

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

**September 2, 2021**

**CITY HALL\***

**Commission Members Participating:** Diane Long, Vice-Chair  
Steven Taylor, Alternate  
Janet Theerman, Clerk  
Randolph Bloom (remote)  
Erika Helnarski, Alternate (remote)

**Commission Members Not Participating:** Devon Kurtz, Chair  
Mark Wamback  
Tomi Stefani

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

**CALL COMMISSION TO ORDER** – 5:30 PM

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – AUGUST 19, 2021

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of August 19, 2021.

**POSTMONEMENTS**

**Building Demolition Delay Waiver**

**1. 36 Sever Street – HC-2021-052 (MBL 02-046-00140)**

Petitioner: Nicole DiCello  
Year Built: 1886  
Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; National Register District;  
National Register Multiple Resource Area, FKA the Frances M. Lincoln House

Petition Purpose:

- Replace garage door
- Install new gutters
- Remove wood shingle skirting and restore existing mudsill
- Replace sections of wood shingle with fiber cement

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to postpone the application to the September 16, 2021 Historical Commission meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Building Demolition Delay Waiver**

**2. 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

Francis Rodriguez appeared in person for the application.

The Commission stated that they had viewed the site and had received additional materials from the applicant on quotes on repairs versus replacement.

Ms. Rodriguez stated that when she bought the home that she didn't know it was historical and didn't plan on the cost to replace the roof and siding.

The Commission members discussed the financial figures provided by the applicant and the state of the slate roof.

Public Comment

None

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

At the September 2, 2021 meeting, the Commission voted one (1) in favor (Diane Long) and four (4) opposed on a motion made and duly seconded that the work proposed would not be detrimental to the historical and architectural resources of the City. Having failed to gain a majority vote, the motion failed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for 29 Heroult Road was thus denied.

Also, at the September 2, 2021 meeting, the Commission voted five (5) in favor and zero (0) opposed on a motion made and duly seconded that the issuance of a building demolition delay waiver for the proposed work consisting of replacing the roof and siding is necessary to avoid an undue economic hardship to the property owner. Having gained a majority vote, the motion passed and the Building Demolition Delay Waiver for 29 Heroult Road Street was thus approved on the basis of economic hardship.

Exhibits

- A. Building Demolition Delay Waiver application, dated and received July 22, 2021.
- B. Financial hardship documentation submitted by the applicant between August 3, 2021 and September 1, 2021

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Certificate of Appropriateness & Building Demolition Delay Waiver**

**3. 8 Regent Street – HC-2021-051 (MBL 20-014-00007)**

Petitioner: Massachusetts Gamma Sigma Alumni Association  
Year Built: 1903  
Historic Status: MACRIS listed; State Register of Historic Places; Local Historic District, FKA Anjeanette Kenney Smith – James E. Wesson House

Petition Purpose:

- Replace slate roof with metal shingle roofing system

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to postpone the application to the September 16, 2021 Historical Commission meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Request for updated letter of support for Massachusetts Rehabilitation Tax Credit allocation for JR Torrey Razor & Strop Company, 128 Chandler Street.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to issue an updated Letter of Support.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion on financial hardship consideration for requests for Building Demolition Delay Waivers.  
Ms. Johnstone briefly discussed the item but no action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion made and duly seconded the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m.