

Fruit Street Local Historic District Commission
Meeting Minutes – March 14, 2013
Police Station Conference Room

Meeting of the Fruit Street Local Historic District Commission was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Maurice Southworth, Tom Bower, Kevin Wallace, Bonnie Sontag

Absent: Leah McGavern

Guest: Tom Kolterjahn, member of the Newburyport Historic Commission

General Business

Approval of Minutes

Kevin made a motion to approve meeting minutes for January 10, 2013. Tom seconded the motion. Minutes, as amended, approved unanimously.

Correspondence

Email communication between Sue McKittrick and Joe Carper, new owners of 8 Fruit St. and Chairman Maurice Southworth regarding proposed exterior improvements.

Old Business

None

New Business

Sue McKittrick

8 Fruit St.

Informal Discussion

a) Chimney cap addition

The owners will be installing a gas fire unit in the existing fireplace and will need to vent it through the chimney. They will have to add a chimney cap and want advice on what shape and material would be most appropriate. There is a range of chimney caps to be seen on Fruit St. houses. It would be good to have as unobtrusive a chimney cap as possible. After discussion with Tom Kolterjahn about options, Ms. McKittrick felt that a design that includes stacked brick corners and a copper cover would probably be their choice.

Regarding any repairs to the chimney, Tom was adamant about avoiding Portland cement as it is too hard and does not allow the chimney to breathe. He recommends lime mortar for all brick repairs. They should also be sure to have a flexible metal lining installed in the chimney.

Tom recommended Matt Gillard of Colonial Brick Works in Amesbury for liner and restoration work. Tom Bower offered to provide examples of gas fire inserts in his home and in his neighbor's home.

b) Exterior condenser for air conditioning system

They will be installing an air conditioning system that requires external condenser placement. The plan is to place it behind the house and shield it from view.

c) Gutter fascia board replacement

They will replace the current gutters and boards with the same materials: aluminum and wood.

d) Kitchen stove vent

The kitchen stove vent will be installed outside at the back of the house. It will be a standard white vent on the new part of the house.

Next steps

The new owners of 8 Fruit Street will submit an Application for Certificate stating exactly what they intend to do as the scope of work. Their application will be scheduled for review at the April meeting of the Commission.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Sontag, Note Taker.