

Meeting Agenda

WECA Architectural History & Resources Committee

Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7:00p

Virtual Meeting

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3132479035>



1. Call to Order

The meeting will be called to order.

2. Introduction

The City of Hartford has asked for the neighborhood's thoughts on what should happen with the 131 Tremont property that experienced a significant fire in August 2019.

3. Overview of the Property

The Committee Chair will provide an overview of the property and situation.

Interior and exterior photos were circulated before the 9/3/2020 meeting. The group has followed up on a few points, which will be summarized and may be posted online. All files related to the property can be found on the Meeting Info page (<https://www.meetinginfo.org/meetings/975>).

The City confirmed that they can demolish buildings that are health and safety risks, even if they do not own them, if the situation is deemed to be an emergency. Demolition of 131 Tremont would also require the approval of the Historic Preservation Commission since it is in a historic district.

If the neighborhood is supportive, then the City might begin the process of applying for a demolition permit before completing a foreclosure.

4. Questions, Answers, and Discussion

The Committee Chair will moderate an open conversation with the goal of reaching a consensus recommendation about the position WECA should take. The 9/3 meeting identified competing priorities that need to be balanced.

There are current health and safety concerns related to the condition of the building, the wildlife that has taken up residence inside, and the people who continue to enter the structure.

The building is a contributing structure to the historic district, which means that it does have historic value to the district if it is rebuilt in a historically appropriate manner.

Note that demolition does not preclude a historically appropriate home from being built on the site.

5. Other Business

The floor will be opened for new and other West End architectural history and resources business.

6. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting will be adjourned.