



City of Medford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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

January 12, 2026 Medford Historical Commission Minutes

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

Members present: Ryan Hayward, Doug Carr, Kit Nichols and Peter Miller.

Absent: Jennifer Keenan. Theresa Dupont, Sara Berndt, and Luke Beck also attended the meeting.

Receive Demolition Application and Determination of Significance:

- **36 Mystic Street:** Partial demolition for interior gut renovation and exterior window and door replacement. **Motion:** (PM, KN 2nd) to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 2-1. The commissioners spoke about the Form B, the existing building's age and integrity including its extent architectural detail, The buildings' significant history and association with the prominent Hollowell family were also mentioned. Medford resident Rick Caraviello asked questions about the project timeline. Owner Vijay Johnson of 11 Granton Park, Arlington attended the meeting and spoke about the proposed renovation and his intention to either rent or sell the renovated house. Neighbor Ken Krause of 50 Mystic St. spoke in favor of significance. **Motion:** (DC, PM 2nd) to find significant. **Approved:** 3-0.

Receive Demolition Applications:

- **17 Sharon Street:** Removal of more the 50% of the structure in order to build additions and modify the roof line. **Motion:** (DC, PM 2nd) to accept the demolition application based upon receiving more complete information explaining the proposed demolition scope. **Approved:** 3-0.
- **85 Marshall Street:** Partial demolition for interior gut renovation, exterior window replacement and exterior repairs. **Motion:** (DC, PM 2nd) to accept the demolition application based upon receiving more complete information explaining the proposed demolition scope. **Approved:** 3-0.

Upcoming Potential Demolition Reviews and Form B's:

- 119 Jerome Street, 17 Sharon Street, and 85 Marshall Street.

Medford Square Zoning Initiative:

- D. Carr reported on an upcoming Medford Square zoning public meeting to be held on January 21, 2026. R. Hayward spoke about the need for a comprehensive plan and possible local historic district.

Vacant Historical Commission Seats Update:

- R. Hayward has submitted Sara Berndt's recommendation to the city: awaiting mayoral and city council approvals. Luke Beck indicated that his application is in process.

2025 Historical Commission Annual Report:

- R. Hayward to draft annual report. Sara Berndt to assist, pending appointment.

Brooks Estate Archaeological Survey:

- R. Hayward reported that the proposal was currently out to bid. Awaiting CPC funding grant approval and city council approval.

Update on CPA Projects:

- Possibility of seeking lab space at Tufts University and volunteers needed for cleaning of Thomas Brooks Park archeological dig artifacts. Tree survey and feasibility study for accessibility, cross walks, curb cuts and parking.

Cross Street Cemetery Update:

- **Oak Grove Cemetery:** R. Hayward applied for CPC for grant for headstone refurbishment project and awaiting allocation.
- **Medford Square Site:** Proposal for city hall upper lot exhumation project to be put out to bid later this week.

Survey Projects Update:

- Hastings Heights survey project: R. Hayward and consultants had kick-off meeting with Mass. Historical with survey work to commence soon. Proposed next survey area to be Brooks Estates.

Demolition Delay Updates:

- **16 Manning Street:** Exp. 1/2027. No new update
- **41 Mystic Avenue:** Exp. 4/2027. R. Hayward has reached out to the owner with no response. Possible local historic district as tool to delay demolition.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Motion: (DC, KN 2nd) to approve the December 8, 2025 Historical Commission meeting minutes. **Approved:** 3-0.

Motion: (KN, DC 2nd) to adjourn at 7:55 pm. **Approved:** 3-0.

Next Meeting: February 9, 2026. Start time 7:00 pm. Denis MacDougall to coordinate.