



The City of
WORCESTER

Historical
Commission

Devon Kurtz, Chair
Diane Long, Vice-Chair
Janet Theerman, Clerk
Randolph Bloom
Erika Helnarski
Tomi Stefani
Steven Taylor
Vanessa Andre, Alternate

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

Thursday, June 2, 2022

Worcester City Hall - Levi Lincoln Chamber,
with remote participation options available via Webex online at
<https://cow.webex.com/meet/historicalncommissionwebex> and
call-in number 415-655-0001 (Access Code: 1608081191).

Commissioners Present: Devon Kurtz, Chair
Diane Long, Vice-Chair
Janet Theerman, Clerk
Randolph Bloom (participated remotely)
Erika Helnarski (participated remotely)
Tomi Stefani (participated remotely)
Steven Taylor
Vanessa Andre, Alternate

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Call Commission to Order – 5:30 PM

Approval of Minutes – 4/21/2022, 5/19/2022 – *Held*

New Business

Certificate of Non-Applicability

Chairman Kurtz was applicant for Item #1; Diane Long served as acting Chair for this item.

1. 36 Whitman Road – HC-2022-046 (MBL 20-003-00001)

Devon Kurtz appeared in person upon behalf of the application. He stated that there had been tree damage to his roof and he needs to repair the damage. He stated that he will need to install flashing under the shingles as well replacing a section of siding but everything would be replaced like-in-kind.

Public Comment

None

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, with Commissioner Andre voting in place of Commissioner Kurtz, who recused himself, to close the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

June 2, 2022

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, with Commissioner Andre voting in place of Commissioner Kurtz, who recused himself, on a motion made and duly seconded to approve a Certificate of Non-Applicability, having determined that the proposed work constitutes work is ordinary maintenance or repair of exterior architectural features and will not change the design, color, or outward appearance in any way, and is not subject to the Commission's review.

List of Exhibits

Exhibit A. Certificate of Non-Applicability application, dated and received May 27, 2022.

Chairman Kurtz resumed his role of Chair of the meeting.

Certificate of Appropriateness & Building Demolition Delay Waiver

Commissioner Bloom rescued himself from item #2.

2. 8–10 Congress Street – HC-2022-036 (MBL 03-026-810-5)

Deborah Northway appeared in person on behalf of the application. Ms. Northway stated that she would like to repaint the home as well as restoring the fish scale shingles and replacing some rotten wood around the exterior of the home.

Commissioner Long asked if the worked had already been done. Ms. Northway stated that it had been and apologized for having done the work before coming before the Commission.

Public Comment

Kristine Johnson, participated remotely, stated that she was impressed with the work done by the applicant on the home as it was in much need of repair.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, with Commissioner Andre voting in place of Commissioner Bloom, who recused himself, to close the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, with Commissioner Andre voting in place of Commissioner Bloom, who recused himself, on a motion made and duly seconded that the work, having determined during the course of the meeting that it was already completed, consisting of the following:

- Restore fish scale shingles
- Replace rotten wood around exterior as needed
- Repaint with alternative color scheme as shown in paint samples on file with the Division of Planning and Regulatory Services

is appropriate and compatible with the preservation and protection of the Crown Hill Local Historic District as it relates to the historic and architectural value and significance of the site and structure. Having gained a unanimous vote, the motion passed and the Certificate of Appropriateness for 8–10 Congress Street was thus approved.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, with Commissioner Andre voting in place of Commissioner Bloom, who recused himself, on a motion made and duly seconded that the proposed work as listed above would not be detrimental to the historical and architectural

resources of the City of Worcester. Having gained a unanimous vote, the motion passed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for 8–10 Congress Street was thus approved.

List of Exhibits

Exhibit A. Certificate of Appropriateness & Building Demolition Delay Waiver application, dated April 22, 2022, and received May 12, 2022.

Building Demolition Delay Waiver

3. 21 Heroult Road – HC-2022-037 (MBL 37-008-00001)

No applicant appeared or called in for meeting.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, to postpone the application to the June 16, 2022 Historical Commission meeting.

4. 1 Kensington Heights – HC-2022-038 (MBL 24-007-0011B)

Christine Freemer-Murin, participating remotely, stated that the chimney at the home was struck by lightning and needs to be replaced and she would replace it in-kind.

Public Comment

None.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed to close the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed that the work proposed at 1 Kensington Heights, consisting of replacing an existing damaged chimney with a new chimney to match that which was existing prior to the damage occurring would not be detrimental to the historical and architectural resources of the City. Having gained a majority vote, the motion passed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for 1 Kensington Heights was thus approved.

List of Exhibits

Exhibit A. Building Demolition Delay Waiver application dated May 10, 2022, and received May 12, 2022.

Commissioner Taylor recused himself from Item #5.

5. 53 Wachusett Street – HC-2022-039 (MBL 02-043-044-2)

Michelle Tuck from Tuck & Tuck architects appeared upon behalf of the applicant, Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Ms. Tuck stated that the proposed work consists of raising the porch 7” to match first floor elevation to make it handicapped accessible and to install an accessible ramp and demolish back door and small roof to accommodate the ramp.

Public Comment

None

Upon a motion and duly seconded, the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, with Commissioner Andre voting in place of Commissioner Taylor, who recused himself, to close the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted seven (7) in favor and zero (0) opposed, with Commissioner Andre voting in place of Commissioner Taylor, who recused himself, that the work proposed at 53 Wachusett Street, consisting of raising the porch 7" to match the first-floor elevation to make accessible, associated porch modifications; and installing an accessible ramp & demolishing a modern back door and small roof to accommodate the ramp would not be detrimental to the historical and architectural resources of the City. Having gained a majority vote, the motion passed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for 53 Wachusett Street was thus approved.

List of Exhibits

Exhibit A. Building Demolition Delay Waiver application dated May 11, 2022, and received May 12, 2022.

Communications

None

Other Business

None

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion and duly seconded, the Commission voted eight (8) in favor and zero (0) opposed, to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m.