

**Newburyport Historical Commission**  
City Council Chambers  
January 11, 2017  
Minutes

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Sarah White called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:34 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

In attendance were members Sarah White, Malcolm Carnwath and Stephen Dodge. Mark Bilodeau was absent. Ned McGrath participated by telephone.

**3. General Business**

**Heritage Landing/Mark Griffin, Esq.**

122 Merrimac Street

Preservation Restriction

The project to construct multiple units on a single lot required a 6(C) special permit from the Planning Board. To fulfill the public benefit requirement for the special permit the applicant agreed to place a preservation restriction on the barn. This structure, which dates from 1790, was converted to a single-family residence. The draft preservation restriction was submitted to the Planning Office for review by the Commission but was not included in the members' packets. The item was tabled to the January 25 meeting.

Tom Kolterjahn reminded the Commission members that as a condition of the special permit, the applicant agreed to donate a collection of early photographs of the barn to the city archives, to photograph the beams of the structure and to place a plaque on the structure providing information on its history. Sarah White will contact the applicant.

**David Hamel and Karen Damon/Mark Griffin, Esq.**

496 Merrimac Street

Preservation Restriction

The applicants are proposing to construct a new home at the rear of the site. As a part of the 6(C) special permit that is being sought from the Planning Board, a preservation restriction would be placed on the main house to fulfill the public benefit requirement. Tom Kolterjahn and Linda Miller of the Newburyport Preservation Trust visited the site. They recommended limitations be placed on the height and mass of the new construction in order that it does not overwhelm the existing structure. Mr. Kolterjahn said the fieldstone foundation and beams with wooden pegs indicate the structure was built between 1750 and 1780. A draft preservation restriction was submitted for review by the Commission members. Malcolm Carnwath moved to accept the preservation restriction for 496 Merrimac Street as presented. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Mark Griffin, Esq.**

48 Boardman Street

Preservation Restriction

A new home has been constructed on the site. The work to the exterior of the existing structure that was to be undertaken as a part of a 6(C) special permit from the Planning

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Board has mainly been completed. Tom Kolterjahn, co-president of the Newburyport Preservation Trust, said the group has been involved with the project from its beginning. A list had been compiled of the items to be preserved and this work has been accomplished. The list included the preservation of some interior details that the applicant added voluntarily and were not a part of the restriction. Mr. Kolterjahn said the work on the exterior was beautifully done and he is pleased with the outcome of the project. The Commission has not yet received photographs of all of the items that were listed to be preserved. Malcolm Carnwath moved to accept the document pending the receipts of the photographs of all items that were included in the preservation restriction. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **4. Correspondence**

##### **Request for Letter of Support for the Central Congregational Church's Steeple Restoration Project**

Amantha Moore, 10 North Atkinson Street, said CPA funds are being sought for the restoration of the steeple on the Central Congregation Church, which has been damaged by wind and weather. The damage is not structural in nature, but would become so if the restoration was not undertaken. The proposed work would not change the appearance of the structure. The steeple has been studied by the same company that recently completed restoration work on the Unitarian Church. Malcolm Carnwath moved to write a letter to the Community Preservation Committee endorsing the project. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

##### **Letter of No Adverse Effect from FTA re: Intermodal Parking Facility**

The letter was not included in the packet provided to Commission members. The item will be placed on the agenda of the January 25 meeting.

#### **5. Minutes**

Malcolm Carnwath moved to approve the minutes of the November 9 meeting as submitted. Sarah White seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Ned McGrath ended his telephone participation in the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Malcolm Carnwath moved to approve the minutes of the August 10 meeting as submitted. Sarah White seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Stephen Dodge abstaining.

Malcolm Carnwath moved to approve the minutes of the August 24 meeting as submitted. Sarah White seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Malcolm Carnwath moved to approve the minutes of the December 14 meeting as submitted. Sarah White seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **6. Adjournment**

Sarah White moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.