



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 6:40 p.m.
Third Floor Conference Room
Somerville City Hall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 2011 Minutes

DELIBERATION OF HPC CASES

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission will hold public hearings on the following applications, all in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and the City of Somerville Ordinance (Sections 7-16 – 7-28):

HPC 11.36 – 8 Mount Vernon Street 4/21/11
Applicants: Barbara & Fermin Castro

1. Cover concrete wall and chain link fence with fieldstones to height of 6' at rear of property; and
2. Construct a low stone wall around garden area next to driveway and along the sidewalk to match area previously completed.

HPC 11.37 – 9 Westwood Road 4/22/11
Applicants: Sylvia & Arthur Shurcliff

1. Remove chain link fence;
2. Install 6' board and lattice fence at rear of property; and
3. Install 42" lattice fence at sides of property.

REVIEW AND COMMENT

HPC 11.43 – 399 Medford Street, St. Ann Roman Catholic Church

They propose to relocate the existing door on the West side of the northwest corner of the St. Ann Parish Church, +/- 15'-0" to the north side of the northwest corner. The new wood door will have stained glass side lights and a granite lintel to match the existing granite



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lintels over the windows and doors in the church. This door will provide an accessible access from grade level into a new interior entry. This door will be the primary access point into the church from the new meditation garden, and accessible parking.

DEMOLITION REVIEWS

9-MONTH REVIEW PERIOD

HPC 11.02 Demolition – 39-43 Elmwood Street, circa 1898 wood-frame house 2/15/11
Applicants: Charles Aggouras and Daniel DiPierro, GFC Development Inc

The house at 39 Elmwood was ‘preferably preserved because its history is that of the neighborhood from its earliest day as the home of the local baker and Italian grocer to the home of French-Canadian immigrants whose names are inscribed on the Roll of Honor, and who lost their lives fighting in World War II. Architecturally, the house fits with the residential streetscape to the north and south of it.

Working group with members of the Commission, Staff for the HPC and Planning Division and the developers have held three meetings so far on 3/4/11, 3/11/1, 4/1/11 to develop site plans and save the house at 39 Elmwood Street. Developers now state that they plan to retain the house and develop around it.

DETERMINATION OF PREFERABLY PRESERVED

None this month.

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

New cases for a Determination of Significance may be added to the Agenda until May 12, 2011

STAFF REVIEW AND COMMENTS AS PER REQUEST OF OTHER DIVISIONS

HPC 11.33 - 22-24 Hudson Street 4/20/11
Applicant: Planning Division

Shed dormer on west side of the building to be constructed in a manner similar to others on the street.

HPC 11.34 – 21 Cedar Street 4/29/11
Applicant: Planning Division

Rear addition will have an asymmetrical gable roof, not particularly visible from the street. One early owner was an Alderman at Large at the beginning of the 20th century.

HPC 33.35 – 32 Dartmouth Street 4/29/11
Applicant: Planning Division

Rear porches minimally visible from the street. Staff did not find proposed railing and screening system to be sympathetic to the architecture or the house and recommends using a generic rail system with

awnings or shades. The son of the original family was a member of the Escadrille Lafayette and earned a Croix de Guerre. They were also related to the Irelands and to William Preble Jones.

HPC 11.40 – 13 Elm Street

Applicant: Storefront Improvement Program

New paint color and a consistent sign and awning system have been recommended by consultant. No “adverse effect”.

HPC 11.41 – 27 Porter Street

5/12/11

Applicant: Planning Division

Large residential addition with handicapped access attached to pre-1874 house next door to 23 Porter Street LHD. Because the garage will be very visible from the street and is next to a listed property, Staff recommends carriage house doors to 2-car garage and a dormer above to recall barn that used to be on the lot.

DEMOLITIONS AND CERTIFICATES OF NON-APPLICABILITY REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY STAFF

HPC 11.38 – 42 Meacham Road

Applicant: Arturo Nieto, Contractor for Norma Elias, Owner

1. Replace 15 pieces of slate;
2. Install 12’ of copper apron; and
3. Re-flash dormer and vent pipe

HPC 11.39 – 11 Putnam Street

Applicant: Becky Long, Greater Boston Properties for

1. Replace 10 windows with new Boston Layout 2/2 wood sash in Unit #2 to match existing windows; and
2. Replace 3 windows with vinyl sash not visible from the public right of way.

PROJECT UPDATES AND OTHER BUSINESS

Project Updates

- **LHD Expansion Project** (Brandon Wilson and Amie Schaeffer)
- **2011 Surveying Projects** (Brandon Wilson and Kristi Chase)
- **SHPC Subcommittee for Guidelines Revision** (Kristi Chase and Abby Freedman)
- **Patriot’s Day Celebration -Colonial Fair Event** (Brandon Wilson and Amie Schaeffer)
- **Preservation Awards Program** (Brandon Wilson and Derick Snare)
- **2011 Preservation Month Calendar of Events (Draft)** (Brandon Wilson)

- East Somerville Walking Tour with East Somerville Main Streets – Sun. May 1st, 2-4:30pm. Meet at Mt. Vernon Restaurant, and conclude with refreshments at Vinny’s Restaurant.
- Milk Row Cemetery Tour with Barbara Mangum – Tues. May 5th 6-7:30 pm
- Jane’s Walk in Union Square with Union Square Main Streets – Sat. or Sun. May 7-8th TBA.
- Researching Your Somerville House, with Somerville Library – Tues. May 19th, 7-8:30 pm. Central Library
- *Citizen Somerville* book signing and panel discussion – Sat. May 21, 2 – 4pm. Somerville Museum
- Historic Bike Tour, with Somerville Bike Committee, Sun. May 22nd, 1:30 – 4:30 pm. Meet at Somerville City Hall, with refreshments at end, at location TBA.
- 2011 Preservation Awards Ceremony – Thurs. May 26th, 6:30-9pm. Somerville Museum

Other Business

- **SHPC Operational Affairs** (Brandon Wilson)
 - Election of Officers

- **Somerville Museum Capital Building Fund Update** (Brandon Wilson)

Upcoming Meeting Schedule for 2011: June 21, July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, and December 20.

All of the applications summarized above are available for public inspection at the Commission’s Office on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on Mon. -Wed. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm; Thurs. 9:00 am-7:30 pm; and Fri. 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Since cases may be continued to a later date(s), please check the agenda on the City’s website, or call before attending (tel.: (617) 625-6600 x. 2525). Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the hearing, by fax to 617-625-0722, by e-mail to kchase@somervillema.gov, or by mail to the Historic Preservation Commission, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143.