Inc. of Maynard, and Charles Weinstein, Chief Real Estate

Officer of Boston Children's Hospital presented the application for demolition.

ii. Several questions were asked by the commission.

iii. Discussion was held by the commissioners.

iv. There was no public comment.

v. A vote was held for each of the buildings:

1. Sanderson and Linen Building – It was moved by Mr. Wilson this property is not preferably preserved, Mr. Isaacson seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.
2. Sears building – It was moved by Ms. Daly this property is not preferably preserved, Mr. Cox seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.
3. Heating Plant – It was moved by Mr. Green this property is not preferably preserved, Mr. Isaacson seconded. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.

8. Old Business:

- a. Railroad Trestles - Mary Trudeau presented a letter prepared by Atty. Joseph Connors stating that it is his opinion that the bridge is not a structure. Mary stated that her client is open to working with the commission. She agreed that client will provide the City with a plaque of reasonable cost regarding the bridge.
- b. Mr. Richardson moved to accept the FY 2016 Budget, Ms. Daly seconded the motion. The budget was **approved**, all in favor.


9. New Business:

- a. The following items were tabled for future meetings:
  - i. Discussion of Taking of Minutes
  - ii. Discussion of Training for Members
  - iii. Discussion of Antennae on historic facades
  - iv. Discussion of Demolition Delay Form
- b. The annual election of officers for the Commission was held. Mr. Isaacson moved to suspend the rules of the Commission in order to hold the election in Commissioner Dufromont's absence, seconded by Mr. Cox. The motion was **approved**, all in favor. The following people were nominated and elected to the following positions:
  - i. Mr. Richardson, Chair. Moved by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Isaacson, all in favor.
  - ii. Mr. Isaacson, Vice Chair. Moved by Mr. Wilson, Seconded by Mr. Richardson, all in favor.
  - iii. Ms. Daly, Secretary. Moved by Mr. Wilson, Seconded by Mr. Cox, all in favor.
  - iv. Mr. Wilson, CPC Representative. Moved by Mr. Cox, Seconded by Mr. Isaacson, all in favor.
- c. Mr. Richardson moved to reinstate the rules of the Commission, seconded by Mr. Isaacson. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.

10. Mr. Richardson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Isaacson. The motion was **approved**, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Clarence Richardson, acting Secretary

  
Laurence Alexander Green, Chair