



Historical Commission

Regular

~ Minutes ~

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Vincent Walsh

Thursday, July 18, 2024

5:30 PM

Richard Neal Municipal Operations Center

I. Call to Order

5:30 PM Meeting called to order on July 18, 2024 at Richard Neal Municipal Operations Center, 70 Tapley Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Vincent Walsh	Chair, RAPV Representative	Present	
Alfonso Nardi	Vice-Chair	Present	
Judith Crowell	CPC Representative	Absent	
Walter Kroll		Present	
Marisa Zorzi		Present	
Vana Nespor		Present	

II. Acceptance of Minutes

1. Thursday, June 20, 2024

III. Public Hearings (Continued)

1. Petition (ID # 7901)

91-97 Chestnut Street

91-97 Chestnut Street: Installation of murals to either side of building

HISTORY:

02/15/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

03/21/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 04/04/24

04/04/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 04/18/24

04/18/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 05/02/24

05/02/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 05/16/24

05/16/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 06/06/24

06/06/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 06/20/24

06/20/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 07/18/24

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: None

Public Comments: None

Motion: To continue the matter to the next available meeting 8/1/2024

Decision: Continued

RESULT: CONTINUE

Next: 8/1/2024 5:30 PM

2. Petition (ID # 8099)

55 Emery Street

55 Emery Street: Remediation of window exterior color

HISTORY:

06/20/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 07/18/24

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Commissioner Walsh stated that the representatives of the project had informed the Commission that they were proposing to paint the exterior of the windows using the previously approved grey color, and that they would be withdrawing their application for a change in exterior window color. Principal Planner Alvin Allen then presented a letter submitted by the representatives of the project stating that they would be changing the exterior window color to the pre-approved grey color.

Public Comments: None

Motion: None

Decision: Application Withdrawn

RESULT: WITHDRAWN

3. Petition (ID # 8143)

43 Ingersoll Grove

43 Ingersoll Grove: Replace cedar shakes with vinyl siding

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Principal Planner Alvin Allen informed the Commission that the petitioners requested a 30-day extension of their application and for the matter to be continued to the next available meeting.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve a 30-day extension request for the application; to continue the application to the next available meeting 8/1/2024.

Decision: Continued

RESULT: CONTINUE

Next: 8/1/2024 5:30 PM

IV. Public Hearings (New)

1. Petition (ID # 8144)

300 Forest Park Avenue

300 Forest Park Avenue: Change in style of recently approved windows

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Eric Braaten and Matthew Pelletier spoke on the matter. Mr. Pelletier stated that the work proposed would be an alteration to the previously approved application, and that the new work proposed would involve changing the model of two of the proposed windows to casement versus the previously approved gliding window models.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of appropriateness

Decision: Approved

RESULT: APPROVED [5 TO 0]

AYES: Walsh, Nardi, Kroll, Zorzi, Nespor

ABSENT: Judith Crowell

2. Petition (ID # 8145)

76 Maple Street

76 Maple Street: Install mailbox on front façade

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Samuel Sharpe spoke on behalf of the petition. Mr. Sharpe stated that he would be proposing to install a locked five slot aluminum mailbox to the front façade of the property. Commissioner Walsh asked Mr. Sharpe if he had looked at other, possible more appropriate, mailbox options. Mr. Sharpe stated that he had looked into other options but thought that the proposed model was the most appropriate option. Mr. Sharpe also stated that he would paint the mailbox to match the exterior color of the door. Commissioner Walsh asked if the proposed mailbox would be flush to the front porch wall. Mr. Sharpe stated that the proposed model would not be flush against the wall. Commissioner Kroll asked where the mailbox would be located to which Mr. Sharpe stated that it would be located in between the two front façade doors of the structure, and that it would replace a name placard that was previously installed on the structure. Commissioner Nespor asked what the size of the proposed mailbox would be to which Mr. Sharpe stated that it was to be 36 inches by 19 inches. Commissioner Nespor also asked if there was any way to preserve the original sign on the front façade of the house to which Mr. Sharpe stated that he did not think it possible

for the sign to remain. Commissioner Kroll then recommended that the top portion of the sign remain and be placed above the proposed mailbox. Mr. Sharpe stated that he would leave the top portion of the sign and place it above the proposed mailbox. Principal Planner Alvin Allen recommended that the Commission make two separate motions for the two addresses that the proposed mailbox is intended for.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of hardship for 76 Maple Street with a stipulation that the mailbox be painted black in color and for the top portion of the previously installed wooden front facade address sign be preserved and placed on top of the mailbox. To approve the application for a certificate of hardship for 78 Maple Street with a stipulation that the mailbox be painted black in color and for the top portion of the previously installed front façade wooden address sign be preserved and placed on top of the mailbox.

Decision: Approved

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Nardi, Kroll, Zorzi, Nespor
ABSENT:	Judith Crowell

3. Petition (ID # 8146)

78 Maple Street

78 Maple Street: Install mailbox on front façade

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Samuel Sharpe spoke on behalf of the petition. Mr. Sharpe stated that he would be proposing to install a locked five slot aluminum mailbox to the front façade of the property. Commissioner Walsh asked Mr. Sharpe if he had looked at other, possible more appropriate, mailbox options. Mr. Sharpe stated that he had looked into other options but thought that the proposed model was the most appropriate option. Mr. Sharpe also stated that he would paint the mailbox to match the exterior color of the door. Commissioner Walsh asked if the proposed mailbox would be flush to the front porch wall. Mr. Sharpe stated that the proposed model would not be flush against the wall. Commissioner Kroll asked where the mailbox would be located to which Mr. Sharpe stated that it would be located in between the two front façade doors of the structure, and that it would replace a name placard that was previously installed on the structure. Commissioner Nespor asked what the size of the proposed mailbox would be to which Mr. Sharpe stated that it was to be 36 inches by 19 inches. Commissioner Nespor also asked if there was any way to preserve the original sign on the front façade of the house to which Mr. Sharpe stated that he did not think it possible for the sign to remain. Commissioner Kroll then recommended that the top portion of the sign remain and be placed above the proposed mailbox. Mr. Sharpe stated that he would leave the top portion of the sign and place it above the proposed mailbox. Principal Planner Alvin Allen recommended that the Commission make two separate motions for the two addresses that the proposed mailbox is intended for.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of hardship for 76 Maple Street with a stipulation that the mailbox be painted black in color and for the top portion of the previously installed wooden front facade address sign be preserved and placed on top of the mailbox. To approve the application for a certificate of hardship for 78 Maple Street with a stipulation that the mailbox be painted black in color and for the top portion of the previously installed front facade wooden address sign be preserved and placed on top of the mailbox.

Decision: Approved

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Nardi, Kroll, Zorzi, Nespor
ABSENT:	Judith Crowell

4. Petition (ID # 8147)

213 Pine Street

213 Pine Street: Construction of two new duplexes

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Victoria Vikhrev and Oleg Katalnikov spoke on the matter. Ms. Vikhrev stated that she had explored other siding options, and was proposing to enter a certificate of hardship to install vinyl shake siding due to the financial hardship involved with finding a more appropriate siding option. Commissioner Kroll asked Ms. Vikhrev if the proposed designs of the new house would change at all from the previous application to the Commission. Ms. Vikhrev stated that the design would be the same as the one that was originally presented to the Commission on 6/6/2024. Commissioner Kroll advised that the front porch railing height be adjusted to not go beyond the bottom of the window sill, and the floor boards be tongue and groove in order to be more historically appropriate. Principal Planner Alvin Allen stated that the petitioners could add a black pipe railing above the front porch railings to satisfy code requirements regarding railing heights. Commissioner Walsh asked Ms. Vikhrev if the window trim would still be at 4 inches to which Ms. Vikhrev stated yes. Commissioner Walsh also asked about the corner board size to which Ms. Vikhrev stated that the size would also be four inches and that the corner boards would be vinyl and textured. Ms. Vikhrev also stated that the front porch lattice would be framed. Ms. Vikhrev also stated that the corner boards would be white. Principal Planner Alvin Allen then asked Ms. Vikhrev if the balusters for the front porch railings would be placed in between the top and bottom railings. Ms. Vikhrev stated that the front porch balusters would be located in between the top and bottom railings. Ms. Vikhrev also added that the railings would be rounded and would not be squared and that the windows would be black in exterior color and would be Reliabuilt models. Ms. Vikhrev also stated that the front door would be of a fiberglass two over two grid model with a half-moon style window on the top of the door, and added that the main roof of the structure would be a black asphalt shingle roof.

