

**Newburyport Historical Commission**  
City Council Chambers  
February 28, 2018  
Minutes

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Sarah White called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Historical Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

In attendance were members Sarah White, Malcolm Carnwath and Stephen Dodge. Ned McGrath was absent.

**3. General Business**

**A. Berkeley Investments, Inc.**

1690 House, 262 Merrimac Street

Interpretive Panels

Eric Ekman distributed the final draft of the interpretive panels relating to the 1690 House. Two 36" x 28" signs would be installed in a brick viewing area off of Merrimac Street that would be lined with granite curbing. The Preservation Trust worked with the applicant to develop the content of the panels, which was reviewed by many members of the community.

Sarah White commented that the only interior photograph of the house shows the stairs and she would like one of a paneled room to be included. Stephanie Niketic responded she had difficulty locating a good quality photograph of a room from a time in which it was in use but will attempt to locate one. The Commission would be acceptable with a photograph of an empty room that has been enhanced to show the detail of the paneling.

Sarah White moved to approve the interpretive panels as presented with the condition that a minimum of one photograph of the interior of the 1690 House be added. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**B. Kenneth Woods**

20 Temple Street

Demolition Delay Historic Significance Determination

The applicant is proposing to construct a small addition above an existing one-story mudroom that was not a part of the original structure. The alteration would allow a hallway to be extended to provide access to a bedroom.

Sarah White moved the structure is historically significant. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. A public hearing will be scheduled.

**C. Virginia Lasala**

15 Eagle Street

Demolition Delay Historic Significance Determination

Architect Hilary Ward described the proposal to demolish a small addition at the rear of the structure and construct a two-story addition in its place. The new addition would extend beyond the existing footprint in two directions.

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Sarah White moved the structure is historically significant. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. White commented that the proposal would fundamentally change the existing house and the additions must be made more harmonious with the simple classical structure. She suggested ways in which the proposed changes could be improved, such as lowering the addition, pulling back the eave and dormer and adding windows.

If there is not sufficient time to schedule a public hearing for the March 14 meeting, the meeting might be postponed to Monday, March 19 or Tuesday, March 20.

**D. Ted Epstein**

15 Pleasant Street

DOD Advisory Review

The applicant is proposing to add to emergency exits to the front facade of the structure by altering the existing windows. The bricks would be removed from beneath a portion of windows to allow for the installation of the doors. Accordion windows would be installed in place of the existing ones. The members discussed various alternatives, such as lowering the bottom edge of the windows to the ground and adding planters in front of them. The applicant did not remember the style of the doors he is proposing to install. Lowering the windows would only be appropriate if the doors were to be fully glass.

Tom Kolterjahn said the proposal does not reflect the quality of the restaurant or the downtown. He said there is no molding or articulation of the brick to indicate a change in use. He suggested the style of the front door be copied.

Sarah White moved to recommend to the Planning Board two doors be added to the front façade of the structure to allow for emergency egress and that these doors be of wood and repeat the elements of the existing front doors. Malcolm Carnwath seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**4. Minutes**

Malcolm Carnwath moved to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2018, meeting as submitted. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**5. Correspondence**

**Cornelius Doyle Triangle Project**

MHC submitted a letter to the Parks Department stating it does not need to conduct a review of the Cornelius Doyle Triangle Renovation and Beautification Project because the subject area is neither included in the MHC Inventory of Historic and Archeological Assets nor listed in the State Register of Historic Places.

**6. Adjournment**

Malcolm Carnwath moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. Stephen Dodge seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.