



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 July 27, 2023, 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,
Elizabeth Hayes, Jae Hyoung Kim

Members Absent: N/A

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

Others Present Remotely: Stephen Steadman

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

1. Introduction of Jae Hyoung Kim, new member of the Historic District Commission, appointed by the Honorable City Council on February 14, 2023. Steiner introduced Jae Hyoung Kim to members of the Commission and stated he was pleased to have a new architect member on the Commission at long last. Mr. Kim stated he was very happy to have been appointed a member of the Commission and looking forward to serving with the members. Steiner confirmed Mr. Kim's first name, Jae, is pronounced as (Jay).
2. Minutes- Review and Acceptance of Minutes from the January 26, 2023, Historic District Commission Meeting.

There were no corrections to the minutes from the January 26, 2023, meeting.

Motion- Sternberg made a motion to accept the January 26, 2023, minutes from the meeting as written. Hayes seconded the motion.

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

3. **Public Hearing- 9 Russell Ave-** To review the Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of clad windows in the basement of the Church of the Good Shepard.

Stephen Steadman, project manager for the Church of the Good Shepard, appeared to propose the installation of clad windows in the basement of the church, on locations on the building that are barely visible from the public way. The windows are located where the church has an operating preschool and evidence of lead paint on the sashes of the existing windows had been discovered. The removal of the existing windows is for safety concerns. Steadman explained the model window in this proposal is the same model that was installed at the rectory of the church at 19 Russell Ave. and had been allowed by members of the HDC at the June 23, 2022, public hearing.

The configuration of the proposed windows will be eight over eight and have aluminum cladding for durability. Steadman explained there are a total of eleven windows that will be replaced in total in this building. He clarified the church is only able to install four of the windows now, and the other seven will be installed later.

Steadman requested as a condition on the certificate of appropriateness that it be issued for the total number of eleven windows being replaced over time, so he does not need another hearing to install the remaining seven windows. Steiner agreed that the certificate of appropriateness could be issued for all eleven windows.

Bensinger asked if the church was waiting to install the other seven windows because of financial reasons. Steadman confirmed it was a financial reason. Hayes asked if Alpine Environmental recommended the installation of Harvey Clad windows being proposed by the church. Steadman explained the church worked with Alpine Environmental, to receive information about mitigating environmental hazards, and the windows proposed by the church were a favorable selection by Alpine Environmental. Hayes stated she was familiar with Alpine Environmental and has heard in her industry, they have a good reputation for helping to mitigate environmentally hazardous conditions, such as lead paint and mold.

Motion- Sternberg made a motion to approve the installation of eleven Harvey Clad windows, with four being installed now in the preschool area of the building, and the remaining seven to be installed when the church is able to afford the cost. Bensinger seconded the motion.

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

Steiner informed Mr. Steadman his application was approved.

4. Agent Report

Bensing asked Schreiber if he had followed up with the tenants in the business district who had been making changes such as switching out the doors without getting a permit prior to work. Schreiber explained the office has been understaffed and he has lacked the time to go out and get an update. Schreiber explained there is a new code enforcement officer who will be working with Tony Mancini the Zoning Officer, and he is being prepared to address these types of issues in the future.

Schreiber gave the following updates.

- There have been a few residents reaching out to the office to discuss upcoming projects. Office staff members are currently talking through the projects to determine what work needs to be permitted, and what work can be done without a historic review.
- The church has not had any updates on the sale of the buildings since the last update when the signs were installed in public view in the district.
- Mt. Auburn St. Road project is ongoing, and a 100% design plan has been updated on the website to see what the actual changes are. There are some residents who have received temporary easements for the duration of the project.
- The high school which is very near the district will be demolished soon. The contents of the school building have been moved out. Steiner asked to clarify if the students will return to the temporary school in the fall, and Schreiber explained they are in the process of hooking up the electricity in the temporary school building.

Schreiber said there is a lot going on in the city now. He invited members to feel free to contact the office at any time to ask any questions.

At 7:30 pm Steiner said he was closing the meeting if no one had anything else.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.