



**LEGISLATION AND PRESERVATION TOOLS SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201

Held virtually via Zoom

JULY 8, 2025

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Lydia Lowe, Margaret Dyson, Chelsea Blanchard, Amanda Zettel, Julian Viviescas for Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, Kathy Kottaridis, Senator Mike Rush, Jean Luc Pierite

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Kenzie Bok

STAFF PRESENT: Genesis Pimentel, Commemoration Commission Manager; Eileen Michaud, Planner II; Dorothy Clark, Assistant Survey Director

PUBLIC/PRESS PRESENT: Matthew Dickey, Molly Donahue, Alison Pultinas

A full recording of the meeting is available on boston.gov/commemoration-commission

SESSION BEGINS - 2:00 PM

I. WELCOME

- a. Genesis Pimentel welcomed attendees.

II. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting minutes were held off.

III. SIX MONTH REPORT AND CATALOGUE OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. The group reviewed the 6 month report and the interim catalogue of recommendations.
 - i. The group discussed redefining what a preservation tool is and had a dialogue to identify potential tools.
 - ii. Jean-Luc Pierite discussed how organizations will undertake preservation projects through another office like Arts & Culture because that office has a grant program or funding, and it means that people have to get creative with the routes they take to undertake preservation.
 - iii. The group discussed wanting to know how involved preservation is for projects that may be tourism-based but still a function of historic preservation or commemoration.



- iv. Lydia Lowe discussed community-based cultural assets and small/legacy businesses in Chinatown. She identifies that there are limitations within each department's purview that means there are certain gaps in solving preservation problems. She also explained that the grants for economic development tend not to be the kind of ongoing support businesses need.
- v. Margaret Dyson discussed how zoning regulates use and preservation regulates space, and there is a gap between space and use.
- vi. There was discussion around Main Streets because it started as a preservation tool and is now useful for business interests and foot traffic.
- vii. Margaret Dyson asked: things people wish they could do, things they wish had a regulation or incentive program for, and what are the things that need to be identified to create that resolve an articulated need.
- viii. Lydia Lowe discussed that the creation of a pushcart business is actually difficult, and this may be a place to work to make this process easier.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There were no public comments.

V. ADJOURNMENT - 3:11 PM

- a. The meeting ended.