



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION*

**STAFF PRESENT**  
KRISTENNA P. CHASE, PRESERVATION PLANNER

**MEMBERS PRESENT**  
ALAN BINGHAM  
HEATHER DAVIES  
MARK STERNMAN

**MINUTES for the public meeting of PREFERABLY PRESERVED STRUCTURES**

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission held a public meeting on **Thursday, May 7, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.** in City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

The purpose of the meeting is to seek alternatives to demolition for structures determined by the Historic Preservation Commission to be Preferably Preserved and to make recommendations to the Historic Preservation Commission at a future Commission meeting on the following Preferably Preserved structure(s):

**6:30 PM to 7:00 PM**

*56 Line Street*                      *HPC 2014.088*    Delay Period Ends:                      10/20/2015

Building Description:              c. 1874 workers cottage

Significance:              The building is "Significant" & "Preferably Preserved." The structure was determined 'Significant' due to an association of the property with the broad architectural, cultural, economic and social history of the City due to its association with laborers and the early development of Somerville and representative of 19<sup>th</sup> century workers housing stock due to the remaining integrity of the structure with regard to original form, and massing and the early development of that section of Ward II. The Commission found demolition detrimental due to the rarity of this type of residential dwelling within the City, its association with laborers and the early development of Ward II, and its ability to convey the life of 19<sup>th</sup> century workers by the representative character of the housing stock and through the remaining integrity of the structure with regard to original form, and massing and through its location, the early development of that section of Ward II.

Staff and Commission members met with Eamon Fee, Owner. It was determined that the existing structure could not be sold to another owner or moved elsewhere. Plans were reviewed for a replacement structure. The initial design was based upon conversations with Commission Staff and the proposed new zoning ordinance. All agreed that the 3-decker concept of modern workers housing was an acceptable idea to replace the workers cottage. Existing 3-decker buildings on the street were used as models. Several changes were suggested to make the building fit more comfortably into the existing streetscape.

- Enlarge and move bay to the corner of the building.
- Enlarge stair window and center over front entry.
- Use clapboard siding.
- Use smooth panels on bays.
- Use dark window sash on windows.
- Carry the proposed third floor shingles, if used, around the building, not just on the front façade.
- Install a decorative rail over the entry porch for greater emphasis.

