

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

July 22, 2021

CITY HALL*

Commission Members Participating: Devon Kurtz, Chair
Janet Theerman, Clerk
Randolph Bloom
Steven Taylor
Erika Helnarski, Alternate

Commission Members Not Participating: Diane Long, Vice-Chair
Mark Wamback
Tomi Stefani

Staff Members Participating: Michelle Johnstone, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services
Stephen Rolle, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services (remotely)

This Worcester Historical Commission meeting was held in-person at the date, time, and location listed above. Meeting attendees had options to participate remotely by joining online or by phone:

- Use the following link to join the meeting via computer:
<https://cow.webex.com/meet/historicalcommissionwebex> or
- Call **415-655-0001 (Access Code: 1608081191)** for the Historical Commission.

CALL COMMISSION TO ORDER – 5:30 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JUNE 24, 2021 & JULY 8, 2021

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of June 24, 2021. Commissioner Taylor did not vote due to his absence at the June 24, 2021 meeting.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of July 8, 2021 with one amendment. Commissioner Helnarski did not vote due to her absence at the July 8, 2021 meeting.

POSTPONEMENTS

1. 11 Hawthorne Street – HC-2021-042 (MBL 06-042-00002)

Petitioner: Clark University
Year Built: ca. 1900
Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; National Register District;
National Register Multiple Resource Area

Petition Purpose:

- Alterations to existing siding to allow for air conditioning installation

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to postpone the application to the August 5, 2021 Historical Commission meeting.

2. 18 – 24 Oxford Street – HC-2021-043 (MBL 03-022-00015 & -00021)

Petitioner: Wilson W. Kiriungi

Year Built: 1848

Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; Positive National Register Determination of Eligibility; National Register District; National Register Multiple Resource Area; Local Historic District

Petition Purpose:

- Installation of a stockade fence around the carport

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to postpone the application to the August 5, 2021 Historical Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Certificate of Appropriateness

3. 5 Crown Street – HC-2021-039 (MBL 03-025-00008)

Petitioner: Eric Cruze & Tomo Sakai

Year Built: 1848

Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; Positive National Register Determination of Eligibility; National Register District; National Register Multiple Resource Area; Preservation Restriction; Local Historic District

Petition Purpose:

- Install new and upgrade existing gutters
- Install a new side door
- Install a new dryer vent

Eric Cruze and Tomo Sakai participated remotely for the meeting.

Ms. Johnstone stated that the new side door and new dryer vent portion is not being taken up as the applicants' previous decision relative to those items has been extended due to COVID-19.

Mr. Cruze stated that they are currently experiencing water damage at their home and contractors have informed them that gutters would help alleviate that issue.

Commissioner Bloom asked the applicant to review the proposed paint color of the gutters.

Public Comment

No Public comment.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to close Public Comment portion of the hearing.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 that the proposed work consisting of replacing existing gutters and installing new gutters on the porch and north side of the house with 6" aluminum K style gutters colored with either paint or baked enamel to match the existing color scheme is appropriate and compatible with the preservation and protection of the Crown Hill Local Historic District as it relates to historic and architectural significance of the site and structure. Having gained a unanimous vote the motion passed and the Certificate of Appropriateness for 5 Crown Street was approved.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission the Commission voted 5-0 that the proposed work would not be detrimental to the historical or architectural resources of the City of Worcester. Having gained unanimous vote, the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for 5 Crown Street was thus approved.

Building Demolition Delay Waiver

4. 29 Heroult Road – HC-2021-038 (MBL 37-017-00075)

Petitioner: Richard Kubert o/b/o Frances Rodriguez
Year Built: 1915
Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; National Register District;
National Register Multiple Resource Area

Petition Purpose:

- Replace roof and siding

Richard Kubert appeared in person to represent the applicant for Frances Rodriguez, the owner.

Mr. Kubert stated that Ms. Rodriguez is looking to replace her roof and siding. He stated that the siding would match what is currently existing and the roof will be black and that new shutters would be installed.

Commissioner Bloom asked if Mr. Kubert had looked into estimates to replace the clapboards. Mr. Kubert stated that he had not.

Commissioner Kurtz stated that he had concern with the materials being proposed.

The Commission asked if any cost estimates had been looked into to repair the slate roof. Mr. Kubert stated that he had not.

