



City of Medford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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

November 13, 2023 Medford Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting held via Zoom - Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm. Digital meeting statement read by Ryan Howard at beginning of meeting.

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

Receive Demolition Applications:

- **56 Wareham Street:** Total demolition in order to construct two attached townhomes. **Motion:** (JK, PM 2nd) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0.

Determination of Significance:

- **56 Wareham Street:** The commissioners discussed the Form B and attributes of the house including its inclusion within a dwindling group of historical homes, extant siding and architectural detail.
Motion: (JK, KN 2nd) to find significant. **Approved:** 4-1.

Determination of Preferably Preserved Status:

- **69 Court Street (House and Carriage House):** The demolition delay hearing for this property has been tabled until the public sign posting requirement can be met. Sign posting requirements to be re-sent to the owner.

Thomas Brooks Park Archeological Cap:

- R. Hayward discussed his meeting with Peter Hedlund of Hedlund Design Group, LLC, project landscape architect. Ideas are requested from the Historical Commission for the archaeological cap prior to Peter Hedlund attending either the December or January 2024 historical commission meeting.

Commissioner Opening:

- Jessica Farrell will be retiring from the Historical Commission at the end of this year. Thank you for your service, Jess! R. Hayward introduced Medford resident and Chair of the Boston Architectural Center's Historic Preservation Master's Degree Program, Eleni Glekas as a worthy replacement. Eleni introduced herself and described her interest in becoming involved in Medford's preservation efforts. **Motion:** (PM, JF

2nd) to formally recommend to the mayor that Eleni Glekas be the new historical commissioner pending Jessica Farrell's retirement. **Approved:** 6-0.

Cross Street Cemetery:

- **Headstone Restoration:** R. Hayward continues to work with the stone conservators and cemetery trustees to set a budget for the restoration work. Stones may possibly be set in concrete.
- **Cemetery Archaeological Study:** R. Hayward sent a letter to the city government to try to get a project initiated that would determine the original bounds of the original Cross Street Cemetery between city hall and the Hyatt property. He will work with the city departments to fund a report by PAL to determine if any graves or other historical items exist on the site.

Demolition Delay Updates:

- **91 Winchester Street (Carriage House):** Exp. 10/2024. No new update.

Update on Permit Review Sub-committee:

- No new update. The soon to be vacant Building Commissioner position has not yet been filled. J. Keenan to touch base with current Building Commissioner Forte.

Update on CPA Projects:

- **Thomas Brooks Park:** Phase 2 projects awaiting approval. CPC meetings planned for November 14 and 28.

Survey Projects Update:

- Brickyards/Mystic Park area survey awaiting final survey product and payment of consultants. Fulton Heights area survey is under way.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: **Motion:** (JK, DC 2nd) to approve the October, 16 2023 MHC meeting minutes. **Approved:** 4-0 with one abstention.

Motion: (JK, JF 2nd) to adjourn at 7:53 pm. **Approved:** 6-0.

Next Meeting: December 11, 2023. Start time 7:00 pm. Denis MacDougall to confirm if the meeting is to be in-person or via Zoom.