

SALEM HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 19, 2026

A meeting of the Salem Historical Commission was held on August 19, 2026 at 6:00PM via **Zoom Virtual Meeting**. Present were Milo Martinez, Chair Kelly Tyler-Lewis, Vice Chair Rebecca English, Emily Gonzalez, Robert Peterson, Margarida Raka-Goncalves, Mark Meche. Staff: Patti Kelleher. Absent: Brendan Murray, Vijay Joyce.

33 Flint Street Rear

Paul Sullivan applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace skylights and windows.

This application was reviewed as a minor change under M.G.L. Chapter 40C Section 11. No abutter objection was received, and a Certificate was issued on August 10, 2026.

41 Chestnut Street—continuation

Richard Jagolta applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness to remove fencing and install EV charger.

Ms. Tyler-Lewis recused from discussion.

The applicant requested a continuation to the next meeting.

VOTE: Mr. Peterson motioned to continue the application. Ms. Raka-Goncalves seconded the motion. Roll Call: Raka-Goncalves, Martinez, Peterson, Gonzalez, English were in favor and the motion so carried.

142 Derby Street—continuation

Derby Properties LLC applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness for new signage.

Ken McTague of Concept Signs was present on behalf of Wolf Next Door. High density urethane signs were shown via screen share. Brown background with beige lettering. Secondary sign 14” x 50” was also shown in addition to primary 33.5” x 33.5” sign. The blade sign would hang on existing scroll bracket. The signs would be carved and painted. Existing text on windows would be removed.

Mr. Martinez said the consensus from the previous meeting was that the bay featured a prominent configuration. Putting something opaque across the bay window would preclude light entering. Mr. McTague said that Derby Joe’s coffee shop had featured a similar placement of a sign across the entrance/between the upper windows. Mr. Meche proposed replacing and glazing the window in the bay where plywood currently featured. Mr. Meche also proposed hanging a sign over the entry from existing hooks. Mr. Martinez asked Ms. Kelleher if restoration of previous condition of glazed glass could be asked of the applicant, given that an air conditioner was removed and replaced with plywood. Mr. McTague was amenable to converting signage over door to a hanging sign. Mr. McTague was open to decreasing the sign size. Mr. McTague proposed a small radius on the corner of the sign so as to carry continuity with the round sign; or a reverse radius, in response to Mr. Meche’s preference. Mr. Martinez suggested a Craftsman era detail treatment to the flat panels with carved and incised circles and stars. Other members favored a more simplified approach.

No public comment.

VOTE: Mr. Meche motioned to approve the application, all existing signage and painting and stenciling (vinyl graphic) to be removed, the plywood be converted to glazed glass to match existing adjacent, with applicant to submit updated hanging sign with dimensions to be approved by deputized member (give 3" margin away from vertical corner mullions and horizontally aligns 3" inside the adjacent glass lites), similarly fabricated in high density urethane with relieved carved graphics, painted brown background with ivory text, with reverse radius on corners of signage. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion. Roll Call: English, Peterson, Raka-Goncalves (abstained), Gonzalez, Meche, Martinez, Tyler-Lewis were in favor and the motion so carried.

1A Cambridge Street–continuation

Eleanor Uddo applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install solar panels.

Ethan Andersen was present to request a continuation.

VOTE: Mr. Martinez motioned to continue the application. Ms. English seconded the motion. Roll Call: Peterson, Raka-Goncalves, Gonzalez, Meche, Martinez, Tyler-Lewis were in favor and the motion so carried.

1A Cambridge Street

Eleanor Uddo applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness for paint colors.

Ethan Andersen shared proposed paint color of Behr “Yellow Jubilee” for the body, trim color “Antique White” to remain as existing, and Behr “Medieval Wine” for the door. Members discussed the vibrancy and mustardiness of the color yellow. The window sashes would be same color as trim, Mr. Andersen said. Ms. Kelleher said that the SHC had jurisdiction over the color of storm windows; i.e. if white were changed to black, then Commission could opine. Mr. Martinez said that storm windows should match the sash color. Members agreed that sashes, storms, and storm doors could be black, if black storm windows were desired. Chair Tyler-Lewis wanted to see the storm door match the front door. Mr. Martinez said that the patio doors should remain black on the secondary ell of the building. Mr. Martinez volunteered to observe doors via site visit.

No public comment.

VOTE: Mr. Martinez motioned to approve the application with colors as applied (Yellow Jubilee for body, Antique White for trim and fence, Medieval Wine for two main doors), windows and auxiliary door on ell to be painted black to be confirmed in field by deputized Mr. Martinez. Ms. English seconded the motion. Roll Call: Peterson, Raka-Goncalves, Gonzalez, Meche, English, Martinez, Tyler-Lewis were in favor and the motion so carried.

2 Broad Street

Charles White applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a downspout to resolve water runoff problems.

Mr. White shared a video of existing conditions at the property showing water overflowing out of the gutter causing damage to joints at foundation and brick on sidewalk. Mr. White said that the front elevation on the building was long and uninterrupted. The existing half round copper gutter was quite long and uninterrupted. Only two downspouts featured at either end of facade. Mr. White noted the plan to add a center downspout, painted to match clapboard, in order to give hydraulic relief to the existing gutter. Different views were shown of the proposed location for central downspout addition.

Chair Tyler-Lewis questioned if the contractor had a scheme for moving water away from the house. Mr. Peterson questioned if the water was successfully flowing out of the existing downspouts but reemerging or overflowing from ground piping. Ms. Kelleher said that the downspout on the left front elevation (corner on 4 Broad St) drained onto the sidewalk rather than into a pipe. Mr. Meche established that Mr. White was the owner of the right side of the building. Mr. Meche questioned if the overflowing was consistent across the entire gutter or only at the problem area identified in the video. Mr. Meche said the downspout on neighbor side was corrugated square whereas Mr. White's was round. Mr. Meche advised confirming that the downspouts were flowing water. Mr. Meche did not oppose adding a downspout. Mr. Meche advised adding as many as two downspouts that were round and smooth. Ms. Kelleher showed a past photo of property indicating where previous electrical conduit was, i.e. where the new downspout was proposed. Mr. Martinez noted that a mini split conduit line had been added to the property at 4 Broad Street. Mr. Martinez preferred a corrugated round to match the existing corner downspout on 2 Broad.

No public comment.

Chair Tyler-Lewis expressed concern about adding a downspout that would drain onto a sidewalk. Mr. Martinez advised confirming with the contractor that installed metal of downspout would not be incompatible with existing copper. Mr. White said that a piece of rubber grommet would separate copper and new downspout, to be sealed with metal-safe silicone. The contractor was identified as JB Kidney.

VOTE: Mr. Peterson motioned to approve requested addition of a new corrugated round downspout in the area where previous electrical conduit had been removed, painted to match underlying house material, downspout to be discharged in accordance with City requirements. Mr. Meche seconded the motion. Roll Call: English, Peterson, Raka-Goncalves, Gonzalez, Meche, Martinez, Tyler-Lewis were in favor and the motion so carried.

5 Orne Square

Amy Sinatra and Alexander Spina applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness for electric meters.

Ms. Sinatra said both units in the building had 200amp service, inadequate for two properties. Both 5 Orne and 7 Orne owners wished to upgrade to 200amp service. Two meters would be situated on the side elevation of 5 Orne, 26.5" w x 5" d x 30" h with conduit to run up and over to the side, adhering to code to stay 3' away from windows. Ms. Sinatra noted a plan to plant strategic foliage to obfuscate the view of new conduits. Photographs of other properties' utility installations were shown.

Mr. Meche noted that electrical services would be installed on Ms. Sinatra's side of the property. Mr. Meche encouraged the applicant to convince National Grid to put meters in the basement, with conduits to be placed outside. Ms. Sinatra said Colman Electric told her that a municipal inspector would only approve the application as submitted. Mr. Meche said that an inspector would only need to see that the installation was code-compliant. Ms. Sinatra said that there would be one weatherhead, not two. Ms.

Sinatra said the conduit would be a half inch larger in diameter. Chair Tyler-Lewis clarified that Mr. Meche was suggesting that Ms. Sinatra's meter remain in the basement and the neighbor's meter and cutoff feature on the outside of the property as presented. Ms. English said that doing so would reduce the size of the box on the exterior. Ms. Sinatra said that the cutoff switch would not be much smaller than the meter casing.

Ms. Kelleher suggested SHC provide direction to Ms. Sinatra to bring to the electrician regarding what changes were possible and/or meet with the electrician for a site visit. Images of LB fitting, 3" PVC conduit, and double meter were shown. Chair Tyler-Lewis questioned if dividing the electric to two weatherheads and having meters in basements had been considered by applicants. Ms. Sinatra said a weatherhead could not be placed at 7 Orne because of the area of the electrical poles on the street. Ms. Sinatra said L-shaped conduit would still need to come from a weatherhead on 5 Orne side of property as well as the disconnect, to be routed through Ms. Sinatra's basement to 7 Orne, which would have a meter and disconnect on their side. Chair Tyler-Lewis commended ambition to camouflage screening of meters with vegetation but noted that SHC does not recognize doing so as a mitigating visibility factor.

No public comment.

VOTE: Mr. Martinez motioned to continue the application to afford time for a site visit. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. Roll Call: English, Peterson, Raka-Goncalves, Gonzalez, Meche, Martinez, Tyler-Lewis were in favor and the motion so carried.

14 Kosciusko Street

Michael Martin applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness for building renovations and window replacement.

Ms. Raka-Goncalves recused from discussion.