Ms. Johnstone stated that the Commission can request that the applicant come back with cost estimates for replacement versus repairs.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to close the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to continue the application to the August 5, 2021 Historical Commission meeting.

5. 65 Cedar Street – HC-2021-040 (MBL 02-048-00023)

Petitioner: C & S Cedar Street Housing, LLC
Year Built: 1893
Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; National Register District;
National Register Multiple Resource Area

Petition Purpose:

- Replace siding
- Repair roof
- Rebuild one chimney

Attorney Brian Falk and Stephen Quist appeared in person for the application.

Mr. Falk reviewed the scope of the work for the project, which included the replacement of the wood siding materials with fiber cement siding materials to match; repairs to the red slate roof; and the reconstruction of a chimney.

The Commission indicated their support for the materials that would be used.

Ms. Johnstone asked whether a specific sawtooth detail would be recreated with the fiber cement material. Mr. Quist stated that it would not be possible, but was amenable to preserving the detail with the existing cedar or replacing in-kind.

Public Comment

Russ Haims spoke (remotely) in support of the application.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to close the Public Comment portion of the hearing.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted five (5) in favor and zero (0) opposed, on a motion made and duly seconded, that the proposed work, consisting of rebuilding one chimney in-kind in design and materials; repairing the red slate roof and selectively replacing slates in-kind as needed; replacing the existing cedar shingle siding with fiber cement shingle siding to match the design of the existing shingles; and, if possible, retaining and restoring, or replacing in-kind if deemed necessary, those existing cedar shingles with a saw tooth edge, would not be detrimental to the historical and architectural resources of the City. Having gained a unanimous vote, the motion passed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for the proposed work at 65 Cedar Street was thus approved.

6. 19 Chatham Street – HC-2021-041 (MBL 03-19A-00007)

Petitioner: Roman Catholic Bishop of Worcester
Year Built: 1869
Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; National Register Individual; National Register Multiple Resource Area

Petition Purpose:

- Carry out tower repairs to include roof replacement, window repairs (replacement where repair is not feasible), louver repairs (replacement where repair is not feasible), and masonry repairs (and selective replacement where repair is not feasible)

Tara Ikenouye, the project architect appeared in person on behalf of the applicant, Roman Catholic Bishop of Worcester. She described the intent of the project, which entails maintenance and repairs to the tower at St. Paul’s Cathedral. All work proposed meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards.

The Commission indicated that they were pleased with the proposal.

Public Comment

No Public comment.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to close the Public Comment portion of the hearing.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted five (5) in favor and zero (0) opposed, on a motion made and duly seconded, that the proposed work, consisting of tower repairs to include roof replacement, window repair/replacement where repair is not feasible, louver repair/replacement where repair is not feasible, and masonry repairs, would not be detrimental to the historical and architectural resources of the City. Having gained a unanimous vote, the motion passed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for the proposed work at 19 Chatham Street was thus approved.

7. 25 Union Street – HC-2021-044 (MBL 02-001-00019)

Petitioner: Jay Gallant o/b/o Angelo Gianakis
Year Built: 1879

Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; National Register Individual; National Register Multiple Resource Area

Petition Purpose:

- Replace one door with a window
- Open CMU wall and install a door

Jay Gallant (participating remotely) appeared upon behalf of the applicant, Angelo Gianakis.

Mr. Gallant stated that space that used to be the Maxwell Silverman's restaurant is going to be an arcade bar, and they would like to replace one window with a door and open CMU wall and install a door to accommodate an outdoor patio space.

The Commission did not have any concerns with the proposal.

Public Comment

No Public comment

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to close the Public Comment portion of the hearing.

At the July 22, 2021 meeting, the Commission voted five (5) in favor and zero (0) opposed, on a motion made and duly seconded, that the proposed work, consisting of replacing a window with a door and opening a CMU wall and installing a door, would not be detrimental to the historical and architectural resources of the City. Having gained a unanimous vote, the motion passed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for the proposed work at 25 Union Street was thus approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Notification of FCC Section 106 initiation of review for 35 Hamilton Street.
No comment.
- B. Notification of FCC Section 106 initiation of review for 67 Millbrook Street.
No comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m.