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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE  
MAYOR

*HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION*

May 25, 2012

Dominique Stassart  
David Dinklage  
47 Columbus Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02143

RE: **HPC 12.041 – 47 Columbus Avenue, Somerville, MA**

Dear Ms. Stassart and Mr. Dinklage,

At their regular meeting on May 15, 2012, the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission voted unanimously (7-0) to grant a **Certificate of Appropriateness (C/A)** for the following exterior work on your property:

1. Replace existing plywood basement door under front bay with a simple full height wood door that would be utilitarian in character with Staff review and approval (C/A);
2. Redefine threshold and expose foundation with bricks to match existing (C/A);
3. Enlarge up to 3 existing basement windows on the Prospect Hill Drive side of the building (C/A);
4. Extend existing walkway to form a brick patio outside rear entry (C/A);
5. Regrade side and front yards with Staff review and approval (C/A); and
6. Construct retaining walls to match stone retaining wall along the driveway (C/A).

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission voted (6-1) to grant a **Certificate of Appropriateness (C/A)** to

7. Lengthen basement door opening to meet code for an entry door (C/A).

They also voted (6-0-1) to grant a **Certificate of Appropriateness (C/A)** to

8. Install up to 3 new Harvey Vicon brown 24210 30"x36" sash to match the windows on the bays at a height to be determined by Staff (C/A).

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission voted unanimously (7-0) to deny without prejudice the plan to install soffit vents as they may not prove necessary on a slate roofed structure. Further investigation is needed. If added ventilation is necessary, you may return to the Commission at any time with the additional information.

The Commission based its decisions on your application and presentation at the hearing, Staff recommendations, photographs of the house and garden, discussion and recommendations of the

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Commission members, as well as upon the Commission's adopted Design Guidelines for Historic Districts.

They also voted unanimously (7-0) to issue a **Certificate of Non-Applicability** under Section 10 of the Historic District Ordinance, which states "Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent the ordinary maintenance, repair or replacement of any exterior feature within the historic district that does not involve a change in design, material, color or the outward appearance thereof...", to

9. Repair rotten and damaged trim on doors and windows to match existing (C/NA)
10. Repair rear porch and remove coal bin (C/NA).

As a matter of interest, the Commission felt that it would be important to document how coal was delivered to the house and the structure of the bin. We would love to have the information if it is convenient.

This letter is your formal notification of the issuance of the requested Certificates. These Certificates are granted upon the condition that the work authorized herein is commenced within one year after date of issue. If the work authorized by these Certificate is not commenced within twelve months after the date of issue, or if work is suspended in significant part for a period of one year after the time of work is commenced, these Certificates shall expire and be of no further effect; provided that, for cause, one or more extensions of time, for periods not exceeding ninety days each, may be allowed in writing by the Chairman. Bring this letter to the Inspectional Services Division when you apply for a building permit as it is required for the application process. If you have any questions about these Certificates, please feel free to contact me at (617) 625-6600 x 2525.

Good luck with your work!

Sincerely,



Kristi Chase

Preservation Planner

Cc: Ed Nuzzo, Superintendent, Inspectional Services Division  
Paul Nonni, Sr. Bldg. Inspector, Inspectional Services Division  
John Long, City Clerk  
Dick Bauer, Chairman, SHPC  
J. Brandon Wilson, Executive Director, SHPC