



CITY OF WATERTOWN
Historic District Commission
Administration Building
149 Main Street
WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS 02472

Harvey Steiner, Chair
Linda Sternberg, Vice Chair
Elizabeth Hayes, Secretary
James Bensinger, Member
Robert Bloomberg, Member
Jae Hyoung Kim, Member

Minutes: Historic District Commission Meeting- Thursday April 25, 2024, at 7 PM
remotely by Zoom Link <https://zoom.us/j/92090463343> and dial in numbers (877) 853-
5257 and (888) 475-4499.

Members Present- Harvey Steiner, Linda Sternberg, Robert Bloomberg, James Bensinger

Members Absent: Elizabeth Hayes, Jae Hyoung Kim

Town Staff Present: Gideon Schreiber, Senior Planner, Susan Jenness, Assistant

Others Present Remotely: Clark Eleftheriadis, Michael Albano

Steiner chaired the Historic District Commission, (HDC), meeting.

1. Minutes- Review and Acceptance of Minutes from the July 27, 2023, Historic District Commission Meeting.

Requests were made to correct some dates from the minutes from the July 27, 2023, meeting.

Motion- Sternberg made a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting on July 27, 2023, as updated. Bloomberg seconded the motion.

Roll Call- Members were polled by the Chair and all present agreed with the motion made by Sternberg.

2. Review and Vote on Meeting and Filing Dates for 2024.

Motion- Sternberg made a motion to accept the Meeting and Filing Dates for 2024. Bloomberg seconded the motion.

Roll Call- Members were polled by the Chair and all present agreed with the motion made by Sternberg.

3. **Public Hearing-** Application for a **Certificate of Appropriateness- 195 Mt. Auburn St.** for new granite stairs to access the porch and side entrance (where handicap ramp was located) and lattice that would replace the remnants of previously installed and now removed glass panels (used as an entrance to funeral home/business). Clark Eleftheriadis, Applicant/Owner

Eleftheriadis was present to review the proposal for work being proposed on two sides of the house.

Proposed for Franklin Street Entrance

Modifications were proposed for the side entrance from the removal of the ramp which was used when the house was used as a funeral parlor. The proposal is to install new solid granite stairs with a paver walkway, to access the porch at the side entrance of the house. Lattice is to be placed beside the columns which will be seen from a side view from Mt. Auburn St. Lattice will also be used to fill in the transom that was formerly filled with glass panels, that would eventually be enhanced by natural plantings to conceal previously installed HVAC equipment.

Proposed for Mt. Auburn St. Entrance

The proposal includes repairs to the front stairs and the ceiling, with in-kind materials which would not be done until after the completion of the Mt. Auburn St. Improvements Project.

Schreiber explained there will be some long posts around the porch to serve as a guide up the stairs for safety and he explained this is more a standard update that may not trigger a building permit.

Steiner inquired whether the lattice had been selected and how the material would be placed on the site. Eleftheriadis said the lattice will be seen from a side view, from the Mt. Auburn St. view. He also agreed he could have it reviewed by Schreiber prior to the installation.

Steiner said he was in favor of the work being proposed.

Motion- Sternberg made a motion permitting the applicant to replace the ramp with granite steps pictured in the last 2 photos of the presentation and remove side glass panels of the transom and replace them with the exact lattice in photos, from floor to ceiling of porch, and to repair stairs and railings of front porch using in-kind wood materials. Bloomberg seconded the motion made by Sternberg.

Roll Call- All members were polled, and all agreed with the motion made by Sternberg.

Steiner clarified that the applicant would work with Schreiber with details of the lattice and any other issues that come up.

Agent Report

Schreiber reported that in the Historic District, there were some temporary construction easements needed for some properties during the Mt. Auburn St. Improvements Project that are being restored. He directed members to the website to see updates on the process at Mt. Auburn Complete Streets where there is also an opportunity to sign up for email updates for those interested.

Steiner reported that while he may be working on the signage project behind the scenes, nothing more will happen until after the project is complete.

The most recent Mt. Auburn Square Project meeting had 240-260 people attend in person with 100 people attending online. The development team is currently processing the surveys and they will be postings updates in the future. The Planning Board and City Council will work on the next phase of the project.

Election of Officers of the Historic District Commission

After a brief discussion, a motion was made to elect officers of the HDC.

Motion- Bensinger made a motion to keep the same slate of officers of the HDC. Bloomberg seconded the motion.

Roll Call- All members were polled, and all agreed with the motion made by Bensinger.

All members were polled at 8:10 pm and all agreed to adjourn the meeting.