



The City of Worcester

Executive Office of Economic Development

Planning & Regulatory Services

Historical Commission

Diane Long, Chair
Janet Theerman, Vice Chair
Erika Helnarski - Clerk
Steven Taylor
Devon Kurtz
Donald Northway
Vanessa Andre, Alternate

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER

Thursday, July 25, 2024

Remote participation only available via Webex online at
<https://cityofworchester.webex.com/meet/historicalcommissionwebex> and
Call 1-844-621-3956 (Access Code: 26326367009)

Commissioners Present: Janet Theerman, Vice-Chair
Donald Northway
Erika Helnarski, Clerk (*Participated Remotely*)
Vanessa Andre, Alternate (*Participated Remotely*)
Steven Taylor

Commissioners Absent: Diane Long, Chair
Devon Kurtz

Staff Present: Michelle Johnstone, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services (DPRS)

Call Commission to Order – 5:30 PM

New Business

Certificate of Non-Applicability

1. 2 Massachusetts Avenue (20-013-00003) – CNA-24-17

Petition purpose: Install patio & fireplace

Allison Williams o/b/o Marty Mazzella gave an overview of the project to install a back patio and fireplace. Material used would be antique stone and brick. The patio will not be seen from the street view.

Public comment: none

Upon a motion made by Vice-Chair Theerman and seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Commission voted five (5) in favor and zero (0) opposed that the changes to install a rear patio and a fireplace at 2 Massachusetts Avenue are not under the jurisdiction of the Commission. Having gained a unanimous affirmative vote, the request for a Certificate of Non-Applicability was approved.

Exhibits: *Exhibit A: Certificate of Non-Applicability application for 2 Massachusetts Avenue, submitted July 10, 2024*

Exhibit B: Slides showing photographs and plans for the site.

Building Demolition Delay waiver

2. 50 Holden Street (33-002-00001) – BDDW-24-25

Petition purpose: Install ductless heat

Maria Leitao-Pina participated online and gave an overview of the project to install heating pumps due to the different heating systems at the property. Ms. Leitao-Pina clarified that these changes would not be seen from a street view.

Public comment: none

On a motion made by Vice-Chair Theerman and seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Commission voted five (5) in favor and zero (0) opposed that the proposed demolition at 50 Holden Street, consisting of installation of heat pumps would not be detrimental to the historical or architectural resources of the City of Worcester. Having gained a unanimous vote, the motion passed and a Building Demolition Delay Waiver for 50 Holden Street was approved.

Exhibits: Exhibit A: Building Demolition Delay Waiver application for 50 Holden Street, submitted June 4, 2024

Exhibit B: Slides showing photographs and plans for the site.

OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Policies & procedures - NONE

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Request for comment on City of Worcester Housing Division project at 88 Stanton Street and 30 Whitmarsh Street (Section 106).

No comment.

- B. Request from Epsilon Associates for updated letters of support for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit allocation for Second State Mutual Company (340 Main Street), Ransom Taylor Block (526 Main Street), Kane Building (204 Main Street), Sargent Card Clothing Company (300 Southbridge Street), Worcester Five Cents Savings Bank (316 Main Street), Clark Block/Shack's Building (401-409 Main Street).

On a motion made by Vice-Chair Theerman and seconded by Commissioner Taylor the Commission voted five (5) in favor and zero (0) opposed for letters of support for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Allocation For listed locations above.

- C. Communication from MHC to Worcester Historical Museum (Worcester Historical Commission cc'ed) regarding allocation of \$50,000 from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund.
- D. Update on Norton Company/Saint-Gobain salvage efforts.

Ms. Johnstone shared that materials will be able to be salvaged and displayed in some type of public park.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approval of July 11, 2024, minutes have been postponed.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Vice-Chair Theerman and seconded by Commissioner Taylor, the Commission voted five (5) to zero (0) to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:44 p.m.