

Agenda #10 City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

6/13 / 1983

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mr. Daniel J. Clinton	✓			
Mr. Thomas W. Danehy	✓			
Mr. Francis H. Duehay	✓			
Ms. Saundra Graham			✓	
Mr. Leonard J. Russell	✓			
Mr. David E. Sullivan			✓	
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan	✓			
Mr. Wylie			✓	
Mayor Vellucci	✓			
	6	0	3	



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Robert Healy, City Manager

Date June 9, 1983

From Charles Sullivan, Historical Commission **Reference**

Subject Council order for 200 Msgr. O'Brien Highway

The Historical Commission has been engaged for more than a year in seeking a new site for the James B. Barnes House at 200 Msgr. O'Brien Highway, an historic building which must be moved from its present location. We have entered into a cooperative arrangement with Homeowner's Rehab, Inc., to relocate the house, rehabilitate it, and offer it for sale to a qualified low-income family. The Cambridge Redevelopment Authority has designated Homeowner's as the developer of a lot at 109 Hampshire Street expressly to allow relocation of this house, and we hope to have it moved during the coming summer.

The Barnes House was built in 1824 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the oldest remaining house of those erected by the Lechmere Point Corporation and its associates, and represents the proprietors' original conception of East Cambridge as a community of substantial brick houses. The house has a gross floor area of approximately 1,850 square feet on three floors; a former ell has been demolished. The first two floors have two rooms each, one on each side of the central staircase. The narrow end of the house, which once faced the street, is at an angle to the long side walls to conform to the former placement of the house with regard to the street. It was moved in 1924 during the widening of the Highway, but remains on its original lot.

Under the terms of a variance granted in April, 1982 to the Lechmere Rug Company, the house must be moved from its present location. The owner must donate the house to a qualified owner who will move it to a site approved by the Commission, rehabilitate it to the Federal standards for National Register buildings, and accept a preservation agreement with the Commission protecting its exterior appearance. The owner has subsequently agreed to donate the building to us or to Homeowner's Rehab, Inc. so that he can take advantage of the charitable deduction. The rehabilitation standards and preservation agreement are the same as are presently in effect on the Work Equity projects we have participated in.

The Commission originally approached the East Cambridge Stabilization Committee, but despite their generous offer of assistance no suitable lot could be found in that neighborhood. We then contacted the Redevelopment Authority, and we feel that the lot they have offered is especially suitable, as the house could be sited with its angled end wall parallel to the street, utilizing this distinctive architectural feature as it was originally designed. Locating the Barnes house at either of the Hampshire Street sites would reinforce much recent rehabilitation activity in that area as well. No variances will be required for this project.

The enclosed proposed Council order would expedite this project.

Enclosure

CMS/pb



City of Cambridge

Agenda Item Number 10

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 13, 1983

WHEREAS:

Homeowner's Rehab, Inc., a non-profit corporation located at 678 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, proposes to acquire, relocate, rehabilitate and sell a vacant house to a qualified lower-income Cambridge family through the Work Equity Program with the participation and assistance of the Cambridge Historical Commission; and

WHEREAS:

The sale of the vacant house located on a site commonly known as 200 Msgr. O'Brien Highway in East Cambridge is contingent upon moving the house from the site: and

WHEREAS:

Homeowner's Rehab, Inc. has agreed to comply with all appropriate regulations and requirements by the Department of Public Works, Traffic, Police, Fire, Building, and City Electrician; now, therefore, be it

ORDERED:

That the Commissioner of Public Works be and hereby is authorized under the provisions of section 12-9 of the General Ordinances of the City of Cambridge to issue a written license to the petitioner, Homeowner's Rehab, Inc., to move the house now located at 200 Msgr. O'Brien Highway to a new location at 109 Hampshire Street, specifying first the route, the terms and conditions on which such removal may be made; and be it further

ORDERED:

That the Commissioner of Public Works be and hereby is directed to notify the Traffic and Parking Department, Fire Department, Police Department, City Electrician, Building Department and the public utilities concerned as to the route and time when such removal will take place and that such removal may be effectuated with sufficient advance notice to provide the least inconvenience to the public; and be it further

ORDERED:

That the licensee shall give the Chief of the Fire Department and

June 13, 1983

Inspector of Wires notice at least twenty-four hours before the building shall be placed on the street and that the licensee shall reimburse the City for any expenses incurred by the City in cutting and replacing wires and trimming trees and in any other way, by reason of said removal; and be it further

ORDERED:

That the Commissioner of Public Works shall require a deposit in the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), which sum shall be returned to the licensee when he has reimbursed the City for such expenses; which conditions shall be printed upon and become a part of the license issued by the Commissioner of Public Works; and be it further

ORDERED:

That the petitioner, Homeowner's Rehab, Inc., file with the Commissioner of Public Works, a bond in an amount sufficient to indemnify the City of Cambridge from all losses by reason of such removal.

In City Council June 13, 1983.

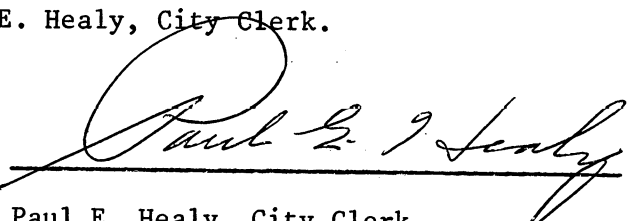
Adopted by a yea and nay vote:-

Yeas 6; Nays 0; Absent 3.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-


Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ROBERT W. HEALY

City Manager

June 13, 1983

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I transmit herewith communication from the Historical Commission with a proposed order requesting City Council approval for the relocation of an historic building located at 200 Msgr. O'Brien Highway. The Historical Commission has entered into a cooperative arrangement with Homeowner's Rehab, Inc., to relocate and rehabilitate the house and offer it for sale to a qualified low-income family. The Cambridge Redevelopment Authority has designated Homeowner's Rehab., Inc., as the developer of a lot at 109 Hampshire Street to allow relocation of this house.

Passage of the enclosed order is recommended.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/b

Re: proposed order requesting approval for the relocation of an historic building located at 200 Monsignor O'Brien Highway.

*copies sent to: City Mgr. Council
City Treasurers, Public Works, Traffic
+ Police, Fire Dept., Building Dept.,
Police Dept 6/14/83 mh*

In City Council,

June 13, 1983

*MR 6/13/83
Order Adopted
- 6-0-3 -*