



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 15, 2011

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Thomas F. Taylor	Chair	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Vice Chair	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Absent	
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Omar Boukili	Administrative Assistant	Present	
Monica Lamboy	Exec. Director, OSPCD	Present	
Anne Thomas	Counsel, OSPCD	Present	

**189229 - Maryanne Manfra Submitting Comments Re: #188655, Amending the Local Historic District Ordinance (Group B):**

**RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

**190381 - Requesting an amendment to the Local Historic District Map to create 3 new Districts (Thurston-Walnut, Pearl, and 9 Brastow) and add 6 properties to these Districts, and to add 5 properties to existing Districts (Central-Atherton-Spring-Summer (CASS), Florence-Myrtle, Flint, and Prospect Hill) (Group D):**

The committee reviewed comments from homeowners regarding the designations of their properties and Chairman Taylor requested that the committee be provided with a list of all properties to be designated as historic.

Chairman Taylor's motion *that the item be approved for all properties except those whose owners are not in favor of the historic designation*, was approved. Those properties not approved will remain in committee until the Ward Aldermen have contacted the owners of said properties. (The property at 75 Florence Street is therefore severed from this proposal.)

**RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED**

**190570 - City Solicitor conveying Home Rule Petition language re: #188396, a proposal to amend the City Charter.:**

**RESULT:           WORK COMPLETED**

**190737 - Requesting approval of an amendment to the Ordinances at Chapter 12 regarding the Placement and Maintenance of News racks.:**

The committee reviewed the revisions to the newsrack ordinance and discussed the proposed locations for the newsracks. Representatives from the Boston Phoenix, Boston Globe and the Improper Bostonian spoke about their concerns and the problems experienced in other communities with the newsracks. Questions were raised about what liability the city would have regarding lost revenues and it was suggested that these newsracks would increase the number of publications entering the city. The committee requested that publishers submit alternatives to the proposed newsracks that would be satisfactory to all parties.

**RESULT:           KEPT IN COMMITTEE**