



City of Medford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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

October 18, 2021 Medford Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting held via Zoom - Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.
Digital Meeting statement read by J. Keenan, Chair at beginning of meeting.

Members present: Jennifer Keenan, Ryan Hayward, Doug Carr, Edward Wiest, Abigail Salerno and Peter Miller. Denis MacDougall also present. Absent: Jessica Farrell

Determination of Preferably Preserved Status:

- **75 Clewley Road** – Owner Siddhartha Gehlot of Treetop Investments LLC, 100 Tower Office Park, Suite I, Woburn and architect Yael Gets Schoen were present at the meeting. The Form B and merits of the house were discussed including well preserved architectural detail and its association with the neighborhood context. Neighbor Vin Piccolo of Corrine Road stated that he had misgivings about the scale of the proposed project and other similar projects and their impact on the neighborhood traffic, open space and daylight. Betsy Ehrenberg of 67 Warren Street voiced concerns about the possible proposed number of units, transient tenants and absentee owner of the property, and their potential impacts on the neighborhood. **Motion:** to find preferably preserved. **Approved:** 3-2. A. Salerno to post the current proposed development plans on the Historic Commission website.

Receive Demolition Applications:

- **17 Manning Street** – Partial demolition in order to convert to two new dwelling units. The demolition application was reviewed. **Motion:** to accept the demolition application. **Approved:** 5-0. **Motion:** to expend \$500 to create a Form B for 17 Manning Street. **Approved:** 5-0. Owner Gina Fombell of 33 Douglas Road inquired about the next steps in the process and the status of the interior and exterior demolition permit applications. J. Keenan answered that no demolition work was to be started until the process is completed. The next step in the process to be the Demolition Request Hearing on November 8, 2021.

Determinations of Significance:

- **29 Summer Street** - A clarification on the scope of demolition was requested by Commissioners Hayward and Miller. Purchaser of the property, Brian Ortins, clarified that the demolition is to be “partial” and the majority of the main front portion of the structure is to be saved. The Form B and the merits of the building

were discussed by the Commission including its overall form, Greek Revival or Italianate style exterior detail and historical significance. R. Hayward will seek to ascertain whether the building is actually the relocated Union Street School House, which would make its date of construction earlier than currently listed on the Form B. D. Carr and A. Salerno opined that even without the possibility of the house being a former school, it still warranted a finding of significance. **Motion:** to find significant. **Approved:** 5-0.

- **290 Salem Street and 209 Park Street** – Total demolition of existing 1-story commercial electronics facility and carriage house in order to construct a future residential/commercial development. Sal Querisio of 8 Monroe St, Somerville, contractor for the owner, attended the meeting. The two Form B's and merits of the two buildings were reviewed. **Motion:** to find 290 Salem Street significant. **Failed:** 0-5. **Motion:** to find 209 Park Street significant. **Failed:** 2-3. Project will require ZBA and OCD approval process. MHC to draft comments.

Demolition Delay Updates:

- **33 Vine Street:** No update, R. Hayward to check on the project.
- **43 Pleasant Street:** No new update.
- **15 Hadley Place:** No new update.
- **75 South Street:** The demolition delay subcommittee has emailed a second round of comments to the design team and is awaiting a response.
- **104 Harvard Street:** No new update.
- **109 Forest Street:** The property is currently up for sale.

Update on Permit Review Sub-committee: On-going.

Update on CPA Projects:

- **Oak Grove trees:** No new update.
- **Thomas Brooks Park:** Contracts hopefully awarded for Phase 1 (Fieldstone Wall, Pomp's Wall and Archaeological Dig) of project by the end of the year.

Survey Project Update: Bids due end of October, S+P Grant deadline Nov 15. Next year's survey area to be Fulton Heights. Need to review how next survey areas dovetail with city master planning effort, neighborhood conservation districts, ADU's etc. MP wish list.

Local Historic District Updates: No new update.

Hastings Park Curbs: Light colored concrete used in lieu of granite. How to treat – weathering or some kind of environmentally friendly stain?

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion: to approve September 13, 2021 MHC meeting minutes. **Approved:** 5-0.

Motion: To adjourn at 8:57 pm. **Approved:** 5-0.

Next Meeting: November 8, 2021 either in-person or via Zoom, TBD. Start time 7:00 pm. Denis MacDougall to coordinate.