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STAFF MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: December 8, 2020
DATE: November 30, 2020
TO: Auburndale Historic District Commission
FROM: Barbara Kurze, Senior Preservation Planner
SUBJECT: **Additional Review Information**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the members of the Auburndale Historic District Commission (Auburndale HDC) with information about the significance of the properties being reviewed and the application process, which may be useful in the review and decision-making process of the Auburndale HDC. Additional information may be presented at the meeting that the Auburndale HDC can take into consideration when discussing a Local Historic District Review application.

Dear Auburndale HDC Members,

The following is additional information for the Local Historic District Review applications that you should have received in your meeting packet.

Applications

248 Grove Street – Certificate of Appropriateness

Note: Seminary Avenue is a private way, and the Commission does not have jurisdiction over elements that are only visible from Seminary Avenue.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The Queen Anne house was built circa 1895. The first resident and possible owner was widow Lydia E. Hutchings.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owners want to replace 14 wood windows with Andersen Renewal Fibrex Full Divided Lite (interior and exterior grilles and spacer bars) windows. **Most, if not all the windows, appear to be visible from Grove Street which is a public way. Repair and restoration should be the first option for historic windows, particularly for unique lite patterns which are not easily replicated. The Commission should confirm that the triple window cannot be made more energy efficient with an energy panel. We did not receive drawings for the proposed replacement windows, so before approving any replacements, the Commission needs to get confirmation that the lite patterns will match.**

Staff advised the applicant that the Commission needed to understand what the proposed composite exterior would like – the finish, the muntin width and profile, and the “sharpness” of the details; and requested that the applicant provide a sample.

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Contract
Photographs
Product specifications

29 Fern Street – Working Session

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The circa 1894 Colonial Revival house was built as a two-family. The first owner was William B. Herrick worked at 4 Ashburton Place in Boston. The 1900 U.S. Federal Census shows that he lived in the house with his wife Lucy, sons Olin and William, and daughters Marion and Florence. His occupation is listed as Teachers Agency Assistant Manager.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owner was approved to install a metal access ramp at the back of the house. He would like a less obtrusive ramp and wants feedback from the Commission on building a temporary ramp on the left side of the house. The project would include replacing a window on the left side of the house with either a French door or a sliding door, and a small deck.

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Plan sketch
Photographs

Utility Pole at 49 Seminary Avenue, Lasell University – Certificate of Appropriateness

Note: Myrtle and Seminary Avenues are private ways, and the Commission does not have jurisdiction over elements that are only visible from Myrtle or Seminary Avenues.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The applicants want to install wireless communications equipment to an existing utility pole. **The pole is located on Myrtle Avenue in front of 49 Seminary Avenue.** Some of the equipment may be visible from Grove Street.

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Aerial view
Photographs
Rendering
Equipment and installation details
Assessors database map
Authorization letter
Affidavit from pole owner

Administrative Discussion

Minutes: Review the draft minutes for the October meeting.