



# City of Medford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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

## November 18, 2024 Medford Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting held via Zoom - Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm. Digital meeting statement read by Ryan Hayward at beginning of meeting.

Members present: Ryan Hayward, Edward Weist, Doug Carr, Kit Nichols, Eleni Glekas, and Peter Miller. Absent: Jennifer Kennan. Dennis MacDougall also attended the meeting.

### Vote to Lift Demolition Delay:

- **110 Brooks Street:** R. Hayward recapped how the Demolition Delay Subcommittee had met with the owners, Adriana and Christopher Cardace, on October 25 and provided comments to mitigate the demolition. An improved design, dated October 30, 2024, was submitted and uploaded to the building permit portal. R. Hayward showed the design drawings and recommended to the full Commission that the Oct. 30 design be approved. Adriana Cardace attended the meeting and thanked the Commission. **Motion:** (EW, EG 2<sup>nd</sup>) to lift the demolition delay. **Approved:** 5-0.

### 20 Harvard Avenue Design Review:

- National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 review comments were solicited for the addition of rooftop communication equipment. Having reviewed the design drawings, the commissioners agreed that the visual impact was minimal. **Motion:** (EW, EG 2<sup>nd</sup>) to pass on providing comments. **Approved:** 5-0.

### Reading MA, Zoning Ordinance:

- R. Hayward spoke about the Reading's preservation based zoning ordinance as a potential model for Medford and as a way to grant relief for non-conforming historical structures. E. Weist voiced a concern about who will hold the authority over preservation easements. The Commission to review the Reading ordinance and R. Hayward to set up a meeting with the Reading Historical Commission to learn more about their experience administering the bylaw.

### Historical Commission Officers:

- A new slate of officers will be needed for 2025. J. Keenan would like to shake up the officer assignments and R. Hayward has agreed to assume the Chair, leading to a vacancy for Vice Chair. P. Miller has agreed to continue on as Secretary and D. Carr



as CPC Liaison. E. Weist stated that he will most likely need to relinquish membership after the end of his current term.

**Demolition Delay Updates:**

- **56 Wareham Street:** Exp. 06/2025. A DD Subcommittee meeting set up for Nov. 19 at 7:30 pm.
- **27 Almont Street:** Exp. 11/2025. R. Hayward to see if the proponents would like to join the Nov. 19 DD Subcommittee meeting.

**Update on Permit Review Sub-committee:**

- J. Keenan had a productive meeting with the Building Department on October 9.

**Cross Street Cemetery Update:**

- Consultants working on headstone assessment. Existing masonry boundary wall in need of cleaning and re-pointing.
- PAL hired for downtown archaeology project. Awaiting excavation bids and Mass Historical Commission approval.

**Update on CPA Projects:**

- **Thomas Brooks Park:** The recording of the October 22 public meeting with Peter Hedlund may be viewed on line. Community feedback continues to be received.

**Survey Projects Update:**

- Sagamore Vale survey project proposals under review. Survey activity will hopefully be commenced Dec 2024/ Jan 2025.

**Brooks Estate/MBELT**

- D. Carr reported that negotiations with city departments for maintenance and utilities are on-going. Portions of the access drive/parking lot project funding alternatives under study.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** **Motion:** (EW, DC 2<sup>nd</sup>) To approve the October 7, 2024 Historical Commission meeting minutes. **Approved:** 5-0.

**Motion:** (DC, EW 2<sup>nd</sup>) to adjourn at 7:42 pm. **Approved:** 5-0.

**Next Meeting:** December 9, 2024. Start time 7:00 pm. Denis MacDougall to coordinate.