

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

APRIL 26, 2007

**CHASE BUILDING, 44 FRONT STREET, WORCESTER
ROOM 300 – CONFERENCE ROOM**

Commission Members Present: Peter Schneider, Chair
Thomas Conroy, Clerk
Michael Theerman
Thomas Constantine
James Crowley

Staff Present: Edgar Luna, Division of Planning and Regulatory Services

REGULAR MEETING (5:30 PM)

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon a motion by Thomas Conroy and seconded by James Crowley, it was voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2007 meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Mr. Luna informed the Commission that there were no updates on the Historic Commission procedures, or the local option property tax assessment.

NEW BUSINESS

2. **28 Marble Street (HC-07-04).** Edward Doucette and Wayne Andrews, representatives for the Seven Hills Foundation, petitioner, presented the petition. Mr. Andrews stated that the petitioner was seeking a Building Demolition Delay Waiver to remove the existing porch and replace it with the following changes: (a) redesign the shape of the roof, (b) replace the flooring, (c) replace the columns, (d) replace the balustrade, (e) replace the trim details and support framing of the original structure, and (f) replace the roof. In addition, Mr. Andrews informed the Commission that the petitioner had to remove the architectural trim to support the remaining structure with staging and framing timbers in December, 2006 due to its advanced state of decay and disrepair, which he considers to be irreversible damage. He further stated that the weight of the roof was crushing the support columns on the right side of the porch; therefore, the porch could potentially collapse. Mr. Doucette stated that while the petitioner would prefer to use natural materials in all repairs, synthetic materials were

their preferred choice due to low cost. Following a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed changes and the cost benefits of using synthetic materials, the petitioners requested a continuation of the hearing to allow them time to research price differences and consider budget alternatives. On motion by James Crowley and seconded by Michael Theerman, it was voted 5-0 to continue the hearing until May 10, 2007.

3. **Elections:** Edgar Luna informed the Commission that the Office of the City Manager is in the process of addressing the vacancies triggered by the resignations of Commissioners Sally Jablonski and Thomas Johnson. Chair Schneider stated that the Historical Commission will hold elections to select a new Vice-Chair during the next two months.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Schneider adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.