



**BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

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

JULY 8, 2025

I. BOSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION BUSINESS HEARING 6:00 PM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: John Amodeo, Celina Barrios-Millner, David Berarducci, John Freeman, Jeffrey Gonyeau, Jeffrey Heyne, Kirsten Hoffman, Felicia Jacques, Senam Kumahia, Justine Orlando (Vice-Chair), Brad Walker (Chair), Angela Ward-Hyatt.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Christopher Hart, 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.

6:04 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. Elected officials and their representatives present included State Representative Samantha Montano from the 15th Suffolk District and Jordan Frias from Boston City Councilor Benjamin Weber.

The Chair announced that the Commission would next review the Ratification of Meeting Minutes.

II. HEARING MINUTES

The review and ratification of public Hearing minutes from the June 24, 2025, meeting have been postponed until the next hearing.

The Chair announced that the Commission would next review petitions, study reports, and designation.



III. PETITIONS, STUDY REPORTS, & DESIGNATIONS

303.25 - BOSTON FIVE CENTS SAVINGS BANK, 12 PROVINCE STREET/24-32 SCHOOL STREET, 10 SCHOOL STREET

PETITION REPRESENTATIVE: Martha McNamara was the petition representative.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED: Documents presented included existing condition photographs, aerial map images, historic photographs, and elevations and floor plans.

DISCUSSION TOPICS: Discussion topics included an overview of the existing conditions, an overview of architecturally significant features on the interior and exterior, the location of the property, a summary of the history of the building and uses, and an overview of the alterations made to the building on the interior and exterior.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: Commissioners discussed the architecturally significant features of the property, the possibility of including an interior designation, and whether the petition included information about the relationship between the two banking halls on the inside.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A written comment was submitted by the property owner in opposition to the petition.

COMMISSIONER HEYNE MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE PETITION. COMMISSIONER AMODEO SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 9-0-0 (Y: JA, DB, JF, JG, KH, FJ, SK, JO, BW)(N: NONE)(ABS: NONE).

302.25 - WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING, 32-38 BROMFIELD STREET

Presentation of Petition & Discussion and Vote

PETITION REPRESENTATIVE: Judith McDonough was the petition representative.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED: Documents presented included existing condition photographs, aerial map images, and historic photographs.

DISCUSSION TOPICS: Discussion topics included the existing conditions, the location of the property, a summary of the historical and architectural significance of the building, an overview of the building's use, the properties ties to Boston



University, and how the building meets the BLC criteria for landmark designation.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: There were no Commissioner comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A written comment was submitted by the property owner who spoke in support of working alongside the Boston Landmarks Commission to develop the study report and standards and criteria.

COMMISSIONER ORLANDO MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE PETITION.

COMMISSIONER AMODEO SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 9-0-1 (Y: JF, JG, JH, KH, FJ, SK, JO, BW, AWH) (N: NONE) (RECUSED: DB).

COMMISSIONER BARRIOS-MILLNER JOINED THE MEETING.

301.25 - GILCHRIST DEPARTMENT STORE, 431-439 WASHINGTON STREET

Presentation of Petition, Discussion and Vote, Vote on Survey Rating Category upgrade

PETITION REPRESENTATIVES: Ellen Lipsey was the petition representative.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED: Documents presented included existing conditions, aerial map images, historic photographs, newspaper articles,

DISCUSSION TOPICS: Discussion topics included a summary of the current survey rating and the proposed survey rating category upgrade, an overview of the existing conditions, the history of the building, and discussion of the architecturally significant features of the building.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: Commissioners discussed the historical and architectural significance of the property and spoke in details about their experiences with the building.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A written comment was submitted by the property owner who spoke in support of working alongside the Boston Landmarks Commission to develop the study report and standards and criteria.

COMMISSIONER FREEMAN MOTIONED TO CHANGE THE SURVEY RATING.

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



COMMISSIONER ORLANDO LEFT THE MEETING.

292.24 - 19 KENTON ROAD, JAMAICA PLAIN

Public feedback on Study Report & Discussion and Vote

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED: Documents presented included existing condition photographs, aerial view images, and exterior photographs of buildings on Kenton Road,.

DISCUSSION TOPICS: Discussion topics included the historical and architectural significance of the building.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: There were no Commissioner comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Richard Lynds, owner representative, spoke in opposition to landmark designation and noted that the Landmarks Commission did not have jurisdiction to pursue landmark designation.

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

Jordan Frias, a representative from Boston City Councilor Ben Weber's office, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Jenny Nathans, submitted a written comment and spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Jan Wampler, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Jennifer Uhrhane, petition spokesperson, spoke in support of the landmark designation. She also read written comments on behalf of Karen Guida and Lauren McLaughlin in support of the landmark designation.

Joy Silverstein, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Jonathan McCurdy, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Michael Babcock, spoke in support of the landmark designation.



Alcortis Clark, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Caliga, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Peg Preble, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

Carolyn Kelley, spoke in support of the landmark designation.

COMMISSIONER GONYEAU MOTIONED TO DESIGNATE. COMMISSIONER AMODEO SECONDED THE MOTION. THE VOTE WAS 9-0-0 (Y: JA, DB, JF, JG, JH, KH, FJ, SK, BW) (N: NONE) (ABS: NONE).

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, July 22, 2025. Also, the study report presentation and designation vote for the Bussey House, 1203-1205 Adams Street, Dorchester has been postponed.

V. ADJOURN – 7:54 PM

COMMISSIONER AMODEO MOTIONED TO ADJOURN THE HEARING. COMMISSIONER BERADUCCI SECONDED THE MOTION. A VOICE VOTE WAS CALLED AND ALL COMMISSIONERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR.