Newburyport Historical Commission

December 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, Joe Morgan, Marc Cendron, Christopher Fay and Biff Bouse (arrived at 7:15). Also in attendance were Planner Katelyn Sullivan and note taker Gretchen Joy.

3. Demolition Delay Applications

182-184 Merrimac Street

The one-year Demolition Delay was imposed at the November 10 meeting. Chris Crump described the revisions to the plans that were made in response to comments received at that meeting. The Commission members had no opposition to the plans for the rear of the structure. The plans for the front elevation were amended. The panels were removed from the corner boards. The dormer at the attic level was made wider and a gable roof was added. The windows were changed to six-over-six to match the windows on the lower levels. The roof of the covered entry was changed from arched to gabled to be in keeping with the Federal style.

Andrew Bernhardt said he likes the changes. Joe Morgan said he is satisfied with the proposed solution, although the clapboards should be wood rather than a composite material. Marc Cendron agreed that the clapboards should be wood. Glenn Richards said MHC is not opposed to a composite material, but he has noticed cracking in some instances. He also said the attic dormer is not of the true Federal style due to its width, but it is an improvement and it would not be highly visible. The entry is likewise not representative of the period, but it is harmonious with the rest of the structure. Biff Bouse said the front entry is obviously not original. It is reminiscent of the Federal style but has a modern appearance.

Andrew Bernhardt moved to approve the revised plans as submitted and lift the Demolition Delay. Marc Cendron seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 5-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Andrew Bernhardt, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes; Marc Cendron, yes; Christopher Fay, abstain).

4. Updates from the Chair

Glenn Richards will contact Minco about photographing the interior of the Haley's Ice Cream building, which dates from 1952.

5. Minutes

Glenn Richards moved to approve the minutes of the November 12 meeting. Biff Bouse seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote (Glenn Richards, yes; Andrew

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Bernhardt, yes; Biff Bouse, yes; Joe Morgan, yes; Marc Cendron, abstain; Christopher Fay, abstain).

6. Adjournment

Marc Cendron moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Joe Morgan seconded the motion. The motion was approved.