



**BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING/ MEETING MINUTES**

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201

Held virtually via Zoom

JUNE 11, 2024

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: John Freeman, Richard Henderson, Justine Orlando, David Beraducci, Lynn Smiledge, Brad Walker, Kirsten Hoffman, John Amodeo, Jeffery Heyne, Senam Kumahia, Angela Ward-Hyatt

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Felicia Jacques, Fadi Samaha, Jeff Gonyeau, Sue Goganian, Lindsey Mac-Jones, Chris Hart.

STAFF PRESENT: Staff Architect, Chelsea Blanchard; Director of Design Review, Joseph Cornish; & Assistant Survey Director, Dorothy Clark; Architectural Historian, Jennifer Gaugler; Preservation Assistant, Sarah Lawton.

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Boston Planning and Development Agency, Alexa Pinard.

A full recording of the hearing is available at [Boston.gov/landmarks](https://boston.gov/landmarks) (or list appropriate location).

6:00 PM: Commissioner Walker called the public hearing to order. He explained that, pursuant to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, that the public hearing was being conducted virtually via the online meeting platform Zoom in order to review Design Review applications. He also briefly explained how to participate in the online hearing. There were no members of the press present.

Following this brief introduction he called the first petition.

I. PETITIONS, STUDY REPORTS AND DESIGNATIONS

190 Bowdoin Street, Dorchester, MA 02125

Commission Vote to accept the petition for further study

PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES: Marti Gynn was the spokesperson for the



petitioners. They presented the proposed scope of work to the Commission, which includes an overview of the history and architecture of the property.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED: Documents presented included exterior existing conditions photographs of the property from the exterior, 1831 Baker Map drawing, assessing map photograph, Gazette newspaper excerpts, excerpt from proprietor meeting minutes, photographs of Warren Washington Richards gravesite.

DISCUSSION TOPICS: Discussion topics included an overview of the history and architecture of the property, the historical significance of the property, the location of the property in Dorchester, an overview of the interior and structural elements of the property, an overview of the those who contributed to the research for the property, Juvenile Academy's purchase of the property at 190 Bowdoin Street, historical figures with connections to the property.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: During the Commissioner Comment and discussion period, the following topics were discussed in greater detail: the architectural features and historical significance of the building, whether more investigation and forensic could be done to gauge the significance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: During the public comment period, the following participants spoke: (List name) spoke in support/ opposition to the proposed work (include for each commenter).

Vivian Girard, offered public comments regarding public notices sent to residents to notify them about upcoming BLC public hearings and VietAID.

Davida, offered public comments regarding VietAID and public notices sent to residents to notify them about upcoming BLC public hearings and VietAID.

Eric Fellingner, the property owner, offered comments regarding VietAID and discussed the current Article 85 demolition application for the property. Also, spoke in support of providing assistance to documenting the historical recording of the property.

COMMISSIONER AMODEO MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE PETITION THE APPLICATION. COMMISSIONER KUMAHIA SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 5-4-0 (Y: JF, JO, DB, JA, BW)(N: RH, SK, LS, KH)(ABS: NONE).

The Chair announced that the Commission would next review Meeting Minute (s).



II. RATIFICATION OF HEARING/ MEETING MINUTES

Ratification of hearing minutes from 04/23/24 and 05/28/24.

COMMISSIONER ORLANDO MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 4/23/24. COMMISSIONER SMILEDGE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 8-0-1 (Y:JF, RH, JO, DB, LS, AWH, JH, BW)(N: NONE)(ABS: SK).

COMMISSIONER ORLANDO MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM 5/28/24. COMMISSIONER SMILEDGE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 8-0-1 (Y:JF, RH, JO, DB, LS, KH, JO, BW)(N: NONE)(ABS: SK).

III. STAFF UPDATES

Chelsea Blanchard, Staff Architect, stated the next BLC Design Review Hearing will take place at 5:00 PM, business hearing 6 pm on June 25th, 2024.

Brad Walker, BLC Chair, offered comments regarding the BLC and new Commissioners, the voting procedure for the BLC, the BLC letter sent to the Mayor and a follow up letter that will be sent to the Commission from the Mayor. Also, Lorie Komyln, will be leaving the BLC in June, after serving the BLC as the Architectural Historian for the BLC will be

Senam Kumahia, was introduced as a new Boston Landmarks Commissioner.

John Amodeo, a South End Landmarks Commissioner, mentioned that BLC Commissioner Felicia Jacques is also a new Commissioner for the SELDC.

Justine Orlando, BLC Co-Chair, provided an update on the White Stadium projects.

IV. ADJOURN - 7:00 PM

**COMMISSIONER SMILEDGE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE HEARING.
COMMISSIONER ORLANDO SECONDED THE MOTION. A VOICE VOTE WAS CALLED AND ALL COMMISSIONERS PRESENT VOTED TO ADJOURN.**