



# City of Medford

## HISTORICAL COMMISSION HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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

### January 13, 2025 Medford Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting held via Zoom - Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm. Digital meeting statement read by Jennifer Keenan at beginning of meeting.

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

#### **Demolition Applications and Determinations of Significance:**

- **140 Summer Street:** The Commission reviewed the demolition application for total demolition in order to reapportion the lots and build new homes. **Motion:** (KN, EW 2<sup>nd</sup>) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0. The Commission reviewed the Form B for the property, citing this rare building type (Parlor Bypass) in Medford and association with the historical shipbuilding industry. **Motion:** (RH, PM 2<sup>nd</sup>) to find the house significant. **Approved:** 5-0.
- **31 Wilson Street:** The Commission reviewed the demolition application for total demolition in order to build a new single family home. **Motion:** (EW, RH 2<sup>nd</sup>) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0. The Commission reviewed the Form B for the property, citing the houses contribution to the cohesive Fulton Heights neighborhood and the possibility that it was a relocated schoolhouse. **Motion:** (RH, KN 2<sup>nd</sup>) to find the house significant. **Approved:** 5-0.
- **4 Grove Street:** The Commission reviewed the demolition application for partial demolition of the front porch. Note the original permitted demolition scope was exceeded and the front porch replaced with substandard construction. The building commissioner has placed a hold on the project. **Motion:** (EW, KN 2<sup>nd</sup>) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0. The Commission reviewed the Form B for the property. **Motion:** (RH, EW 2<sup>nd</sup>) to find the house significant. **Approved:** 5-0.

#### **Demolition Applications:**

- **26 Rockwell Ave:** Partial demolition to alter the roof line to create a habitable attic. **Motion:** (RH, PM 2<sup>nd</sup>) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0.

### **Demolition Applications (continued):**

- **76 Court Street:** Partial demolition: note the original permitted demolition scope was exceeded. **Motion:** (RH, EW 2<sup>nd</sup>) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0.
- **115 Emerald Street:** Partial demolition to alter the roof line to provide ½ story condo space. **Motion:** (RH, KN 2<sup>nd</sup>) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0.

### **Cross Street Cemetery Update:**

- Oak Grove Cemetery: Headstone assessment received from Fannin Lehner. Headstone renovation work, masonry wall refurbishment and gate replacement project to total approx. \$100K. Project may be phased over a two year period. Sources of funding, such as Freedom's Way and COC to be sought.
- Medford City Hall parking lot site: 150 foot trench was dug and artifacts and skeletal remains discovered. Consultant PAL to finish report. Schedule for comprehensive archaeological work may span approx. three years. City departments, Mass Historical and other state entities may need to be involved for approvals and funding.

### **Reading MA, Zoning Ordinance:**

- No responses from Reading or North Reading received so far.

### **Demolition Delay Updates:**

- **27 Almont Street:** Exp. 11/2025. The proponent has reported that they will wait out the demolition delay. R. Hayward to investigate possibility of documentation.

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

- On-going.

### **Update on CPA Projects:**

- **Thomas Brooks Park:** Consultant SWCA selected to execute Phase II archaeology work.

### **Survey Projects Update:**

- Purchase Order for Sagamore Vale survey area squared away. John Clemson and Claire Dempsey selected for this work.
- Hastings Heights to be next survey area.

### **Brooks Estate, MBELT:**

- Repairs to the manor and temporary parking lot improvements pending.
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**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** **Motion:** (RH, EW 2<sup>nd</sup>) To approve the December 9, 2024 Historical Commission meeting minutes. **Approved:** 4-0 with 1 abstention.

**Motion:** to adjourn at 8:41 pm. **Approved:** 5-0.

**Next Meeting:** February 10, 2025. Start time 7:00 pm. Denis MacDougall to coordinate.