TOWN OF WELLESLEY MASSACHUSETTS

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

TOWN HALL • 525 WASHINGTON STREET • WELLESLEY, MA 02482-5992

RICHARD L. SEEGEL, CHAIRMAN
J. RANDOLPH BECKER, VICE CHAIRMAN
DAVID G. SHEFFIELD

LENORE R. MAHONEY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
TELEPHONE
(781) 431-1019 EXT. 2208
web: www.wellesleyma.gov

ROBERT W. LEVY
WALTER B. ADAMS
DEREK B. REDGATE

2014 DEC 18 P 2:05
RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
WELLESLEY MA 02482

ZBA 2014-101
Petition of Wellesley Historical Society
323 Washington Street

Pursuant to due notice, the Special Permit Granting Authority held a Public Hearing on Thursday, December, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. in the Juliani Meeting Room, 525 Washington Street, Wellesley, on the petition of WELLESLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY requesting renewal of a Special Permit pursuant to the provisions of Section II A 8 c and Section XXV of the Zoning Bylaw to use the structure located at 323 WASHINGTON STREET for storage and care of collections, office, work and meeting space. The hours of operation are 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Meetings of the Board of Directors take place on the first Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 pm. The Society has a full time Executive Director, a part time Curator and a part time intern. There will be no customers or clients coming to the premises.

On November 17, 2014, the Petitioner filed a request for a hearing before this Authority, and thereafter, due notice of the hearing was given by mailing and publication.

Presenting the case at the hearing were Melissa Padley, President, and James Marcotte, Vice President, Wellesley Historical Society, (the Petitioner).

Ms. Padley said that the request is for renewal of the special permit for the use of the Wellesley Historical Society in a General Residence district. She said that the only change has been that the Historical Society became owner of the property on December 31, 2012. She said that when they initially applied for the special permit, the owner was the seller of the property to the Historical Society.

The Board confirmed that the ramp construction is new since the previous approval.

There was no one present at the public hearing who wished to speak to the petition.

Statement of Facts

The Wellesley Historical Society is a 501 (c) charitable organization, formed in 1925 and incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1965. It is the Historical Resource Center for the Town of Wellesley.

The Wellesley Historical Society is the primary archival repository for the Town of Wellesley, and is responsible for the archives of several non-profit organizations. Collections include manuscripts, photographic images, maps and plans, art pieces, costume collections, butterflies, individual artifacts, and a significant textile and lace collection. In addition, the Society annually awards scholarships to

Wellesley students to "inspire public involvement in and appreciation of Wellesley's heritage and culture by Wellesley youth in their endeavor to further their studies" via higher education.

The Society is currently located in the Dadmun/McNamara House at 229 Washington Street at the intersection of Routes 16 and 9 on the same grounds as the Community Center.

The current collections of the Society occupy almost all the current usable space in the Dadmun/McNamara House (1,760 square feet) leaving insufficient work space for the care and ongoing cataloging of the collections, and monthly meetings of the Board of Directors.

The Society's continued use of 323 Washington Street reflects the organization's desire to fulfill its mission to a degree that it is unable to do within the confines of the Dadmun/McNamara House at 229 Washington Street. The Society intends to continue to use the space at the Dadmun/McNamara House for storage and research activities.

On December 2, 2014, the Planning Board reviewed the petition and recommended that consideration of the request be deferred.

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
WELLESLEY MA 02482
2014 DEC 18 P 2:05

Decision

This Authority has made a careful study of the materials submitted and the information presented at the hearing. The subject structure does not conform to the current Zoning Bylaw, as noted in the foregoing Statement of Facts.

The Petitioner is requesting renewal of a Special Permit to use the structure located at 323 Washington Street, in a General Residence District, for storage and care of collections, office, work and meeting space. The hours of operation are 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Meetings of the Board of Directors take place on the first Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 pm. The Society has a full time Executive Director, a part time Curator and a part time intern. There will be no customers or clients coming to the premises.

It is the opinion of this Authority that the use of the structure for storage and care of collections, and office, work and meeting space shall not disturb or disrupt the customary character of the residential neighborhood, and is in harmony with the intent and purpose of the Zoning Bylaw.

Therefore, renewal of a Special Permit is granted for the requested use, as voted unanimously by this Authority at the Public Hearing, subject to the following conditions:

1. There shall be no overnight living in the premises.
2. This Special Permit shall expire two years from the date time stamped on the decision.

ZBA 2014-101
Petition of Wellesley Historical Society
323 Washington Street

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
WELLESLEY MA 02482
2014 DEC 18 P 2:05

APPEALS FROM THIS DECISION, IF ANY, SHALL BE MADE PURSUANT TO GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 40A, SECTION 17, AND SHALL BE FILED WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF FILING OF THIS DECISION IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK.

Richard L. Seegel, Chairman

J. Randolph Becker

David G. Sheffield

cc: Planning Board
Inspector of Buildings
lrm