Public Comments: The Executive Committee of the Springfield Preservation Trust spoke against the application (by letter), Ed Zuckerman of 28 Ingersoll Grove spoke in favor of the application

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of hardship (installation of vinyl shake and vinyl clapboard siding, railing height to match bottom of window sill, direction of floor boards to run perpendicular to house, window trim and corner boards to be 4-5 inches in size, lattice to be framed, balusters to sit in between top and bottom railings, windows to be 450 series atrium models of a black exterior color, installation of only one fiberglass door to front entrance of house with two over two grid pattern and a half-moon style window on the top of door, and black asphalt roof)

Decision: Approved

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Nardi, Kroll, Zorzi, Nespor
ABSENT:	Judith Crowell

5. Petition (ID # 8148)

134 Buckingham Street

134 Buckingham Street: Change design of front steps wing wall, install two attic exhaust vents, and paint foundation

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Juan Johnson spoke on the matter. Mr. Johnson stated that he was proposing to install grey wall-style bricks to the wing walls of the front façade of the house with the original cap and height of the original wing wall to remain. Mr. Johnson added that the design of the wing wall would remain the same other than the new brick that will be installed. Mr. Johnson also stated that he was proposing to install two black exhaust vents on the left and right facades of the house to be located above the top floor windows, and to paint the foundation of the house to be a light grey color.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of appropriateness

Decision: Approved

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
AYES:	Walsh, Nardi, Kroll, Zorzi, Nespor
ABSENT:	Judith Crowell

6. Petition (ID # 8149)

92 Buckingham Street

92 Buckingham Street: Side porch renovations and foundation repairs

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Ann Haughton spoke on the matter. Ms. Haughton stated that she was proposing to excavate along the northern facade of the house foundation and repair the foundation. Commissioner Walsh asked if Ms. Haughton would be replacing the entire foundation or if she would just be repairing the foundation of the house. Ms. Haughton stated that a portion of the foundation was to be replaced, and added that she would be replacing the exterior brick foundation with identical materials, designs and styles to the original exterior foundation. Commissioner Walsh recommended that the application for foundation work be changed to one of non-applicability to which Ms. Haughton agreed, and changed the application for foundation work to one of non-applicability. Ms. Haughton also stated that she was proposing to reconstruct the southern façade side porch on the house. Ms. Haughton stated that her goal was to make the side porch look the same as the front porch. Ms. Haughton stated that, while she did not have a rendering of the side porch design, she would model it after the front porch design. Ms. Haughton also petitioned that she be allowed to leave the previously installed elements of the side porch deck flooring and frame in place. Commissioner Walsh advised that the porch flooring might need to be redesigned to be more of a tongue and groove flooring style. Commissioner Walsh added that the elevated height of the porch looked ok but advised Ms. Haughton to go to the code enforcement office for more guidance. Commissioner Walsh added that the porch height might make it difficult for Ms. Haughton to change the porch flooring to a tongue and groove model. Commissioner Kroll added that the lack of visibility of the floor boards on the side porch would allow for Ms. Haughton to leave the side porch flooring in place. Ms. Haughton then asked if she could add an extra concrete step to mitigate the gap between the side porch and the existing concrete steps. Commissioner Walsh stated that the steps might have to be removed in order to remediate the gap. Ms. Haughton then asked if the existing flooring on the side porch could be left in place. Commissioner Walsh stated that the flooring could be left as it appeared to be in a non-visible location. Commissioner Nardi suggested that the stair item could be continued and the porch item be decided on as Ms. Haughton would need to build the porch in order to decide how to construct the adjacent stairs. Commissioner Nardi also suggested that Ms. Haughton could place tongue and groove style flooring over the current flooring to make the flooring appear historical. Ms. Haughton agreed with Commissioner Nardi's suggestion. Commissioner Walsh then suggested that the porch item be decided on tonight but the stair item should be continued. Principal Planner Alvin Allen then advised that when Ms. Haughton return for the stairs is when she should also inform the Commission what floor pattern she will be proposing. Commissioner Walsh then advised that Ms. Haughton change the application to one of hardship to which Ms. Haughton agreed and changed the application to one of hardship.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To issue a certificate of non-applicability for the foundation; to issue a certificate of hardship for the reconstruction of the left side porch with the exception of the side porch steps (will replicate front porch in design and materials); to continue the matter concerning the steps to the next available meeting, 09/05/2024

