



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes
Joint Public Hearing: Legislative Matters Committee of the Board of Aldermen
and the Historic Preservation Commission

Staff Present: Kristi Chase and Amie Hayes

Members Present: Richard Bauer, Jillian Adams, Ryan Falvey, and Todd Zinn

Aldermen Present: Rebekah Gewirtz, Jack Connolly, Mary Jo Rossetti, Matthew McLaughlin, & Bill White

The Legislative Matters Committee of the Board of Aldermen and the Historic Preservation Commission held a joint public hearing on Monday, October 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Board of Alderman Committee Room, on the 2nd floor of City Hall at 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA regarding proposed map amendments to the Historic District Ordinance. The map amendments propose to de-designate one existing local historic district, 72R Dane Street, and designate one additional property, 204 Morrison Avenue, as part of the Morrison Avenue Local Historic District (LHD) in the City of Somerville.

Item #197340, the de-designation of 72R Dane Street as a local historic district was taken up first. Staff provided an overview of the report and outlined why the HPC voted to support the de-designation of this building. There was no public comment in support or opposition. Alderman White addressed concern regarding recordation of historic district map amendments at the Registry of Deeds. Historic Staff clarified the various ways this recordation can occur which is likely how designation of the rear building on this parcel was not unearthed in the title research. The HPC Chair discussed why he had voted to retain the building as a historic district. Alderman Rossetti inquired if the contractor was held liable for not pulling building permits. The homeowner explained the situation and that she was not aware of any fines at this time. Alderman Gewirtz left the meeting. The Legislative Matters Committee then asked the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) to look into recordation of map amendments at the Registry of Deeds and fines for contractors when they have not obtained the appropriate permits. The HPC agreed to look into these inquiries and to report back to the Committee. The Committee then voted 4-0 to support the de-designation of 72R Dane Street.

Item #197612, the designation of 204 Morrison Avenue as an addition to the Morrison Avenue Local Historic District, was taken up next. Ron Dynneson, homeowner, explained the project and spoke in support. There was no opposition. The homeowner then explained the Zoning Board of Appeals had already approved the project and completing the designation process was the last step before moving forward. The Committee then voted 4-0 to support the designation of 204 Morrison Avenue.

The meeting adjourned shortly before 7:00 p.m.

