

Newburyport Historical Commission

September 8, 2022

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, Andrew Bernhardt, Biff Bouse, Joe Morgan and Marc Cendron. Malcolm Carnwath and Christopher Fay were absent. Also in attendance were Planning Director Andy Port, Planner Katelyn Sullivan and note taker Gretchen Joy.

3. Demolition Delay Applications

a) 26 Eagle Street

The applicant requested to withdraw the application. The applicant has revised the plans and the Zoning Administrator has determined that the new plans do not require review under the Demolition Delay Ordinance.

Marc Cendron moved to approve the request to withdraw the application for 26 Eagle Street without prejudice. Joe Morgan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, yes; Marc Cendron, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes).

4. General Business

a) 25 Water Street

The Newburyport Preservation Trust has gifted a plaque to the Custom House Maritime Museum that indicates the building's architect and date of construction. The structure is under a preservation restriction that requires NHC review of any permanent signage. The 16" x 24" bronze plaque would be placed at eye level below an existing NRA plaque. It would be installed in the mortar joint and the granite would not be impacted.

Joe Morgan moved to approve of the installation of the plaque in its proposed location. Biff Bouse seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, yes; Marc Cendron, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes).

b) Market Landing Park Expansion Phase

Andy Port said the architect has refined the plans for the restroom facility for the expanded park. He said City Council has jurisdiction over the structure, which limits some aspects of the design. The Commission has provided an advisory opinion to the Planning Board on the proposal. While the Ordinance does not require that the NHC comment on revised plans, the item will be on the agenda for the September 21 meeting.

5. Minutes

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Biff Bouse moved to approve the minutes of the August 25 meeting. Marc Cendron seconded the motion. The motion was approved by 4-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, abstain; Marc Cendron, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes).

6. Updates from the Chair

Glenn Richards said the rule requiring the phrasing a motion in the positive does not appear to be strictly enforced. He will institute the practice of restating motions after they have been made. He also said it is customary for a discussion to take place after a motion has been made and seconded.

Andy Port said the Commission has some discretion in applying Robert's Rules. He said it makes sense for deliberations to take place before a motion. The Commission may or may not choose to make its motions in the affirmative. It is more important that the motion is clearly stated.

7. Adjournment

Marc Cendron moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Joe Morgan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, yes; Marc Cendron, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes).