

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER
April 18, 2013**

LEVI LINCOLN CHAMBER – CITY HALL

Commission Members Present: Timothy McCann, Chair
Kevin Provencher, Vice-Chair
Erika Dunn, Clerk
J. Thomas Constantine
James Crowley
Meagen Mulherin
Andrew Shveda

Commission Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Joel Fontane, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services
Marlyn Feliciano, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services

REGULAR MEETING (5:30 PM)

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair McCann called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the April 4, 2013 meeting were not approved as the Commission wanted more time for review.

NEW BUSINESS:

Joel Fontane thanked Commissioner Thomas Constantine for his 10 years of service with the Historical Commission and Commissioner James Crowley for his six years of service as the representative for the Montvale Local Historic District. Mr. Fontane presented each with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the City Manager.

1. 10 Institute Road (HC-2013-008):

Jim Marcotte, Crown Hill Restoration, stated that he had been before the Commission last year for this property. This project proposes to remove the aluminum siding on the front of the house and on the side by the driveway and restore the façades to mimic the other two sides that were restored last year. They will salvage the clapboard underneath the aluminum siding and paint them and replace anything that needs to be replaced with like materials. Mr. Marcotte stated he is also proposing to remove the storm windows and replacing them with an interior storm panels. He will not replace the existing windows, just the storms.

Mr. Crowley stated that this was the site of the original Fallon Clinic.

Upon a motion by Mr. Constantine and seconded by Mr. Crowley, the Commission voted 7-0 that the proposed demolition was not detrimental to the historical or architectural resources of the City. The Building Demolition Delay Waiver application was approved.

Exhibits.

Exhibit A: Building Demolition Delay Waiver Application; dated March 21, 2013 and received March 27, 2013 prepared by Crown Hill Restoration.

Exhibit B: Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System; re: 10 Institute Road.

Other Business:

- 2. Communication Received** – Letter from Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Historical Commission, re: 81 Providence Street, Walker Hall & the Megaron Renovations-Worcester Academy; dated March 25, 2013, received March 29, 2013.

The Commission took no action.

- 3. Communication Received** – Letter from Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Historical Commission, re: 73 West Boylston Drive, dated March 26, 2013, received March 29, 2013.

The Commission took no action.

- 4. Request for Letter of Support** – From Taya Dixon of Epsilon Associates, Inc. for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits

- re: Worcester Industrial Technical Institute (Worcester Voke), 2 Grove Street; dated and received April 3, 2013.

Mr. McCann stated that the Commission has supported this project for federal tax credits in the past and they are looking for further support. Mr. Fontane stated that the City strongly supports the additional support to this project since the project has been approved by the Planning Board and City funds have been committed to see the project reach fruition.

The Commission voted unanimously to provide the letter of support.

- re: Worcester Junction Shops, 49-57 Hermon Street, 51-59 Jackson Street; dated and received April 3, 2013.

Mr. McCann stated that the Commission has supported this project for federal tax credits in the past and they are looking for further support.

Jo Hart, Worcester resident, asked if the address of the Junction shops was correctly stated. Mr. Fontane responded that staff resolved to address the collection of buildings for the Junction Shops as 57 Hermon Street, 51-59 Jackson Street, 62-74 Beacon Street.

The Commission voted unanimously to provide the letter of support.

- re: 39-41 Irving Street; dated and received April 3, 2013.

Mr. McCann stated that the owner wants the building to be added to the National Register of Historic Places. Mr. Fontane stated that this property was damaged by fire a few months ago and the owner, George Valeri, requested inclusion to the Crown Hill Local Historic District. The request was granted by the Council sub-committee and the property is part of the local historic district. There was no due process issue because his property was contiguous to the proposed district and it did not involve other property owners. Mr. Valeri is pursuing tax credits in order to restore the property. Mr. Fontane also stated that Mr. Valeri notified the DPRS office that he would be unable to attend the meeting but hoped the Commission could deliberate on the matter. Mr. Fontane respectfully recommended that the Commission send a letter of support.

Mr. Provencher asked if this was the same property owner that had requested that some of his other properties not be included in the district. Mr. Fontane responded that it was not the same individual.

The Commission voted unanimously to provide the letter of support.

5. Request for Letter of Support – From Albert Rex for 18 Grafton Street, Osgood Bradley Building, for Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits

Mr. Fontane stated that this communication was not on the agenda because it was not reasonably anticipated in time for the agenda posting. He also stated that understanding the deadlines involved and the Commission's meeting schedule, he respectfully requested the Commission take up this matter.

The Commission voted unanimously to provide the letter of support.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m.