Decision: Approved (side porch reconstruction); Continued (side porch steps)

RESULT:	CONTINUE VOTE [5 TO 0]	Next: 8/1/2024 5:30 PM
AYES:	Walsh, Nardi, Kroll, Zorzi, Nespor	
ABSENT:	Judith Crowell	

V. Preservation of Historically Significant Buildings

VI. Protocols for Historical Review of Municipally Owned or Funded Projects

1. Informational (ID # 8150)

52 Rosewell Street (Thomas M. Balliet School)

52 Rosewell Street (Thomas M. Balliet School): Interior renovations only

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: My-Ron Hatchett spoke on the matter. Mr. Hatchett stated that they would only be performing interior renovations to the property and that there would be no exterior work whatsoever performed on the property.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To issue a determination of "No Adverse Impact"

Decision: No Adverse Impact

RESULT:	RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED
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2. Informational (ID # 8151)

1801 Parker Street (Daniel B. Brunton School)

1801 Parker Street (Daniel B. Brunton School): Interior renovations only

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: My-Ron Hatchett spoke on the matter. Mr. Hatchett stated that he was proposing to renovate the HVAC system of the property. Mr. Hatchett also stated that he was proposing to resurface the parking lot area and redesign

the bus loop located on the property. Mr. Hatchett stated that no exterior work was to be done to the building.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To issue a determination of “No Adverse Impact”

Decision: No Adverse Impact

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

3. Informational (ID # 8152)

270 Trafton Road (Barney Carriage House)

270 Trafton Road (Barney Carriage House): Renovate roof and chimneys

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: My-Ron Hatchett spoke on the matter. Mr. Hatchett stated that he was proposing to repair four chimneys located on the main roof of the structure. Mr. Hatchett presented renderings of the proposed chimney renovation to the Commission. Mr. Hatchett also stated that he was proposing to repair and re-shingle the main roof structure of the house. Mr. Hatchett then stated that he was proposing to repair and repoint one of the chimneys, take down and rebuild two brick chimneys, and take down and replace one terracotta chimney with a fiberglass model that replicates the design, style and color of the original chimney. Mr. Hatchett added that he believed the terracotta chimney was not, in fact, original to the house but was added to the property and provided pictures of the building for the Commission’s reference. Mr. Hatchett also stated that the proposed fiberglass chimney would not be a functioning chimney. Commissioner Nardi then asked Mr. Hatchett if the color used for the proposed fiberglass chimney would be the same as the original model to which Mr. Hatchett answered yes, and stated that the proposed replacement model would replicate the style and design of the original chimney. Commissioner Nespor asked Mr. Hatchett if they had considered demolishing the terracotta chimney since it did not appear to be original to the house. Mr. Hatchett stated that their goal was to preserve and replace what was existing on the property rather than making alterations to the look and design of the structure. Commissioner Walsh asked for clarification that the proposed fiberglass replacement would closely match the original chimney in appearance to which Mr. Hatchett stated yes. Commissioner Walsh then asked Principal Planner Alvin Allen what decisions the Commission could make regarding the three items (270 Trafton Road, 1801 Parker Street, and 52 Rosewell Street). Principal Planner Allen stated that the Commission could move to consolidate all three items into one item and issue a finding of no adverse impact for all three items. Commissioner Walsh then advised the Commission to consider the option given by Principal Planner Allen.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To issue a determination of “No Adverse Impact”

Decision: No Adverse Impact

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

VII. Other Matters Properly Before the Commission

1. Informational (ID # 8033)

101 State Street (Section 106 Review)

101 State Street (Section 106 Review): Antenna installation

HISTORY:

