

Newburyport Historical Commission
City Hall Conference Room
August 24, 2016
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Sarah White called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:32 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Sarah White, Malcolm Carnwath, Stephen Dodge and Mark Bilodeau. Ned McGrath was absent. Building Commissioner Peter Binette was also in attendance.

3. Demolition Applications

Attorney Lisa Mead, Blatman, Bobrowski, Mead & Talerman, LLC for Daniel Wilson

15-19 Williamson Avenue

Full Building Demolition

Lisa Mead represented the applicant and described the proposed project. The Commission members voted unanimously the structure is not historically significant.

4. Advisory Review

None

5. General Business

190 High Street Preservation Restriction

Property owner Ted Nelson wishes to sell the main structure and occupy the carriage house. He is seeking a Section 6(C) permit from the Planning Board in order to be able to rent the carriage house in the future if he chooses. He would like to place a preservation restriction on the façade of the carriage house to satisfy the public benefit requirement of the Section 6(C) permit. The Commission members voted unanimously to accept the preservation restriction on the façade of the carriage house provided the property owner and the Office of Planning and Development draft the restriction and submit it to the Commission for approval.

30-32 Water Street, #6

Peter Binette said a chimney at 30-32 Water Street is failing. He wishes to use his authority under the Downtown Overlay District (DOD) to issue a permit for its repair. Sarah White read the section of the ordinance to which he referred. She said the DOD does not convey the authority to the Building Commission to issue a permit without Planning Board approval for the proposed work. Mr. Binette responded he would use the authority granted to him elsewhere in the City ordinances to allow the work to proceed. Sarah White opened the meeting to comments from the public. Tom Kolterjahn, 64 Federal Street, said he is concerned about the proposed work. Condo owners also expressed their opinions on the repair work. Water leaks have occurred around the chimney. While some condo owners would like the work to proceed, others

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wish to ensure a qualified mason would be selected for the work. The Commission members determined there is no action for them to take at this time.

6. Minutes

The approval of the minutes of the August 10, 2016 meeting was tabled.

7. Adjournment

Sarah White moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.