



City of Medford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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

June 8, 2026 Medford Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting held via Zoom - Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm.

Members present: Jennifer Keenan, Ryan Hayward, Doug Carr, Kit Nichols, Sara Berndt and Peter Miller. Absent: Luke Beck. Denis MacDougall also attended the meeting.

8 Suffolk St:

- A demolition application was received for this property. Having reviewed the application, the commissioners felt that there was not enough demolition to warrant review. **Motion:** (RH, PM 2nd) to reject the application based upon non-jurisdiction. **Approved:** 4-0.

Zoning Discussion:

- D. Carr shared maps and gave an update about recent proposed updates to the Boston Avenue zoning bylaws. He will propose modifications to the boundaries and heights of the proposed zoning district with the goal of achieving a balanced approach to allow greater density in certain limited locations while preserving the existing residential character of Boston Ave.

Salem Street Burial Ground:

- R. Hayward spoke about a preservation restriction and the proposed refurbishment of the Sarah Bradlee Fulton memorial. R. Hayward will advocate to allow the Board of Cemetery Trustees to manage the project.

City-wide Art Inventory:

- R. Hayward spoke about the need to document and assess the city's artworks. D. MacDougall recalled that some archival documentation had been done in the previous decade by an art student. Next steps to find the existing documentation and create a preservation plan.

2027 Budget Update:

- J. Keenan and R. Hayward spoke about the upcoming budget which is expected to be the same as for FY 2026. R. Hayward noted that all FY 2026 funds have been spent.

Upcoming Demolition Application:

- A development proposal for the Dorothy T. Hegner Work Activity Center at 15 Maple Park Avenue is anticipated.

Vacant Seats Update:

- Luke Beck was sworn in.

Medford High School Section 106 Review:

- R. Hayward to press the project consultants to hire a team to create a historical form for the high school.

Brooks Estate Archaeological Survey:

- Project under contract and a site walk-through to be scheduled.

Update on CPA Projects:

- Thomas Brooks Park tree work done. Next step to include re-planting list for appropriate trees and shrubs.

Cross Street Cemetery Update:

- **Oak Grove Cemetery:** Ground penetrating radar (GPR) proposal received for Oak Grove site. Archaeological proposals have a wide cost range indicating uncertainty about the subsurface conditions at the downtown site. Next step may need to be a GPR survey.

Survey Projects Update:

- Obtained a contract extension for the Hasting Heights survey including matching funds from Mass Historical. Additional historical forms are forthcoming.

65 Valley Street Section 106 Review:

- R. Hayward suggested that since only telecom equipment will be replaced, review comments are not required.

Brooks Estate Update:

- D. Carr reported that, due to maintenance concerns, the city would like to see a paved parking area, although a permeable surface is required. MBELT awaiting new drawings and cost proposal which will include maintenance requirements.

Demolition Delay Updates:

- **16 Manning Street:** Exp. 1/2027. No new update.
- **41 Mystic Avenue:** Exp. 4/2027. No new update.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: **Motion:** (DC, RH 2nd) to approve the May 11, 2026 Historical Commission meeting minutes. **Approved:** 4-0 with one abstaining.

Motion: (JK, RH 2nd) to dissolve the meeting at 8:09 pm. **Approved:** 5-0.

Next Meeting: July 13, 2026. Start time 7:00 pm. Denis MacDougall to coordinate.