Michael Martin, owner, and Lisa Connolly, property manager, were present. Siding was clapboard except for street side which was deteriorated. The owners desired to match siding, trim, colors, etc. the rest of the property. In addition, Ms. Connolly said the six 1-over-1 windows would be replaced to match existing, to have a uniform property that is the same on all sides. Bob Rovinsky was also present to speak on building materials. Mr. Martin also stated intent to paint the side of the property in the alleyway. Cornerboards on street-facing would also be replaced in kind. Dentil trim and brackets at roof would be maintained. Pella Lifestyle windows were named in the application, which were wood-based windows similar to Andersen 400 Series. Chair Tyler-Lewis said that these windows were aluminum clad on exterior, which Mr. Martinez said were not typically approved. Mr. Rovinsky said Pella Reserve could be used. Mr. Meche said the windows in a historic photograph appeared to be 9 over 1 or 9 over 9. Mr. Meche did not feel the original windows were 1 over 1. Chair Tyler-Lewis said the historic windows appeared to be 6 over 6. Ms. Connolly said she lived in the property for 40 years and windows were replaced in 1976 with 1 over 1 windows. Ms. Kelleher said that triple deckers in the area featured more traditional 2 over 2 windows. Chair Tyler-Lewis proposed a Pella Reserve SDL 2 over 2. Ms. Kelleher showed Pella Reserves that had been originally approved at 6 Harrington Court. Ms. Connolly said the windows would be painted to match existing. Ms. English and Mr. Peterson favored 2 over 2. Ms. Kelleher noted that Pella Reserve was approved at 149 Federal Street and 49 Washington Square with

condition to be brush painted. Ms. Connolly identified colors Mesa Peach for body and Navajo White for trim.

No public comment.

Mr. Peterson asked if a water table would be appropriate at the base of the facade. Ms. Kelleher and others said it would.

VOTE: Mr. Peterson motioned to approve application to replace shakes with cedar clapboard to match spacing of other sides of building, painted previously approved colors, 12" watertable provided at base of wall before starting clapboards, replace cornerboards to exact dimensions as-is, install six Pella Reserve 2 over 2 SDL's with black or bronze spacers to be brush painted on street-facing facade, half screens on Pella Reserves (amendment added by Mr. Martinez). Ms. English seconded the motion. Roll Call: English, Peterson, Raka-Goncalves (abstained), Meche, Gonzalez, Martinez, Tyler-Lewis were in favor and the motion so carried.

127 Derby Street

127 Derby Street LLC applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness for paint colors.

Margaret Bitterman was present. Body trim and doors were to be painted. House currently had no shutters. AI renderings of proposed shutters were shown. Paint colors were identified as HC-9 Chestertown Buff (body), HC-33 Montgomery White (trim), and AF-655 Silhouette (door). The sheen would be semi-gloss given it was a more durable paint, Ms. Bitterman said. Mr. Martinez and Ms. Gonzalez stated that they believe colors were appropriate. Ms. Bitterman said that Silhouette was a soft black. Mr. Martinez did not favor semi-gloss being used for the body.

No public comment.

VOTE: Mr. Meche motioned to approve as submitted on paint colors, with shutters deferred for future consideration. Ms. Raka-Goncalves seconded the motion. Roll Call: English, Peterson, Raka-Goncalves, Gonzalez, Meche, Martinez (no in opposition to single sheen type), Tyler-Lewis were in favor and the motion so carried.

Other Business

Correspondence

Letter from MHC reviewing the **House of the Seven Gables** adaptation plan, found no adverse effects because the Gables would include archaeological study part of a flood mitigation project.

Kernwood Bridge replacement letter from Mass DOT. Ms. Kelleher said the existing bridge was found to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register. Mr. Meche said that a structural engineer or bridge historian should be consulted for guidance.

Ms. Kelleher said that any time a project uses state or federal funding or needs permitting or licensing, it needs to seek comment approval from MHC project notification form. MHC is notified any time a potentially eligible property could be impacted, local historical commission needs to be consulted.

HSI supplied a write-up on **Shetland Park** which Ms. English commended.

Mr. Meche noted that the paint on the **Friendship** masts was amazing, hard and smooth. Ms. Kelleher opined that it was a marine varnish. Ms. Kelleher would check with Salem Maritime's Gavin Gardner.

Ms. English noted that the **Preservation Awards** would be at the Hawthorne on September 22 featuring an ice cream bar and cash bar.

Ms. Kelleher said that the **Preservation and Changing Climate conference** would be Wednesday, September 23.

Significant changes were proposed to **Section 106** which would strip much of its ability to preserve historic resources, to be discussed at a meeting Thursday August 27 at 1:00 PM.

Ms. Kelleher proposed hosting future local webinars to facilitate historic building owner engagement covering issues like responsible solar panels, climate change, electrification of buildings in ways that do not harm them, etc.

Minutes

VOTE: Ms. English motioned to approve minutes for June 17, July 1, July 15, and August 5. Mr. Meche seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion so carried.

Violations

Ms. Kelleher noted drafting an ongoing list of violations that was being prepared for members to review.

Protecting Salem Common

Mr. Martinez noted preliminary stages of a long-term plan of the Salem Police Department to protect the Common as a gathering space during tourism season via barricade or bollards.

Adjournment

VOTE: Ms. English motioned to adjourn. Mr. Meche seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion so carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Graham, Historical Commission Clerk