



# City of Medford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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

## October 19, 2015 Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

Medford City Hall, Room 201 - Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Members present: Ryan Hayward, Doug Carr, Suanna Selby Crowley, Gretchen Pineo.

Absent: Brian Connolly, James Kossuth

Minutes – September meeting minutes were posted in Google docs. Motion to Approve minutes, **Approved, 4-0.**

New Business:

### 43 Irving Street

- Daniel G. McAuley, Jr. Attorney spoke on behalf of removing the building. He is the receiver has been appointed for the property since August 2015 ([dgmesq@comcast.net](mailto:dgmesq@comcast.net)). Bob Risman (proponent) present as well. Temporary Chairman Ryan Hayward explained the process.
- Board discussion: It was a named property, by a named architect, part of the Arts & Crafts movement, published twice. S. Crowley – concurs with preferably preserved designation. G. Pineo: of two minds, the original owners put design covenants on the development of the neighborhood. House eventually became a separate outbuilding on another lot. R. Hayward: concurs with historical analysis; it has been altered, but nothing major. Opportunity to learn more about the era.
- **Motion:** to find 43 Irving Preferably Preserved, **Approved, 4-0.**

### 252 Main Street

- Proponents: Catherine Desmond, lawyer; Fred Torosian, Developer; Lucio Trabucco, Architect. Nues Trabucco, Architect, Needham, MA.

- C. Desmond noted that her reading of the Form B & A was that the architectural detail has been lost. There was no association with any historical figure or architect. Gretchen Pineo noted that virtually none of the important surrounding landscape remains. Much detailed discussion about the details of the Form A & B.

**Motion:** To find building at 252 Main Street historically significant, **Denied**, 2-1.

### **25 Franklin Avenue**

- Proponents: Bernie McGovern, Sheila Vendice, Kelly Vendice.
- Home has been in the family for 50+ years. Termite damage in the past caused big damage. Water runs through the house (literally). House has been abandoned and all utilities have been cut. R. Hayward will solicit a Form B for the property and we will reconvene the next meeting. Proponent will approach City Building Dept. with engineer report on the lack of structural integrity of the building.
- **Motion:** to spend \$500 on Form B for 25 Franklin Avenue. **Passed**, 4-0.

### **350 Riverside Ave. - Peter Tufts Driveway Study**

- John Anderson, Medford Historical Society proponent. Note these comments are advisory to the MHC.
- MHS is looking to create a driveway to the right of the building to create several off-street parking spaces behind the building, the oldest extant building in Medford.
- Board had several comments/suggestions: make sure archaeology is very clear and dealt with appropriately as part of the new work.
- Board recommended that the driveway as shown be narrowed to 10-11 feet wide in lieu of the 15 feet wide shown.
- Board recommended that paving at the top of the driveway be either crushed stone or grass-crete pavers to minimize pervious pavement and enhance the historic look and feel of the site.

### **Section 106 Reviews:**

- **330 Boston Ave** - Section 106 Review. D. Carr noted that the proposed design is to add a bunch of small equipment to an existing pole. D. Carr contacted the historian who did the drawings, requesting that they confirm the color of the equipment. We are looking for a consistent color and look. Update: equipment color confirmed to be an acceptable matte gray. Issue closed.
- **Main and Medford Street** – Section 106 Review. Same issues as 330 Boston Ave.
- **500 Salem Street** – no issues

### **Surveys:**

- **East Medford Survey** – The Sub-committee made its selection.
- **Tufts University survey** – D. Carr circled back with Barbara Rubel of Tufts and Barbara passed our request to Survey Tufts onto Lynda Snyder, VP of Operations at Tufts. Awaiting response.
- **2016 Mass. Historical Survey and Planning Grant**– Option: South Medford as a context study with 25-50 forms; or Wellington. Motion: MHC members to submit opinions on direction.
- **Woods Bridge Wayside** – A draft sign design will be forthcoming to the MHC in a few months. Update: D. Carr to check in with MassDOT.

### **Old Business:**

- **523, 541, 551 Winthrop Street** – no update.
- **18/20 Woods Edge Road** – D. Carr & R. Hayward to meet with proponents and look at design options.
- **21 Touro Avenue** – prior Medford Hist. Dist. Commission met on this property.
- **Cradock Bridge granite** – no update.

### **Housekeeping**

- **Archives** – no update.
- **Web site** – short blog post on Community Day and thanking Claire Dempsey for her service on the MHC.

**Motion** to adjourn at 9:35pm. Approved, 4-0. Notes by D. Carr

**Next meeting:** Monday, November 9th, 2015.