



**LEGISLATION AND PRESERVATION TOOLS SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201

Held virtually via Zoom

**JANUARY 14, 2025**

**Commissioners Present:** Chelsea Blanchard, Lydia Lowe, Amanda Zettel, Margaret Dyson, Jean Luc Pierite, Representative for Council President Ruthzee Louijeune

**Commissioners Absent:** Michael Creasey, Kathy Kottaridis, Kenzie Bok, Rebecca Tomasovic, Senator Mike Rush, Lynn Smiledge

**Staff Present:** Genesis Pimentel, Commemoration Commission Manager

**Public/Press Present:** Kiara Marks, Matthew Dickey, Frank O'Brien

A full recording of the meeting is available on [boston.gov/commemoration-commission](https://boston.gov/commemoration-commission)

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**SESSION BEGINS - 2:00 PM**

**I. WELCOME**

- a. Genesis Pimentel welcomed attendees.

**II. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- a. Meeting minutes were approved.

**III. ARTICLE 85 MEMO REVIEW**

- a. The commissioners reviewed an Article 85 memo draft.
  - i. Commissioner Amanda Zettel commented that the 90 days of demolition delay were chosen to align with how long it takes to complete the landmarking process, but it is clear that the landmarking process takes longer than 90 days.
    - 1. Commissioner Chelsea Blanchard stated that she could look into how long it normally takes to landmark a building to get a sense of the length of time.
  - ii. Commissioner Zettel asked if there was any way to know if a building might slip through ISD's process for flagging potential structures that need to undergo Article 85. Commissioner Blanchard responded that there wasn't, other than tracking by a previous staff member.



- iii. It was recommended that Genesis Pimentel reduce the amount of data she is analyzing by 10 years because a good amount of information can be extracted from the 20 years she would be analyzing.

#### **IV. 6 MONTH REPORT**

- a. Genesis Pimentel reviewed the first 6 month report with the commissioners.
  - i. Commissioner Zettel stated that the Commission and its team are still addressing the challenge outlined in the first report.
- b. Chair Lydia Lowe expressed that there is a need for the Boston Landmarks processes to have a resource guide that is easily digestible for people who are newly involved and have gaps in knowledge around how preservation works in the City and what the roles are.
  - i. Commissioner Blanchard stated that there is an existing presentation that is shown to people who are interested in the landmarking process, given by the person who oversees outreach.
- c. Commissioner Jean-Luc Pierite asked about the Commission member who is aligned with CPA.
  - i. Commissioner Margaret Dyson discussed the fact that she is in that role because she is in the Treasury department, so she acts as a point of contact for CPA, and she knows the legislation well since she was involved with drafting it.
  - ii. Commissioner Pierite stated that the CPA Office does great community outreach, and it could be a good partnership to cultivate.
  - iii. Commissioner Dyson recommended using CPA as a model for outreach, but keeping in mind that they have a robust staff that can dedicate time to this process, we might create a table comparing CPA staff, expertise, number of projects, and more against OHP staff to see what differences exist. She also asked what resources exist for non-preservation professionals and who is doing the educating.

#### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. Kiara Marks discussed concerns around the housing lottery waitlist times.
- b. Matthew Dickey recommended that Genesis Pimentel reduce her dataset by 10 years, as she will still be able to extrapolate a significant amount of data.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT - 3:22 PM**

- a. The meeting was adjourned.