



*The City of Fitchburg*  
*Massachusetts*

FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

Jan 23 2023 12:01 pm

**Fitchburg Historical Commission**  
718 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420

**Fitchburg Historical Commission Meeting**  
**3:00 PM, Thursday, January 26, 2023**

City Hall, Room 101A (West Fitchburg Meeting Room) and Zoom hybrid

The public is also invited to participate in the Zoom webinar of  
January 26, 2023, 03:00 PM Eastern Time

Topic: Fitchburg Historical Commission Meeting

Register in advance for the Public Comment/Hearing portion of the agenda by going to:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_HPwDIKAFQ0K41kCJ2JaNDQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HPwDIKAFQ0K41kCJ2JaNDQ)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about logging in to join the webinar.

## **Agenda**

1. Public comment period
2. Review and approve minutes of the December 15, 2022, meeting
3. Review and approve minutes of the December 21, 2022, meeting and continued public hearing
4. Moran Square Redevelopment Project Syndicate Block building update with Jon Rudzinski representing Rees-Larkin Development
5. Update of Monument Park
  - Recommendation for park bench replacement
  - Cast iron fencing repair and restoration
  - Stone entry step repair
  - Monument base repair
6. Update on historic building demolition delay
7. Update on appreciation and preservation of historic stone walls and structures
8. Update on Historic Districts information brochure/map information guide, signage, web posting and FSU faculty-led student project coordination ongoing for fall/spring 2021/2022 and 2022/2023
9. Wallace Building entry stones reuse – “temporarily” stored in FRA space
10. Historic Marker – new sign maker update
11. Possible project to document and share Main Street building histories, historic districts, tax credit, and other restoration/reuse incentives
12. MHC future workshops (attached information)

13. Annual election of officers: Chair position and Secretary positions
14. New business
15. Next meeting: 3:00 PM, February 23, 2023

Attached workshop information:

## **Introduction to Historic Preservation**

**Wednesday, January 25, 7 pm**

You were appointed to a local historical commission or historic district commission – now what? This workshop will cover the basics to help you be an educated commissioner familiar with the terminology and programs of the historic preservation field. There will be a high-level discussion of the key historic preservation tools, but their details and implementation processes will be covered in other workshops. You will come away from the presentation being able to speak knowledgeably about your commission and its role in the community, and having a sense of how to develop a work plan for your commission. [Register for this workshop.](#)

## **Architectural Styles, Forms, and Building Technologies of Massachusetts**

**Friday, February 10, 1 pm**

Many local commission members may have a wealth of knowledge about their community's history, but feel less sure speaking about their community's architecture. This workshop will provide a very high-level overview of residential house forms, architectural styles, and changes in building technology found in Massachusetts. Ranging from the First Period of settlement to the early 20th century, this workshop will allow you to better identify the historic resources in your community, more accurately date them, and set them into a larger context so you can evaluate their significance. [Register for this workshop.](#)

## **Historic Resources Survey and the National Register of Historic Places**

**Thursday, February 23, 1 pm**

One of the most important tasks a local historical commission can undertake is to identify and evaluate the community's historic resources. This is primarily done through survey and inventory work, which documents historic resources on standardized forms produced by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Then you can evaluate your historic resources for potential listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Learn more about the survey process and National Register designation in this workshop, and especially how the two work hand-in-hand to help you deepen your understanding of your local historic resources. [Register for this workshop.](#)

## **Administering Local Historic Districts and Design Review**

**Monday, March 6, 7 pm**

Local historic districts are one of the strongest forms of protection for historic resources. Their goal is to allow for the thoughtful consideration of change - protecting a neighborhood's community character while allowing changes necessitated by modern life and maintenance. This workshop will go in-depth on how to administer a local historic district, how to handle the application and review process, and will provide some guidance on design review. Please note that this workshop will not include information on establishing a local historic district; that is covered in a separate workshop. [Register for this workshop.](#)

## **State and Federal Historic Resources Review and Compliance**

**Tuesday, March 21, 1 pm**

Any projects that require funding, licenses, or permits from federal agencies must be reviewed in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Section 106 requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their actions on historic properties. "Section 106 review,"

follows a specific process, which is guided by federal regulations (36 CFR 800). Similarly, any projects that require funding, licenses, or permits from any state agency must be reviewed by MHC in compliance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 9, sections 26-27C. It provides for MHC review of state projects, including archaeological resources. This workshop will cover the different triggers for review, what is involved in the process, and how your local commission might be involved. [Register for this workshop.](#)

## **Developing an Historic Preservation Plan**

**Thursday, April 6, 10 am**

Historic preservationists are often reactive – a property in your community is threatened, and you are spurred into action. But how can your local historical commission and wider preservation community be more proactive? Developing an historic preservation plan for your community can help you understand your historic resources better, see where there are gaps in your knowledge and level of protection, and help you discover the key preservation tools you might be missing. In this workshop you will learn more about what goes into a preservation plan, why it is important, and how you might prepare one for your community. [Register for this workshop.](#)

## **Adopting a Demolition Delay Bylaw or Ordinance**

**Friday, April 21, 10 am**

Demolition delay bylaws/ordinances are one of the most critical preservation tools a community can adopt. While they do not fully prevent the demolition of historic resources, they provide for a pause in the demolition process, allowing for the exploration of alternatives to demolition. This workshop will discuss the history of demolition delay bylaws/ordinances and how your community might go about adopting one. Please note that the focus of this workshop is adopting a demolition delay bylaw/ordinance; administering these bylaws/ordinances will be covered only briefly, but will be discussed in detail at a later workshop. [Register for this workshop.](#)