

DRAFT Minutes of the Cambridge Historical Commission—THIS DRAFT HAS NOT YET BEEN REVIEWED OR APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION

Minutes of the Cambridge Historical Commission

August 6, 2020 – Meeting conducted online via Zoom Webinar (951 3537 0902) - 6:00 P.M.

Members present (online): Bruce Irving, *Chair*; Susannah Tobin, *Vice Chair*;
Chandra Harrington, Elizabeth Lyster, Caroline Shannon, Jo Solet, *Members*;
Gavin Kleespies, Kyle Sheffield, *Alternates*

Members absent: Joseph Ferrara, *Member*; Paula Paris, *Alternate*

Staff present (online): Charles Sullivan, *Executive Director*, Sarah Burks, *Preservation Planner*

Public present (online): See attached list.

Due to statewide emergency actions limiting the size of public gatherings in response to COVID-19, this meeting was held online with remote participation and was closed to in-person attendance. The public was able to participate online via the Zoom webinar platform.

With a quorum present, Mr. Irving called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M. He explained the online meeting instructions and public hearing procedures then introduced the commissioners and staff. He dispensed with the consent agenda and moved to the first item on the agenda.

Mr. Hawkinson was recognized. He noted an incorrect link on the online calendar but said the correct link was provided on the commission's agenda and notice.

Public Hearings: Alterations to Designated Properties

Case 4363: 11 Story St. #21, by Feng Jia. Replace windows.

Mr. Sullivan showed slides and described the apartment building designed in 1916 by Hamilton Harlow. He noted that the existing windows in Unit 21 were a mix of 1+1 replacement units and original 6+1 wood sash.

Paul Finnegan of Fisher Windows represented the applicant, who was out of the country. He noted he had been before the Commission 1½ years ago with a similar application for Unit 24. The proposed new windows were Pella Architectural Series in a dark brown to match the existing exterior color.

Ms. Harrington asked if that was the same window product used in Unit 24. Mr. Finnegan answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Irving asked if there were members of the public present on Zoom who wished to ask questions or comment. No one indicated that they wished to speak and he closed the public comment period.

Mr. Finnegan said the condominium rules required that new windows be consistent with the original architectural design. He indicated that his company would remove the existing storm windows, caulk and repair the window trim, and repaint the trim to match existing.

Mr. Sheffield made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the application, as submitted. Ms. Lyster seconded. Mr. Irving designated alternate member Mr. Kleespies to vote. The motion passed 7-0 in a roll call vote. (Harrington, Lyster, Shannon, Solet, Tobin, Irving, Kleespies)

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Case 4323: 271 Cambridge St., by 271 CS Investor LLC, Phil Smith, Manager. Increase the size and number of glazed windows and doors to provide more light into the office building. *Written request received to postpone hearing.*

Mr. Irving noted that a request to continue the hearing had been received from the applicants to allow for further time to refine the design and meet with the East Cambridge Planning Team.

Ms. Shannon moved to grant a continuance to a future advertised public hearing date. Ms. Harrington seconded. Mr. Irving designated Mr. Sheffield to vote as an alternate member. The motion passed 7-0 in a roll call vote. (Harrington, Lyster, Shannon, Solet, Tobin, Irving, Sheffield)

Preservation Awards Nominations

Mr. Sullivan noted that the Commission had last discussed awards at the March meeting. A spring in-person event had not been possible. He wanted to hold the program online in October. He reviewed the nominations for awards and the Commission achieved consensus on a list of twelve projects, including one project to receive the Tony Platt & Nancy Goodwin award. The date of October 15 was chosen for the all-virtual program.

Community Preservation Act Municipal Project

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the list of municipal project applications for CPA historic preservation funding. The requested money exceeded the amount available in the fund. The CPA Committee would make the decisions, but he wanted to inform the Historical Commission of the matter. Commissioners had no comments or objections to the proposed projects.

Before adjourning, Mr. Irving asked if any of the members of the public had questions.

Rev. Alvin Riley introduced himself. He said he had been born and raised in Cambridge and was researching the history of families of West Indian heritage in the Port neighborhood. He thanked the Commission staff for sending him information about Rev. Phillips. He noted that though he now lived in Brockton, he wanted to remain involved from a distance.

Mr. Kleespies moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Solet seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah L. Burks
Preservation Planner

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**Members of the Public
Present on the Zoom Webinar online, August 6, 2020**

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| Paul Finnegan | Fisher Windows |
| James Williamson | 1000 Jackson Place |
| Bill Dines | 69 Otis St |
| Jason Jiang | 17 Story St |
| Julio Torres Santana | 16 Clinton St |
| Rev. Alvin Riley | Brockton, Mass. |

Note: Town is Cambridge, unless otherwise indicated.