



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Alan Bingham, Chair
Caitlin Hart, Secretary
Ryan Falvey
Eric Parkes
Anthony Griseto (Alt.)

Mark Sternman, Vice Chair
Dick Bauer
Robin Kelly
Denis (DJ) Chagnon (Alt.)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
Community Room, 3rd Floor, Visiting Nurses Association, 259 Lowell Street
6:40 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Members Present: Alan Bingham*, Ryan Falvey, Robin Kelly, Mark Sternman.

Members Absent: Dick Bauer, Caitlin Hart, Anthony Griseto*, Eric Parkes.

*Alternates

Staff Present: Kristi Chase and Sarah White.

Others Present: Andrea Shapiro, Luisa Oliveira, Jackson dos Santos, Jason Brillantes.

I. Determinations of Appropriateness

| | |
|--|---|
| HPC 2018.041 – 0 Munroe Street (Prospect Hill Park) | |
| Applicant: | City of Somerville |
| Property Owner: | City of Somerville |
| Application Date: | April 25, 2018 |
| Legal Notice: | <i>Alterations to park; ADA compliance</i> |
| Recommendation: | <i>Conditional Certificate of Appropriateness</i> |
| Current Status: | Heard on November 27, 2018. |
| Discussion: | Luisa Oliveira, Senior Planner in Landscape Design for the City presented. There were 5 public meetings to receive input from the neighbors and other interested parties. The City had to put the plans out to bid for a second time because the original responses were too high. Unfortunately construction costs are 25%. They have modified the plans somewhat to reflect the rising costs and input from the neighbors, especially those concerned with native |



CITY HALL • 93 HIGHLAND AVENUE • SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02143
(617) 625-6600 EXT. 2500 • TTY: (617) 666-0001 • FAX: (617) 625-0722

www.somervillema.gov



| | |
|----------|--|
| | <p>pollinators.</p> <p>They have kept within the spirit of the original 1902 plans for site. There will be up-lighting on the tower and acorn pedestrian lights in the park. The upper paths are fully ADA. A wider gathering area on the west side of the Tower with a vegetal alcove sets off the space for events. Steps along the paths to the bottom of Prospect Hill Parkway will be rebuilt. There is also a bump out in front of the Tower which will allow more space to gather and to act as a traffic calming device. New interpretive material will be added to the level east side of the tower and installed on 9 panels around the lower concrete retaining wall of the tower. Other traffic calming will be installed at the intersection of Munroe Street, Prospect Hill Parkway and both sides of the Park from the Local Historic District portion to the Corbett McKenna Playground and untended slopes of the Park on the other side.</p> <p>Approximately 36 trees (stumps, dead or unhealthy trees) will be removed as well as about 10 poorly located trees, most of them invasive Norway Maples or Black Locusts, will be replaced with 85 new trees. Jason Brillantes asked whether the 10 trees could be saved. Luisa Oliveira explained that because of construction, there would be root damage that would adversely affect the trees as they construct the new ADA paths. It would only be a matter of time after that before the trees would have to be removed. It would be better to remove them now and plant appropriate trees in a planned manner. Native understory plants and fescue will be planted on the steep slopes.</p> <p>The fountain will be replaced with one that allows for bottles to be filled and for dogs to be given water.</p> <p>New railings will be placed for safety along the retaining walls. Unfortunately, due to cost, the fencing along Prospect Hill Parkway will be black chain-link. The Park will be closed from Spring 2019 for most of the next year to undertake the work most efficiently. Ryan Falvey remarked that it was obvious that a lot of thought and effort had gone into the plan and thanked Luisa Oliveira for all her work.</p> |
| Decision | The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness as per plans presented and discussed. |

| | |
|--|--|
| HPC 2018.108 – 53 Columbus Avenue | |
| Applicant: | Jackson Alves dos Santos |
| Property Owner: | Gambale Suffolk Co. Realty Trust |
| Application Date: | 11/6/2018 |
| Legal Notice: | <i>Replace 2nd floor porch door with fiberglass</i> |
| Recommendation: | <i>Conditional</i> Certificate of Appropriateness |
| Current Status: | Heard on November 27, 2018. |
| Discussion | Jackson dos Santos described proposed changes to the second floor porch door. There were no comments from the public. Staff read their recommendation to the Commission from the Staff Report. Robin Kelly questioned the use of the 9 panel door. Staff explained that the rationale was in keeping with the 1960s when the second floor porch was constructed thus making it clear that the second floor porch and door were not original to the building. |
| Decision | The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) in favor of a Certificate of Appropriateness. |



CITY HALL • 93 HIGHLAND AVENUE • SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02143
(617) 625-6600 EXT. 2500 • TTY: (617) 666-0001 • FAX: (617) 625-0722

www.somervillema.gov



| HPC 2018.110 – 91 Boston Street | |
|--|---|
| Applicant: | Andrea Shapiro |
| Property Owner: | Andrea J. Shapiro |
| Application Date: | November 7, 2018 |
| Legal Notice: | <i>Replace 1960s bow windows with double-hung windows</i> |
| Recommendation: | <i>Conditional Certificate of Appropriateness</i> |
| Current Status: | Heard on November 27, 2018. |
| Discussion: | Andrea Shapiro, owner described the leaking bow windows and attempts to repair them. They are not original to the building. They would like to replace them with triple double-hung windows. Staff gave their recommendation to the Commission from the Staff Report. Robin Kelly thought it was a reasonable proposal. Alan Bingham noted that they are marginally visible from the public right of way. Ryan Falvey said it seemed to be an appropriate change. There were no comments from the public. |
| Decision: | The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) in favor of a Certificate of Appropriateness. |

II. Other Business

- HPC Minutes
August 1, 2017; February 20, 2018 and November 13, 2018 were approved.
- CPA HPC projects
No CPA Projects were discussed.

Reports and plans are available on the City of Somerville website at archive.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation-commission/hpc-cases-and-decisions and on the third floor of City Hall at 93 Highland Avenue. Cases may be continued to a later date(s); therefore, check the agenda on the website 48 hours in advance of the meeting or call (617) 625-6600 x2500 to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertized, but will be listed on the agenda. Interested persons may provide comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the public hearing, by email to historic@somervillema.gov, by fax to (617) 625-0722, or by mail addressed to the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission.



CITY HALL • 93 HIGHLAND AVENUE • SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02143
(617) 625-6600 EXT. 2500 • TTY: (617) 666-0001 • FAX: (617) 625-0722

www.somervillema.gov

