

Newburyport Historical Commission

August 28, 2019

City Council Chambers

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Glenn Richards called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

3. General Business

Charles Griffin

Auburn Street/Old Gaol

Preservation Restriction Discussion

The Commission members received the latest version of the draft preservation restriction for the Old Gaol. The Planning Board approved the plan and the book and page numbers were added to the document. No other changes have been made. Exhibit B was not attached and still must be included. Glenn Richards thanked Chuck Griffin on behalf of the Commission for the amount of work that went into the preparation of the document. Patricia Peknik commented she especially likes Exhibit C.

Ron Ziemba moved to approve the final draft of the preservation restriction for the Old Gaol. Patricia Peknik seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Ned McGrath abstaining.

Glenn Richards moved to authorize the chair to take the steps necessary to move the approval process forward. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Benjamin Becker

5 Buck Street

Demolition Delay Historical Significance Determination

The applicant is proposing to change the roofline in order to add living space at the attic level. Christopher Fay moved the structure is historically significant. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Commission members commented on the proposed plans. The right side of the structure has been heavily modified and the proposal would be an improvement over the existing conditions. The dormer proposed for the left side would detract from the historic character of the original structure. The applicant was encouraged to explore other alternatives.

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Davis Simpson, Jr., Maria Lachapelle, and Ryan LaChapelle

5 Olive Street

Request for Modification

Lisa Mead represented the applicant, who at the August 14 requested the approval of modified plans for the expansion at the rear the structure. The original proposal was for a two-story addition. The Commission approved plans for a one-story addition with a roof deck with the condition the railing of the deck would be recessed so as not to be visible from a public way. The applicant subsequently decided this would make the usable area of the roof deck too small. Instead it was proposed that a wall or trellis be used to screen the roof deck. Stephen Dodge moved to accept the plans for a trellis without a pergola. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Ned McGrath abstaining.

4. Adjournment

Malcolm Carnwath moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.