

Newburyport Historical Commission
City Hall Conference Room
March 19, 2015
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Margaret Welch called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:36 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Stephen Dodge, Margaret Welch, Ned McGrath, Malcolm Carnwath and Mark Bilodeau. Assistant Building Inspector Peter Binette was also in attendance.

3. Demolition Applications

None

4. Advisory Review

Brad Kutcher, Bradku

8 Oakland Street

Advisory Opinion for VI.C Special Permit

Nick Cracknell represented the applicant, who is proposing to add a second house to a single lot. Mr. Cracknell said the approach of the application in adding a new structure to an old neighborhood is to make it look like the house has always been there. The structure would have a cedar shingle roof and brick chimneys. Public improvements, such as brick sidewalks, would be added off site. There would be no significant changes to three sides of the original structure. The Zoning Board granted a variance and special permit with stipulations, one of which is that a preservation restriction would be offered to the City for the 1840 house.

The preservation restriction would be presented to the Commission after the approval of the VI.C special permit. Any alterations to the structure would require approval from the Historical Commission. A list of the elements to be subject to the restriction would be attached as an exhibit to the document. These elements might include the roofline, projections, openings, siding, trim, shutters, the foundation, fencing, steps and any additions or alterations. The applicant will plan to attend the April 16 meeting, at which time the members would vote to conditionally approve the placement of the preservation restriction on the structure. A draft restriction would be submitted to them before the meeting.

Linda Smiley will be asked to provide a letter of support for the project to the Planning Board.

5. Minutes

Margaret Welch moved to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2015 meeting as submitted. Mark Bilodeau seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Ned McGrath abstaining.

6. Correspondence

None

7. Adjournment

Margaret Welch moved to adjourn the meeting 8:21 p.m. Ned McGrath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.