



City of Somerville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Tufts Administration Building, Suite 211, 167 Holland Street, Somerville MA 02144

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 56 Meacham Road
PERMIT NUMBER: HP26-000019
OWNER: Jackie Nice
OWNER ADDRESS: 56 Meacham Rd, Somerville, MA 02143
APPLICANT: Jackie Nice
APPLICANT ADDRESS: 56 Meacham Rd, Somerville, MA 02143
DECISION: **Conditional** Certificate of Appropriateness
DECISION ISSUED: June 4, 2026

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SOMERVILLE, MA

This decision summarizes the findings made by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) or their designee regarding the Local Historic District property at 56 Meacham Road.

SCOPE OF WORK

- Replace existing aging rear deck with a smaller area in the same location.

DETERMINATION

Under the Somerville Historic Districts Ordinance (HDO) proposed alterations of Local Historic District (LHD) properties must conform to specific criteria set out in the *Design Guidelines*. In the instance of **56 Meacham Road**, the proposal meets the following criteria set out in *Design Guideline Section II, Specific Guidelines items D. Porches, steps, trim and other exterior architectural elements* which read(s) as follows:

1. *Retain and repair porches and steps that are original or later important features, including such items as railings, balusters, columns, posts, brackets, roofs, ornamental ironwork and other important decorative items. If new pieces are needed, they should match as closely as possible the style, shape, scale and materials of the old. Avoid replacing wood posts and railings with metal ones or wood porch decks with concrete.*

At the HPC meeting on June 2, 2026, sitting and present members were Chair Eric Parkes, Vice-Chair Robin Kelly, Members Denise Price and Ryan Falvey, and Alternate Member DJ Chagnon. The applicant presented its application detailing the proposed materials, how it will have a tradition appearance, and it will add functionality to the yard, as the area below the proposed deck will be used for storage. The Commission deliberated the application and found that the replacement of the existing aging rear deck with a smaller, and more traditional-style deck using wood-like composite decking boards in a neutral brown tone with railing consisting of white rails and posts with black balusters, meets the above HDO guidelines. Following this discussion the HPC voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the application.

Due to the description of the work, the images submitted by the Applicant, and the provisions set forth in the Historic District Ordinance (HDO) and related Design Guidelines, the Applicant is granted a **Conditional Certificate of Appropriateness**.

The Conditions attached to this Certificate are as follows and must be followed by the Applicant/Owner.

CONDITIONS:

1. The Applicant shall obtain all necessary permits for this project through the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) and must attach this Certificate to any other such permit applications.

2. This Certificate is for the above-described work only. Any changes to this proposal must be requested by submitting a new application to Citizenserve for a Historic Alteration.
3. Approved work must commence within one year of issuance of this Certificate. If work does not commence within one year, the Applicant/Owner is required to submit an application for a Historic Alteration through Citizenserve and request that the Certificate be re-issued.

Issued on behalf of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC):



Eric Parkes, Chair

Dick Bauer

Ryan Falvey

Robin Kelly, *Vice-Chair*

Denise Price

DJ Chagnon, *Alt.*