

## BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Boston City Hall, Boston, MA, 02201 held virtually via Zoom

#### **JUNE 10, 2025**

#### I. BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION BUSINESS HEARING 6:00 PM

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** John Amodeo, David Berarducci, John Freeman, Christopher Hart, Jeffrey Gonyeau, Jeffrey Heyne, Kirsten Hoffman, Felicia Jacques, Justine Orlando (Vice-Chair), Brad Walker (Chair), Angela Ward-Hyatt.

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Celina Barrios-Millner, Susan Goganian, Senam Kumahia, Lindsey Mac-Jones, Fadi Samaha.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Director of Design Review, Joseph Cornish; Architectural Historian, Jennifer Gaugler; Director of the Office of Historic Preservation, Kathy Kottaridis; Preservation Assistant, Sarah Lawton, and Deputy Director of the Office of Historic Preservation, Elizabeth Sherva.

**6:05 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. Sandra Storey, a member of the press, from the Jamaica Plain Gazette, made herself known. Elected officials and their representatives present included State Representative Samantha Montano from the 15th Suffolk District, Bonnie Delaune, Chief of Staff for Boston City Councilor Benjamin Weber, and Ana Calderon, Chief of Staff for Boston City Councilor Henry Santana.

Following this brief introduction the Chair announced that the Commission would next review and ratify the meeting minutes.

#### II. HEARING MINUTES

Review and ratification of Public Hearing Minutes from May 27, 2025 meeting.

COMMISSIONER HEYNE MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. COMMISSIONER ORLANDO SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 9-0-0 (Y: JA, DB, JF, JG, CH, FJ, JO, AWH, BW) (N: NONE) (ABS: NONE).





Following this brief introduction the Chair announced that the Commission would next review petitions, study reports, and designation.

### III. PETITIONS, STUDY REPORTS, & DESIGNATIONS

#### # 268.20 - OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE, 310 WASHINGTON STREET

Public feedback on study report and a vote to accept the study report and designate.

**DOCUMENTS PRESENTED:** Documents presented included existing condition photographs and aerial map views.

**DISCUSSION TOPICS:** Discussion topics included an overview of the existing conditions, a summary of the public comments received, and the historical and architectural significance of the Old South Meeting House.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:** Commissioners spoke in support of the study report and landmark designation. Commissioners also discussed the Old South Meeting House's National Registry designation and protections and the possibility of reviewing other National Register landmarks that are not designated as City of Boston Landmarks. They recommended including information about MBTA elevators and stairs adjacent to the property and future MBTA accessibility projects in the study report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Nat Sheidley, President and CEO, of Revolutionary Spaces, spoke in support of the study report and landmark designation.

Caliga, spoke in support of landmarking other historically significant buildings in Boston.

COMMISSIONER ORLANDO MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE STUDY REPORT.

COMMISSIONER HART SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 9-0-0 (Y: JA, DB, JF, CH, JH, FJ, JO, AWH, BW) (N: NONE) (ABS: NONE).

COMMISSIONER GONYEAU MOTIONED TO DESIGNATE. COMMISSIONER JACQUES SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 9-0-0 (Y: DB, JF, JG, CH, JH, FJ, JO, AWH, BW) (N: NONE) (ABS: NONE).

COMMISSIONER HOFFMAN JOINED THE MEETING.



#### # 292.24 - 19 KENTON ROAD

Public feedback on the study report and a vote to accept the study report.

**DOCUMENTS PRESENTED:** Documents presented included existing condition photographs and aerial map views.

**DISCUSSION TOPICS:** Discussion topics included an overview of the existing conditions and the historical and architectural significance of the property.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:** Commissioners discussed the definition of a landmark and local significance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Thirty-three written comments in support of the landmark designation were submitted. Eleven written comments in opposition to the petition and landmark designation were submitted.

State Representative Samantha Montano, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Bonnie Delaune, Chief of Staff for Boston City Councilor Benjamin Weber, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Ana Calderon, Chief of Staff for Boston City At-Large Henry Santana, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Richard Lynds, the owner's representative, submitted a written comment on behalf of the property owners and spoke in opposition to the petition and the landmark designation. Additionally, it was stated that the Boston Landmarks Commission does not have the authority to accept the petition or designate.

Jennifer Uhrhane, petitioner, spoke in support of the landmark designation and offered comments about the submitted petition for the Kenton historic district designation.

Frederick Vetterlein, spoke in support of the study report and the landmark designation.

Michael Babcock, spoke in support of the landmark designation.



Jan Wampler, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Alcurtis Clark, spoke in support of the study report and the landmark designation.

Joy Silverstein, spoke in support of the study report and preserving 19 Kenton Road.

Jenny Nathans, spoke in support of the study report and the landmark designation.

Carolyn Kelly, spoke in support of the study report and the landmark designation.

Caliga, spoke in support of the BLC and preserving 19 Kenton Road.

Rachel O'Connor, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Eric Shoag, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Karen Guida, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Jonathan McCurdy, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Patty Yehle, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

# COMMISSIONER AMODEO MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE STUDY REPORT. COMMISSIONER HEYNE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 9-0-0 (Y: DB, JF, JG, JH, KH, FJ, JO, AWH, BW) (N: NONE) (ABS: NONE).

• Chair Walker stated, written public comment for the 19 Kenton Road study report will extend to June 27th, 2025. On July 8th, 2025 the Boston Landmarks Commission will hold a vote to designate 19 Kenton Road.

#### IV. STAFF UPDATES

Elizabeth Sherva, Deputy Director of the Office of Historic Preservation, announced that the next Design Review Hearing will take place at 4:00 PM, and the next BLC Business Meeting will take place at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. Also, Commissioner Jacques, Freeman, and Gonyeau volunteered to serve on the Stanhope Stables subcommittee.





As Chair Walker stated, written public comment for the 19 Kenton Road Study Report will extend to June 27th, 2025. On July 8th, 2025 the Boston Landmarks Commission will hold a vote to designate 19 Kenton Road.

#### **V. ADJOURN - 7:36 PM**

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