



City of Cambridge

Calendar No. 5

Mayor Vellucci

31.
IN CITY COUNCIL
January 17, 1977

- WHEREAS: On June 1, 1927 Massachusetts Governor Fuller appointed Abbott Lawrence Lowell, then President of Harvard University, to serve on an advisory committee in conjunction with the Governor's investigation of the Sacco-Vanzetti case, and
- WHEREAS: A. Lawrence Lowell did serve on this committee whose report, dated July 27, 1927 did not recommend clemency for Sacco & Vanzetti, was made public by Governor Fuller on August 6, 1927, and
- WHEREAS: The working papers of this committee were kept by the committee's individual members, and
- WHEREAS: A. Lawrence Lowell's papers pertaining to this committee were given to Harvard by Lowell's biographer, Henry A. Yeomans in 1948 after Lowell's death, and
- WHEREAS: At Yeoman's request, and not President Lowell's, they were sealed by Harvard University along with Lowell's personal papers for 50 years from the date of Sacco & Vanzetti's execution in 1927 not to be opened until December 9, 1977, and
- WHEREAS: It is reasonable to consider these committee papers to be public documents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as mandated by the public disclosure laws, M.G.L. Ch.4, §7, Cl. 26 pertaining to public documents, and
- WHEREAS: As such, they should be available for public perusal or at least accessible to concerned scholars, and
- WHEREAS: Failure to make these documents available in any manner, constitutes a violation of the above law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council request Harvard University to reconsider its refusal to make these papers available under any condition, and in the spirit of the Freedom on Information Law release these Lowell papers pertaining to Governor Fullers' Advisory Committee.

In City Council January 31, 1977
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.
Attest: Paul E. Healy, City Clerk

A true copy,

ATTEST:

Paul E. Healy



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Order #31 S-57

M. Vellucci resolutions on the Abbott Lawrence
Lowell papers pertaining to Governor Fullers'
Advisory Committee of 1927.

In City Council,
January 17, 1977

Referred to the Calendar on motion
of Mayor Vellucci 1/17/77

1/31/77

Order Adopted

By voice vote
S. Vellucci