

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER
November 17, 2011**

LEVI LINCOLN CHAMBER – CITY HALL

Commission Members Present: Thomas Constantine, Chair
Timothy McCann, Vice-Chair
James Crowley
Kevin Provencher
Peter Schneider

Staff Present: Edgar Luna, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services

REGULAR MEETING (5:30 PM)

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Constantine called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

MINUTES:

The Historical Commission accepted the minutes from the November 3, 2011 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. 22 Dix Street (HC-2011-081) – Building Demolition Delay Waiver:** Ken Davis, representative for Douglas Rioux, petitioner, presented the petition. Mr. Davis stated that the petitioner was seeking Building Demolition Delay Waiver approval to make the following changes: (a) remove the existing rear enclosed porch and stairs, (b) remove the field-stone retaining wall, (c) remove the front porches, (d) remove the 2 chimneys, (e) remove the roof shingles and replace it with architectural roof shingles, (f) remove and replace the existing gutters, and (g) repair the dormers. He also indicated that the rear enclosed porches and stairs were poorly constructed, and not original to the period of the house; therefore, he stated that he was planning to remove them. In addition, Mr. Davis stated that after a careful review and consideration of the proposed project and projected cost estimates, he decided to leave the existing siding unchanged. Commissioner Schneider expressed concern that the front porch would be removed, indicating that the porch appeared to be an important architectural features of the building. Commissioner McCann asked Mr. Davis to describe what he was planning to do to the area currently occupied by the rear porch, and he responded that a free-standing set of stairs would be built to provide a second means of egress for the two dwelling units in the building, and

- **The Scroll brackets on the second floor will be repaired and retained.**

Exhibit A: Application submitted by Douglas Rioux, dated October 14, 2011 and received October 18, 2011.

2. **337 Salisbury Street (HC-2011-082) – Building Demolition Delay Waiver:** Eglatina Zguro and Anesti Zguro, petitioners, presented the petition. Ms. Zguro indicated that she was seeking Building Demolition Delay Waiver approval to remove and replace the roof shingles with 30-year architectural shingles. She stated that the roof was severely deteriorated and was causing damage to the walls, as the rain was sipping through. Commissioner Constantine asked Ms. Zguro if the roof in place consisted of asphalt roof shingles and she indicated that it was. She also indicated that the proposed roof would match the existing roof in color, texture and material. Upon a motion by Commissioner Provencher and seconded by Commissioner Crowley, the Commission voted 5-0 that the proposed demolition would not be detrimental to the architectural or historical resources of the City of Worcester, therefore, the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for this project was approved.

Exhibit A: Building Demolition Delay Waiver application submitted by Eglatina Zguro dated October 21, 2011 and received October 21, 2011.

3. **28 Haviland Street (HC-2011-083) – Building Demolition Delay Waiver:** Kevin Letourneau, representative for the petitioner, and John Collamore, petitioner, presented the petition. Mr. Collamore stated that he was seeking Building Demolition Delay Waiver approval to remove the existing red asphalt roof shingles and replace them with new

Exhibit A: Building Demolition Delay Waiver Application submitted by Stutman-Juhl Realty, LLC dated October 20, 2011 and received October 25, 2011.

4. **35 Dartmouth Street (HC-2011-084) – Building Demolition Delay Waiver:** Joshua Fornier, representative for the petitioner and Sean Crutchley, petitioner, presented the petition. Mr. Crutchley stated that he was seeking Building Demolition Delay Waiver to remove the existing shingles and replace them with granite-gray architectural roof shingles. Mr. Fornier stated that the existing gutters had deteriorated beyond repair due to age; therefore, he indicated that the proposed roof replacement would include installation of new gutters. Commissioner Crowley asked Mr. Fornier how the existing gutters were attached to the roof, and he responded that the gutters were attached by metal brackets. Commissioner Provencher stated that gutters were historic and important architectural features of a house, as they provide a distinct roof profile; therefore, he encouraged the applicant to be sensitive to maintaining the same roof profile while installing the new gutters. Mr. Fournier stated that the proposed roof replacement and new gutters would maintain and preserve the original roof profile. Upon a motion by Commissioner Provencher and seconded by Commissioner Crowley, the Commission voted 5-0 that the proposed demolition would not be detrimental to the architectural or historical resources of the City of Worcester, therefore, the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for this project was approved.

Exhibit A: Building Demolition Delay Waiver Application submitted by Sean Crutchley dated October 28, 2011 and received October 31, 2011.

5. **507 Main Street (HC-2011-085) – Building Demolition Delay Waiver:** Jeremy Browning, representative for 507 Main Street Holdings, LLC, presented the petition. Mr. Browning indicated that the petitioner was seeking Building Demolition Delay Waiver approval to remove the aluminum and glass front door located on Franklin Street, and replace it with a dark-bronze aluminum and glass entrance door that meets Worcester’s Building Code Regulations. Mr. Luna indicated that the newspaper ad and notice to abutters stated that the petitioner was seeking to remove and replace the front window with “block aluminum” in error, and instead, it should have stated that the petitioner was proposing to replace the front windows with “dark-bronze aluminum”. Mr. Browning confirmed that the proposed aluminum was dark-bronze color in order to match the other front windows and entrances located on site. Upon a motion by Commissioner McCann and seconded by Commissioner Provencher, the Commission voted 5-0 that the proposed demolition would not be detrimental to the architectural or historical resources of the City

Exhibit A: Building Demolition Delay Waiver Application submitted by Constance Dee, dated October 17, 2011 and received October 27, 2011.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Clock Tower: Commissioner Schneider informed the Commission that he attended a recent meeting to discuss the future of the Clock Tower building at the Former Worcester State Hospital. He stated that in addition to local representatives, staff from Massachusetts Historical Commission, UMass Hospital, and Department of Capital Asset Management also attended the meeting. Commissioner Schneider stated that the existing plan is to demolish the clock tower building. He indicated that there was a brief discussion regarding the possibility of preserving the clock tower itself, but indicated that such idea was not definitive. In addition, he stated that Preservation Worcester presented architectural renderings demonstrating that the entire Clock Tower building could be effectively integrated into several diverse architectural designs. Commission Schneider concluded by stating that the Worcester Historical Commission will be officially notified once the final plans have been approved by the State.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.