

Newburyport Historical Commission
City Hall Conference Room
October 14, 2015
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Sarah White called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Sarah White, Stephen Dodge, Malcolm Carnwath and Mark Bilodeau.

3. Demolition Applications

2 Spofford Street

The applicant was not able to attend the meeting and signed a continuance form. The item will be on the agenda for the October 28 meeting.

Tammy and Kevin Kennelly

5 Neptune Street

Roofline Change

Stephen Foster represented the applicants and presented the changes that were made to the plans after the September 23 meeting. At that meeting the Commission members had requested that the elements of the design be dimensioned. They suggested the break between the dormer and the wall of the house be better delineated and the number and alignment of the windows be changed. They also recommended the pitch of the dormer be made greater. Sarah White met with the applicants on an informal basis between meetings to provide input on the design changes.

Mr. Foster said the roof brackets were removed from the plans. Instead a horizontal accent band would be added under the third-floor windows to break up the vertical plane of the facades. On the front elevation two-over-one, double-hung windows would be installed on the second floor. The casement windows that had been planned for the third floor of the left façade would now instead be double-hung, as would be the windows on the second floor. These windows would be aligned vertically. It was decided the vertical band would be not be necessary on the right façade as it would interfere with the windows. The two large windows that had been planned for the first floor of this façade would be replaced with three smaller ones. On the rear facade a window would be added on the second floor to align with an existing window on the first floor. Mr. Foster said he explored increasing the pitch of the dormers but decided against it.

The Commission members recommended that wood clapboard and trim be used and two-over-one, double-hung, true-divided light, aluminum-clad wood windows be installed. Sarah White recommended a slight adjustment to the location of the vertical band.

Tom Kolterjahn, 64 Federal Street, spoke against the trend in the city to raise the height of historic buildings. He said this has a negative impact because it changes the proportions of structures.

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Stephen Dodge moved to accept the third iteration of the plans as amended and for the Chair to provide recommendations on the materials to be used. Mark Bilodeau seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The applicant shall submit a plan showing the changes as discussed.

4. Advisory Review

Andrew Sidford Architects

87 High Street

Informal Discussion

No plans were submitted and Mr. Sidford did not attend the meeting.

5. Minutes

Mark Bilodeau moved to approve the minutes of the September 23 meeting as submitted. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Correspondence

MHC FY 16 Survey and Planning Grant cycle

Sarah White said it would be helpful to have more structures surveyed. She will work with City grant writer Nancy London to complete the pre-application form by its November 16 due date.

7. Adjournment

Malcolm Carnwath moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.