

## **Newburyport Historical Commission**

March 27, 2019

City Council Chambers

Minutes

### **1. Call to Order**

Acting Chair Glenn Richards called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:34 p.m.

### **2. Roll Call**

In attendance were members Stephen Dodge, Christopher Fay, Ron Ziemba, Malcolm Carnwath and Glenn Richards. Ned McGrath participated by telephone.

### **3. General Business**

#### **Custom House Maritime Museum**

25 Water Street

Request for Letter of Support

Doug Muir, chair of the board of the Custom House Maritime Museum, requested that NHC provide to MHC a letter in support of a Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund grant. The grant package has not been finalized and the letter is not needed at the present time. Mr. Muir submitted a sample letter for future use.

#### **Susan Stone**

3 Arlington Street

Demolition Delay Historical Significance Determination

Lisa Mead and Scott Brown represented the applicant, who is proposing to move a carriage barn and connect it to the main house in order that it might be converted to an in-law apartment. The barn is approximately 100 years old. The barn would be enlarged and a dormer and sunroom would be added. Ned McGrath moved the structure is historically significant. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. A public hearing will be scheduled.

#### **Joseph Kostan**

17 Arlington Street

Demolition Delay Historical Significance Determination

The applicant appears to be proposing to demolish a one-car detached garage but the application is ambiguous because it indicates a full-building demolition would take place. The Commission members would be in favor of releasing the garage for demolition but did not do so because of the concern the approval could be construed as applying to the main structure. Stephen Dodge moved the property is historically significant. Christopher Fay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## Newburyport Historical Commission

March 27, 2019

### **Mark and Terry Robertson**

1 Jefferson Court

Demolition Delay Historical Significance Determination

Lisa Mead and Ilene Graf represented the applicant, who is proposing to change the roofline on an addition to the original structure. Many changes have been made over the year to the house, which was constructed between 1911 and 1924. Christopher Fay made the observation that the original house is no longer evident. Comments from the public were accepted. Tom Kolterjahn, 64 Federal Street, said that the additions have overpowered the historic house. Stephen Dodge moved the structure is not historically significant. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Ron Ziemba voting against it.

### **Charles Nutter, Woodman Associates**

93 State Street

DOD Advisory Review

The applicant is proposing to replace the front steps of the Institution for Savings. The steps are in poor condition and it has not been possible to locate brownstone in the size needed. The treads and sidewalls would be replaced with precast concrete steps that has been tinted to match the brownstone. The existing sidewalls of the steps would be retained. The window sills and lintels on the structure had previously been changed to cast stone. Glenn Richards moved to recommend the application be accepted as proposed. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Charles Griffin**

Auburn Street/Old Gaol

Preservation Restriction Discussion

Nick Cracknell represented the applicant, who is seeking dimension relief from the ZBA. He asked for NHC support for a proposal to adjust the lot lines near the historic gaol complex to align them with the existing conditions. In exchange, a preservation restriction would be placed on the property. The gaol is not in the DOD and is currently unprotected. The restriction would apply to the roofs, chimneys and windows of the gaol, keeper's house and stable, the granite walls and gates, the iron front door, the open lawns and the courtyard. The applicant would reserve the right to construct an addition to the gaol and the connector building. Comments from the public were accepted. Tom Kolterjahn, 64 Federal Street, said the City owes a debt of gratitude to the Griffins for their good stewardship of the complex. Malcolm Carnwath moved to write a strong letter of support for the application. Christopher Fay seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Preservation Restrictions Discussion**

City Councilor Jared Eigerman offered his opinion on preservation restrictions after confusion occurred about the restriction placed on the Central Congregational Church in exchange for CPA funds. He believes that the Anti-Aid Amendment would prohibit the expenditure of public money on private properties or those owned by non-profit

Newburyport Historical Commission  
March 27, 2019

organizations. He said all preservation restrictions should be reviewed by an attorney and executed and recorded before any money is distributed.

**4. Correspondence**

**Request for Section 106 Review for 25 Temple Street**

Stephen Dodge moved the proposal would not adversely impact any historic resources. Glenn Richards seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**5. Election of Officers**

Stephen Dodge moved to nominate Glenn Richards for the position of chair. Ned McGrath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Glenn Richards moved to nominate Ned McGrath for the position of vice chair. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**6. Minutes**

Ron Ziemba moved to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2019, meeting as submitted. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**7. Adjournment**

Stephen Dodge moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Ron Ziemba seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.