

MINUTES: Waltham Historical Commission Meeting  
Monday February 13, 2017

1. Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Call of the Roll:

Present: Commissioner Daly, Commissioner Isaacson, Commissioner Richardson, Commissioner Dufromont, Commissioner Cox

Absent: Commissioner Wilson

3. Reading and acceptance of December 2016 minutes:

Amendments: None

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

Second: Commissioner Dufromont

In favor: ALL    Against: None    Abstain: Commissioner Cox

4. Reading and acceptance of January 2017 minutes:

Amendments: None

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

Second: Commissioner Isaacson

In favor: ALL    Against: None    Abstain: None

5. Chair: Announcements: Commissioner Green has resigned from the commission. We would like to recognize his work over the years. A small recognition of his work was read by Commissioner Richardson, including his work on the Wellington project and Fernald Property. A nomination is before the city council this evening for a new person to fill his position.

6. Chair: Reading and description of correspondence: None

7. Chair: Public hearings:

a. Development Prospectus Hearing:

i. 124 West Street

Applicant Name: William "Bill" Proia 700 District Ave Burlington, MA

Comments by Applicant: Special Permit to enable the tenant to use 6 heavy box trucks that exceed the weight limit. The vehicles are a little longer than normal so to accommodate the parking the spaces are extended to fit the size of the trucks. The tenant is NSTAR.

Discussion by WHC: The house had historical significance, but was not preferably preserved. The NSTAR trucks will not park on the street, they will only stay within the property.

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

Second: Commissioner Isaacson

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

b. Demolition Delay Hearing:

i. 126 Pond Street

Applicant Name: Dan Arone, 44 Azalea Rd Waltham, MA, representing the owner Mark Christifori (present at the meeting).

A report was read by Commissioner Daly in regards to the historic nature of the property.

Comments by Applicant:

They passed around pictures of the current structure that is standing now. We are working with a very well-known Waltham Architect, Al Costa. Currently working on two historic structures one in Waltham one in Newton. In this case, seeking to find it not preferably preserved. A small report was presented with the findings from the applicant. Safety issues with the current situation of the building, vandalism, a homeless person, someone tried to start a fire to have heat, and that is with putting a fence around the entire property. 2- 1500sq condo's 2 bedroom 2 bath. Requesting an old lot opinion.

Discussion by WHC:

Commissioner Daly- looking at the two photos provided, the windows in the upper floors appear to be removed and the front porch removed. Do you have a building permit?

Response: No, we currently don't have a building permit. We have not done any work on the property except put up a fence.

When did you close on the property? Response: Sept/October.

Who was the owner?

Response: We bought it from the Estate of the last lady who owned it, Kelty.

Commissioner Isaacson- enjoyed seeing that house going down Pond St. It reminds me that parts of Waltham still look historic, very late Federal Style. I was upset when I walked by and saw tarps and partial demolition taking place before we even knew anything was happening to the house.

If the house does come down, can you take some pictures of the frame and share it with us?

The applicant agreed to take pictures of the house's frame during demolition.

Commissioner Richardson- curious that the windows were not boarded up in the fall with people being seen inside the house.

Is there a dumpster on site? Response: Yes, and it was put on site the day of close.

Commissioner Richardson addressed the penalties for demolition on a property without proper permits. Found in the ordinance, up to \$300 dollars a day until faithful restoration of the building.

Commissioner Dufromont: Is there any way you could make the front of the building look like the old, and not look so twenty first century. The garages are an issue.

Response: The cars would not be able to pull in and make that swing into the garage if they were set in the back that is why they are in the front now.

Motion that the property is not preferably preserved but requesting pictures of the framing be taken and provided to the commission made by Commissioner Daly

Second: Commissioner Isaacson

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

8. Stonehurst: Monthly Report, Stonehurst Curator Ann Clifford

Summary: A report was presented and submitted by Ann Clifford including the Roof Preservation Project which is out to bid.

How to determine which bid is presented to the CPC or do we submit both? Ann's recommendation is to submit both together. Both the south side and the north side of the roof have serious problems.

The roof was last done in 2002. Ice and Water shield was not done back in 2002.

Switching from yellow cedar to red cedar and having those shingles treated.

Motion to update the letter of support and language and submit it to adopt the bid as well as the alternate made by Commissioner Cox

Second Commissioner Dufromont

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

The Mass Cultural Facilities fund application was submitted to the city for the exterior work of the building, and the winners will be announced in June 2017.

Ann spoke about the different programs being offered at Stonehurst including an Irish speaker.

Inquired about digitizing the collections, cataloguing, and post the info on their website (Boston Public Library- Digital Commonwealth) it would be great to include Stonehurst/ Paine's scrapbooks.

Who owns the scrapbook? Response: The City of Waltham owns the scrapbook.

Motion to approve Ann moving forward with digitizing the records at Stonehurst made by Commissioner Isaacson

Second Commissioner Dufromont

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

Funds: Seeking money to print brochures for Stonehurst. WHC would approve half of the cost of the brochures and planning will provide the rest of the money.

Motion to spend \$450.00 from the WHC printing budget to be used for the brochures at Stonehurst made by Commissioner Isaacson

Second: Commissioner Cox

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

Funds: Conserve landscape painting

Motion not to exceed \$1900 on option 1 on the proposal made by Commissioner Cox

Second Commissioner Daly

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

Funds: \$400 + materials \$200 for the Morris chair cushions.

Motion not to exceed \$700 dollars to reupholster the chair cushion made by Commissioner Daly

Second Commissioner Dufromont

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

Report submitted to the Secretary by the Curator

9. Wellington House Report: Pam spoke about the work that needs to continue up at Wellington House including the cleaners, fireplace restoration and appraisal.

10. Liaison and Subcommittee Reports:

- a. Fernald: No report at this time. WHC will reach out to the state for a response on the Cardinal Cottage report that was submitted by the Mayor.
- b. Historic Inventory: Report submitted and uploaded to drop box.
- c. Edu & Outreach: Report was submitted by Commissioner Isaacson and discussed.
- d. CPC: Commissioner Wilson is not present, and there are no issues that need to be brought up or discussed pertaining to the CPC at this time.

11. Old Business

- a. Discussion of Residential historic markers and purchasers of historic homes programs  
Summary: Working with the vocational school to see if they can create the makers.

12. New Business

Heard out of order moved by Isaacson

Second Cox

In Favor: ALL

- a. 14 Church Street  
Summary: Old wires building. It's a solid building, but needs some renovations. It's not handicap accessible, the only way would be to put a lift. No changes to the front but need new windows and they are historic. Minimal work on the inside, paint etc. Preserve the look of the building. WHC would like to keep the windows and or replace them and keep the same look. Pictures will be taken and presented to the commission. No issues with the inside.
- b. 92 Felton Street  
Summary: Old dog pound/Water works building. The wood structure is unbelievable, the beams have no nails, and they are cornered in together, nice structure. Front entrance ramp brick is fine, no cobblestone. Need to check the drains, pave the parking lot in the back. New windows for the whole building, window samples will be provided. Replace pillars in the front, stone and concrete cap they are rotted. The cast iron hoist will stay. Asphalt roof now, not much work needed on the roof.
- c. Budget Review  
Summary: Commissioner Richardson has asked that all Commissioners take a look at the budget and present any questions/suggestions before the next meeting in March.
- d. New Historic Homes Purchased: Submit a brief letter and Macris report to the realtor.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Daly

Second: Commissioner Cox

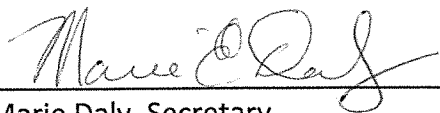
In favor: All

Against: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: None

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marie Daly", is written over a horizontal line.

Marie Daly, Secretary

Prepared by Pamela Lyons