

August 14, 1987

To: Robert Healy, City Manager
From: Charles Sullivan, Executive Director
Re: Mid Cambridge NCD Status Report

This memo is a report of the activities of the Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District (NCD) Commission as indicated in an order introduced by City Councillor William Walsh on August 3, 1987 (attached).

1. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The first official component of the Mid Cambridge Commission's education program is Maintaining Your Old House in Cambridge, a guidebook to assist homeowners in Mid Cambridge in making historically appropriate repairs to their property. The guidebook is expected to be a important addition to the body of information available to the homeowner on maintaining historic property. The manuscript is the result of a two-year long effort on the part of the Cambridge Historical Commission staff. It has been reviewed by the Cambridge Historical Commission and the Half Crown and Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commissions and by more than a dozen other experts in building conservation. Their comments have been incorporated and publication of the guidebook is scheduled for late fall, 1987. The book will be distributed free to Mid Cambridge homeowners and will be available for purchase at the Historical Commission.

The Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission also works with property owners on an ongoing basis to educate them about appropriate design and construction for historic properties, both in their regular meetings and on the staff level. Staff receive an average of 3-5 requests per week from Mid Cambridge homeowners and contractors for technical assistance in carrying out work on properties in the district and in completing applications to the commission.

2. APPOINTMENTS

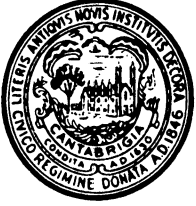
There have been no vacancies on the Commission occurring because of expired terms and no reappointments have been

made. Ordinance 1002 specifies that each member of a Neighborhood Conservation District Commission is appointed to a three year term and continues to serve after expiration of his or her term, but for no more than two consecutive terms. In July, 1987, the first terms of two of the members expired. There being no cause to remove them, they continue in their membership for a second term. When the second terms of the membership have elapsed, new appointments to the Commission will have to be made.

3. HISTORICAL COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE

The Cambridge Historical Commission initiated a search for replacement of its representative to the Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission early last spring and, on August 7, forwarded the names of two candidates to the City Manager for appointment. The candidates identified by the Commission are both architects with longstanding residency in the Mid Cambridge neighborhood. They were selected to fill the vacancy on the Cambridge Historical Commission for both an architect member and a representative to the Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission. Both candidates expressed willingness to serve on both commissions. The City Manager's appointment of this member is anticipated in the near future.

Please do not hesitate to call me or Sally Zimmerman of my staff if you have any questions regarding this memo.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

September 14, 1987

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report No. 17 regarding the reappointment of Mid-Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District members, I submit the attached report from the Cambridge Historical Commission.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Re: response to Awaiting Report Item 17 on
the reappointment of Mid-Cambridge Neighbor-
hood Conservation District Commission mem-
bers.

In City Council,

September 14, 1987

Placed on File

UMV
MS
MS