



Historical Commission

Regular

~ Agenda ~

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

Vincent Walsh

Thursday, September 5, 2024

5:30 PM

Richard Neal Municipal Operations Center

I. Call to Order

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

II. Acceptance of Minutes

1. Thursday, August 15, 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

Discussion: No discussion on the matter

Public Comments: None

Motion: Continue to next available meeting

Decision: Continued

03/21/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 04/04/24

Discussion: No discussion on the matter

Public Comment: None

Motion: Continue application to next meeting (04/04)

Decision: Continued

04/04/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 04/18/24

Petitioner requested additional time for their application prior to the meeting. No further discussion by the Commission.

04/18/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE

Next: 05/02/24

Discussion: None

Public Comments: None

Motion: Continue the matter to the next available meeting (05/02/2024)

Decision: Continued

05/02/24 **Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE**
Next: 05/16/24

Discussion: Principal Planner Alvin Allen stated that the petitioner had informed him that they would not be in attendance for the meeting and had requested a continuance of their application. Commissioner Walsh asked Principal Planner Allen if there was a limit on the number of times applicants could request an extension. Principal Planner Allen stated that there was not a limit to the number of extensions they could request.

Public Comment: None

Motion: To continue the matter to the next available meeting (05/16/2024)

Decision: Continued

05/16/24 **Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE**
Next: 06/06/24

Discussion: Commissioner Nardi asked if the application had enough time left, with regards to its deadline, before the Commission had to make a decision. Principal Planner Alvin Allen and Planning Intern Evan Mastroianni informed Commissioner Nardi that the application had two more meetings left before its deadline.

Public Comments: None

Motion: Continue to next available meeting (06/06/2024)

Decision: Continued

06/06/24 **Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE**
Next: 06/20/24

Discussion: Principal planner Alvin Allen stated to the Commission that the petitioners had requested a 30-day extension to their application and for the matter to be continued.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To continue the application to the next available meeting (06/20/2024)

Decision: Continued

06/20/24 **Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE**
Next: 07/18/24

Discussion: Commissioner Walsh asked planning staff how much time was left on the application. Principal Planner Alvin Allen stated that the application deadline was July 24th.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To continue the application to the next available meeting (07/18/2024)

Decision: Continued

07/18/24 **Historical Commission CONTINUE**
Next: 08/01/24

Discussion: None

Public Comments: None

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

Decision: Continued

08/01/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE**Next: 08/15/24**

Discussion: None

Public Comments: None

Motion: To continue the matter to the next available meeting (08/15/2024)

Decision: Continued

08/15/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE**Next: 09/05/24**

Discussion: None

Public Comments: None

Motion: To continue the matter to next available meeting (09/05/2024)

Decision: Continued

2. Petition (ID # 8187)

49 Chestnut Street (MOFA)

49 Chestnut Street (Museum of Fine Arts): Remove windows and infill with limestone**HISTORY:****08/15/24 Historical Commission CONTINUE VOTE****Next: 09/05/24**

Discussion: Steve Jablonski and Sean Mullet spoke on behalf of the matter. Mr. Jablonski informed the Commission that they were proposing to replace the southern façade windows on the buildings with limestone infills, and presented a rendering of the proposed work to the Commission. Mr. Jablonski stated that they would be removing the existing windows and covering them with limestone due to concerns of practicality, and stated that covering of the windows with limestone was the most appropriate/cost effective option. Mr. Mullett also stated that the proposed wall installation would better preserve the art, and would not dramatically change the look of the building. Commissioner Kroll stated that it was difficult for him to visualize what the new walls would look like to which a picture of a section of the museum with no windows was presented. Commissioner Nespor stated that the proposed replacement of the windows with limestone seemed very drastic, and asked Mr. Mullett and Mr. Jablonski if they had considered installing murals modeled after the windows to which Mr. Jablonski said that was not an option for them at this time. Mr. Jablonski emphasized that the limestone infill option was the most cost-effective measure, but one that would also, in his opinion not detract from the historical character of the building. Commissioner Nespor asked Mr. Mullett and Mr. Jablonski if they considered replacing the windows with other resourced and similarly designed windows that could serve as faux windows. Mr. Mullett stated that was not considered due to, in the Museum's opinion, the high cost associated with such a project. Commissioner Nespor asked if the windowsills would remain in place on the façade to which Mr. Mullett stated yes. Commissioner Walsh asked if the petitioners could produce a rendering of the proposed walled over design to which the petitioners stated that they were not able to send one over in time. Commissioner Walsh recommended that the Commission continue the matter to have the petitioners produce more information, and explore other options for the northern and southern façade windows.

Public Comments: None

Motion: To continue the matter to the next available meeting (09/05/2024)

Decision:

Continued

IV. Public Hearings (New)

1. Petition (ID # 8206)

181 Bowdoin Street: Rooftop Solar Installation

181 Bowdoin Street: Rooftop solar installation

2. Petition (ID # 8207)

82 Marengo Park: Rooftop Solar Installation

82 Marengo Park: Rooftop solar installation

3. Petition (ID # 8208)

99 Randolph Street: Relocate Electric Meter to Exterior of Home

99 Randolph Street: Relocate electric meter to exterior of home

4. Petition (ID # 8209)

164-166 Washington Blvd: Replacement Windows

164-166 Washington Blvd: Replacement windows

V. Preservation of Historically Significant Buildings

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

1. Informational (ID # 8211)

270 Trafton Road (Walker Grandstand)

270 Trafton Road (Walker Grandstand): Several exterior repairs

VII. Other Matters Properly Before the Commission

1. Informational (ID # 8212)

52 Monmouth Street

52 Monmouth Street: Removal of City sanctioned conditions/restrictions

2. Informational (ID # 8213)

Annual Elections

Annual Elections

3. Informational (ID # 8188)

Public Speak-Out Session

Public Speak-Out Session

HISTORY:

08/15/24

Historical Commission