



City of Medford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

City Hall – Room 308
85 George P. Hassett Drive
Medford, Massachusetts 02155

July 10, 2023 Medford Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting held via Zoom - Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm. Digital Meeting statement read by Jennifer Keenan at beginning of meeting.

Members present: Jennifer Keenan, Ryan Hayward, Doug Carr, Jessica Farrell and Peter Miller. Absent: Kit Nichols and Edward Weist. Denis MacDougall also attended.

Determination of Significance:

- **23 Winter Street:** R. Hayward explained the process and reviewed the meaning of significance. The commissioners discussed the Form B for the property and the consensus was that the house was a very common building type in Medford and did not rise to the level of architectural or historical significance. The Form B did not list the property as a possible candidate for the national registry. **Motion:** (JK, DC 2nd) to find significant. **Failed:** 0-4.

31 South Street – Vote to Lift the Demolition Delay:

- The demolition delay subcommittee has been working with the Nelson Group to mitigate the demolition for this project. The commission shared the most recent design drawings and feel that the current design will fit well within the neighborhood context. **Motion:** (JF, JK 2nd) to remove the demolition delay based upon the July 10, 2023 Drawing Set. **Approved:** 4-0. The July 10 drawing set has already been uploaded to the building permit portal. Confirmation letter to be sent to the Nelson Group.

243 Mystic Avenue – PDD Review:

- D. Carr to draft review comments letter.

550 Boston Avenue – Site Plan Review:

- The commission has no comments on the proposed design and will send a letter stating such.

Demolition Delay Updates:

- **33 Third Street:** Exp. 08/2023. No new update.
- **31 South Street:** Exp. 06/2024. The commission voted to remove the demolition delay, see discussion above.

- **91 Winchester Street (Carriage House):** Exp. 10/2024. R. Hayward has been working with the owner and contractor to refine the project costs in an effort to save the carriage house for re-use.

Update on Permit Review Sub-committee:

- Letter from KP Law received confirming that the demolition delay by-law is 100% enforceable by the building department. As follow up to last month's discussion with Building Commissioner Forte, R. Hayward to draft language to attempt to streamline the demolition delay process for buildings built before 1900 and for pre-authorization of Form Bs appropriations.

Update on CPA Projects:

- **Thomas Brooks Park:** Pomp's brick wall restoration is complete. Renaming process of Pomp's Wall on-going. Newly re-furbished fieldstone wall was damaged due to people jumping over the wall at non-designated park access point. Mason to restore the damaged area. Phase 2 to possibly be larger archeological dig, removal of dead wood, signage, crosswalks and site accessibility.

Survey Projects Update:

- Brickyards area survey completed. Fulton Heights area survey is under way.
- Future \$10,000.00 Winter Hill Boynton Subdivision survey project to include a \$5,000.000 matching grant from Mass Historical. **Motion:** (JK, PM 2nd) to expend \$5,000.00 on this survey project. **Approved:** 4-0.

Update on 1 Madison Street Garage Demolition:

- D. Carr working with owner to streamline process. Owner paid for Form B.

Update on Brooks Estate:

- "Stone Pack" driveway surface installed near main entrance and at other problematic areas. Possibly use this material at parking area near the Brooks mansion.

Cemetery Renovation Projects:

- R. Hayward discussed possible restoration projects for Salem Street Burial Ground perimeter masonry wall and Cross Street headstones. D. Carr suggested using the Pomp's Wall methods for a long lasting restoration.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: **Motion:** (DC, JF 2nd) to approve the June 12, 2023 MHC meeting minutes. **Approved:** 4-0 with one recusal.

Motion: (JK, DC 2nd) to adjourn at 8:09 pm. **Approved:** 4-0.

Next Meeting: August 14, 2023. Start time 7:00 pm. Denis MacDougall to confirm if the meeting is to be in-person or via Zoom.