

Newburyport Historical Commission

Minutes of the 6 September 2012 Meeting

1. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled meeting the Newburyport Historical Commission was called to order at 7:35 in the City Council Chambers, City Hall. Present: Steve Dodge, Tom Kolterjahn, Ned McGrath, Linda Smiley, and Bill Todd. Absent: Margaret Welch.

2. Demolition Applications

72 High Street (John McPartland, applicant) -- This application is being presented after the fact — the work has already begun and is mostly completed. Mr. McPartland was unaware that he needed to come before the NHC. The NHC Chair and Vice-Chair had visited the Building Commissioner to inquire why this work was being done without an application to the NHC. The Commissioner had not been aware of the extent of the work and told Mr. McPartland he had to come before us. Mr. McPartland has demolished an existing porch and removed vinyl siding and trim, etc. Mr. McPartland said he intends to restore the building as detailed in the letter submitted with the application. The NHC voted the building historically significant and voted to accept the plans submitted.

3. New Business

The NHC reviewed the drafted letter to the Planning Board regarding work done under the preservation restriction at 251 Merrimac Street.

Sarah White, 349 High Street, appeared before the Commission at the direction of the Building Commissioner who requested a letter approving her plan for rebuilding a chimney on her house. She intends to duplicate the chimney as it was originally built. It had been redone years ago with inappropriate bricks and mortar. The NHC voted to accept her plan as described.

There was a discussion with Bill Harris regarding the interface of the LHD and the current demo delay ordinance.

Meeting adjourned 7:50.