05/16/24 Historical Commission COMMITTEE

06/06/24 Historical Commission

06/20/24 Historical Commission

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: None

Public Comments: None

Motion: None

Decision: Continued

2. Informational (ID # 8153)

R.M. Johnson Elementary School (Section 106 Review)

R.M. Johnson Elementary School (Section 106 Review): Several streetscape improvements

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Gregory Mischel spoke on the matter. Mr. Mischel stated that the proposed project would focus on pedestrian safety improvements to the area around the newly constructed Rebecca M. Johnson Elementary School. Keith Blinken and Jamie Harwood spoke on the matter as well. Mr. Blinken presented a Power Point slideshow on the proposed project. Mr. Blinken stated that the project was mainly focused on Catherine Street and the intersections surrounding Catharine Street. Mr. Blinken stated that Mass DOT’s intention was to remove existing crosswalks and replacing them with transverse crossings, and also to install neckdowns at the Yale and

Dartmouth Street intersections. For the Catharine and Bay Street intersections, Mr. Blinken stated that their intent was to install pedestrian push button signals, overhead traffic signals, and new crosswalk markings to the area. Mr. Blinken added that at the McKnight and Catharine Street intersection they would intended to install new pedestrian curb ramps, stop signs, crosswalk lines, and curb extensions. Mr. Blinken went on to state that at the school exit and entrance they were proposing to install a new sidewalk, pedestrian curb ramp, pedestrian crossing beacon, and high visibility crosswalk markers.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To issue a determination of “No Adverse Impact”

Decision: No Adverse Impact

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

3. Informational (ID # 8154)

189 Bowdoin Street (Non-Applicability)

189 Bowdoin Street (Non-Applicability): Several exterior renovations

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Ed Whitley spoke on the matter. Mr. Whitley stated that the proposed work would involve the repair and replacement where necessary to the foundation, roof and hatchway of the property with no change in design and material.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of non-applicability

Decision: Approved

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

4. Informational (ID # 8155)

20 Buckingham Street (Non-Applicability)

20 Buckingham Street (Non-Applicability): Several exterior renovations

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Deryl Banks spoke on the matter. Mr. Banks stated that the proposed work would involve repair and replacement where necessary to the foundation,

siding, chimney, and front and rear porch structures of the house with no change in design and material.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of non-applicability with stipulation for porch flooring to be tongue and groove

Decision: Approved

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

5. Informational (ID # 8156)

111 Marengo Park (Non-Applicability)

111 Marengo Park (Non-Applicability): Several exterior renovations

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Peter and Joanne Wells spoke on the matter. Mr. and Mrs. Wells stated that the proposed work would involve the repair and replacement where necessary of the front porch structure, front porch door, all of the property's windows and the exterior steps on the property with no change in design and material.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of non-applicability

Decision: Approved

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

6. Informational (ID # 8157)

291 Saint James Ave (Non-Applicability)

291 Saint James Ave (Non-Applicability): Several exterior renovations

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: David and Vickie Spafford spoke on the matter. Mr. and Mrs. Spafford stated that the proposed work would involve the repair and replacement where necessary to the front porch structure, front doors, exterior piers, the front porch foundation and to existing lattice on the property with no change in design and material. Commissioner Walsh communicated to Mr. Spafford that if the front door could not be repaired or restored that they would need to come before the Commission for approval of the replacement door.

Commissioner Nardi also advised that the mortar used to repair the piers be of a matching color to the original mortar to which Mr. Spafford stated that the piers were in a non-visible location and that a change in color would not be noticeable from the public way.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of non-applicability

Decision: Approved

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

7. Informational (ID # 8158)

307 Union Street (Non-Applicability)

307 Union Street (Non-Applicability): Several exterior renovations

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Discussion: Eduardo Vargas spoke on the matter. Mr. Vargas stated that the work proposed work would involve the repair and replacement where necessary to the main roof of the house, all of the house's windows, all exterior walls, and all exterior trim and fascia with no change in design or material.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To approve the application for a certificate of non-applicability

Decision: Approved

RESULT: RECEIVED THE REPORT-PASSED

8. Informational (ID # 8159)

Public Speak-Out Session

Public Speak-Out Session