

Newburyport Historical Commission

May 11, 2023

Online Meeting

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Glenn Richards called an online meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Glenn Richards, Joe Morgan, Biff Bouse, Chris Sawtelle, Andrew Bernhardt and Christopher Fay. Marc Cendron was absent. Also in attendance were Planner Katelyn Sullivan and note taker Gretchen Joy.

3. DOD/DCOD Advisory Review

6 Pine Street

Glenn Richards summarized the points made in the draft advisory report. He wrote that while the addition would be substantial in size, the existing house is small and the proposed design would work well with it. The proposal is reasonable and would not adversely impact the historical values of the existing structure or neighborhood. Joe Morgan added that the proposal would preserve the scale of the street frontage. It is a reminder that there were many small houses in the city.

Biff Bouse moved to approve the report as written. Joe Morgan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes; Chris Sawtelle, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, yes; Christopher Fay, abstain).

4. Updates from the Chair

Glenn Richards said he, Biff Bouse, Chris Sawtelle and Andrew Bernhardt attended the information session on boards and commissions that was held on May 4. An intern has been engaged to record the interior features of the Cushing House for the preservation restriction. Some progress is being made on the preservation restriction for the Old Gaol.

5. Other Business

Biff Bouse moved to nominate himself for the position of Vice Chair. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes; Chris Sawtelle, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, yes; Christopher Fay, yes).

6. Minutes

Joe Morgan moved to approve the minutes of the April 19 meeting. Biff Bouse seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes; Chris Sawtelle, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, yes; Christopher Fay, abstain).

7. Adjournment

Biff Bouse moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Andrew Bernhardt seconded the motion. The motion was approved.