

Newburyport Historical Commission

Minutes of the 5 August 2010 Meeting

1. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission (NHC) was called to order at 7:40 in the Auditorium, City Hall. Present: Linda Smiley, Ned McGrath, Tom Kolterjahn, and Margaret Welch. Absent: Stephen Feige, Leah McGavern. Guests: Sarah White and Doug Locy of the Local Historic District Study Committee (LHDSC).

2. Review of Minutes

1 July minutes approved with emendations (4-0, 2 absent). Review of 19 July minutes deferred.

3. Guests

Sarah White and Doug Locy, Chair and Vice Chair respectively of the LHDSC, gave a Power Point presentation updating the progress of the committee. Subjects under discussion included the composition of the proposed commission and definitions of items to be excluded from review. The committee suggested the 1764 boundaries of the city be used. Concern was raised that the guidelines appeared constraint-oriented. LHDSC members agreed that the guidelines should emphasize that the commission would facilitate the process of historic home renovation and act as a resource to property owners. NHC members favored abutters within 300 feet being notified in case of a public hearing. Member McGrath brought up the point that a positive message should be promoted to attract property owners.

4. Old Business

Powder House Restoration – Member Kolterjahn said that the 99-year lease had been registered.

Meeting ended 9:20.