

Fruit Street Local Historic District Commission
Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2013
City Hall 2nd Floor Small Conference Room

Meeting of the Fruit Street Local Historic District Commission was called to order at 7:04 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Maurice Southworth, Leah McGavern, Bonnie Sontag

Absent: Kevin Wallace, [vacancy]

General Business

- **Approval of Minutes**

Maurice Southworth made a motion to adopt the minutes of the August 8, 2013 meeting. Leah McGavern seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Correspondence

None

Old Business

None

New Business

- **Historical Society of Old Newbury, 98 High Street
Application for fence replacement.**

Sarah White, representing the HSON, explained that wood fencing along Fruit Street and along the rear of the property line needs to be replaced due to deterioration. The Fruit St. fencing will be replaced in-kind with beaded board fencing. It will be white-painted in accordance with historical architectural renderings executed by the WPA in 1936 and constructed with red meranti wood. The renderings submitted to the Commission record in detail the late 19th- and early 20th century fencing still existing on the property in 1936. Fencing at the rear of the property will be white-painted picket in accordance with the same WPA plans. Red meranti wood, durable for at least 25 years, will also be used on this section of the fence.

The small gate closest to the house will be replicated and replaced. The gate to the cart-way leading to the garage has two sections. This gate will be given a central opening, but otherwise remain the same.

The HSON would like to get the posts dug before the ground frozes. The rest of the fence can be built during the cold temperatures. If they find that this cannot be accomplished, they will wait until spring to finish the job. They will be hiring Riverview Builders who have done other work on the property.

Discussion among Commissioners concluded that Exclusion 9.3 of the ordinance permits the Commission to approve a Certificate of non-Applicability for this application.

Bonnie Sontag so moved. Leah McGavern seconded the motion. All voted in favor of granting a Certificate of non-Applicability.

Bonnie will follow-up with Dianne Eppa to complete the paperwork and send it to Sarah at the HSON.

Other Business

- **Candidate search to replace Commissioner Tom Bower**

Bonnie stated that she had asked Leslie Eckholdt if she would be interested in joining the Commission. She has shown a great deal of interest in land-use planning, historical preservation, and recently ran (unsuccessfully) for the Ward 3 council seat. She lives in a historical house on Warren St. Commissioners asked Bonnie to follow up with Leslie and encourage her to send a letter to the Mayor requesting this appointment.

Stephanie Niketic is a possible back up candidate if Leslie does not submit a request or does not get appointed.

Maurice said that he would get the Fruit St. Commissioner's binder from Tom Bower.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Sontag, Note Taker