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

January 24, 2008 CHASE BUILDING, 44 FRONT STREET, WORCESTER SUITE 300 – CONFERENCE ROOM

Commission Members Present: Peter Schneider, Chair

Thomas Constantine, Vice-Chair

Michael Theerman

Janet Merrill James Crowley

Staff Present: Judy Stolberg, Planning and Regulatory Services

REGULAR MEETING (5:30 PM)

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the January 10, 2008 meeting were accepted.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 179 Shrewsbury Street (HC-07-62) – Building Demolition Delay Waiver: Kevin McManus, representative for the applicant, Shrewsbury Street General Investment, stated they are seeking a Building Demolition Delay Waiver to renovate the exterior of the building to include new period windows on the first level. Chair Schneider asked if they were double-hung windows. Mr. McManus responded affirmatively. Mr. Theerman asked if the limestone trim on the building would remain intact and, again, Mr. McManus said yes and added they will not be touching the brickwork. Upon reviewing the petition submitted for the renovation of the exterior to include new period windows on the first level, and all evidence provided, and upon a motion by Commissioner Crowley and seconded by Commissioner Constantine, the Commission voted 5-0 that the proposed demolition would not be detrimental to the historical or architectural resources of the City of Worcester and approved the Building Demolition Delay Waiver.

OTHER BUSINESS

Local Historic District Study Committee Discussion/Update: Chair Schneider acknowledged that the Commissioners had received in their packets communication from the Massachusetts Historical Commission stating the application to expand the

Montvale Local Historic District has been accepted by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. He said the next step is for the Commission to hold a public hearing. It was decided that the public hearing be held on February 28, 2008.

New State Hospital Discussion: The Commission briefly discussed the plans that were included in their packets. Chair Schneider said the Clock Tower would remain on the site but there were no plans at this time for its preservation or re-use

Letter of Support: The Commission was asked by the Worcester Higgins Armory Museum to send a letter to the Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund in support of its quest for funding to make repairs to the building. The building is beginning to show signs of structural damage caused by time and the elements. Upon a motion by Commissioner Theerman and seconded by Commissioner Constantine, it was voted 5-0 to authorize the Chair to sign the letter prepared by the Planning and Regulatory Services Division in support of this worthwhile endeavor to preserve this historically significant building.

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting at 6:05 P.M.