

## DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Approved Jan. 20, 2021

**Minutes: January 6, 2021**

Present: Tag Carpenter, Chair, Chris Andrew, Arthur Evans, Sheila Lynch-Benttinen, and Ed Mayo. Nicole Walters and Dante Iannazzo were absent.

*Note: the numbering below is chronological and may not correspond to agenda item numbering.*

Mr. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and confirmed that members present could be heard by mentioning their name and receiving an affirmative response. He then read the following preamble:

*"This Open Meeting is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 Virus. In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely. The Order, which you can find posted on our agenda, allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. For public access please email at [DuxHistoricalCom@gmail.com](mailto:DuxHistoricalCom@gmail.com) or call in at 1-929-436-2866 for questions or comments.*

*This meeting is convening via Zoom video conference and is being recorded. The recording will be made available via video on-demand on PACTV's website."*

**1. Open Forum.** It was suggested photos be taken of progress with restoration 339 Powder Point Ave. for future reference. The receipt of new Demolition Applications for 256 King Caesar Rd. and 51 Upland Road, both dated Jan. 6, 2021, was acknowledged.

**2. Minutes.** Minutes of the Dec. 2, 2020 meeting were approved as written by a 5-0 vote.

**3. New Demolition Delay Applications:**

a. *65 Ocean Road North, ca. 1945, complete demolition.* Owner James Duffy participated. Original intent was to renovate the house until it was revealed the structure was made of recycled material that could not stand up to current building codes. A motion moved and seconded the building was historically significant and subject to the provisions of the Demolition Delay Bylaw failed by a 0-5 vote. Demolition is allowed.

b. *8 Pine Point Road, ca. 1940, complete demolition.* Although a good example of cottage style architecture, this structure is in badly deteriorated condition and renovation is not a feasible option. A motion moved and seconded that the building was historically significant and subject to the provisions of the Demolition Delay Bylaw failed by a 0-5 vote. Demolition is allowed.

*Note:* Walkarounds for 256 King Caesar Rd. and 51 Upland Road, noted in #1 above, will be scheduled via email, possibly for Jan. 19.

**4. Demolition Delays in Effect**

a. *184 Marshall Street, expires Feb 6, 2021.* Nothing new.

b. *313 Washington Street, expires July 20, 2021.* Alternatives meeting to be set up this month.

c. *260 Washington Street Barn, expires August 5, 2021.* No reply to date to the letter sent in December following up on the alternatives meeting with the owners in late August. Commissioners admitted the possibility of not hearing back from the applicants.

d. *57 Shipyard Lane, expires September 16, 2021.* Alternatives meeting was held remotely Nov. 30; there has been no recent contact with the owners. Options discussed were relocation of the old section of the house to 761 Temple Street as part of a proposed Affordable Housing complex at that site, but Affordable Housing is said not to be interested in this. Discussions with Mrs. Shea of Bay Road, who had expressed an interest in having the house relocated to her lot there, broke down when she learned the Commission cannot help finance such a move. It was not known if she has been in direct contact with the owners. Discussion with the architect, Julia Chuslo, seemed the best and possibly last option open; Commissioner Depranos will be asked to follow-up.

## **5. Administration**

a. New draft of Duxbury history. Proposals from three writers were received in December with samples of their writing shared with commissioners. All three were considered to be very well qualified and more than up to the task of writing a brief history of the Town. One, Erin Brenner, who edited the book *Duxbury: Our Pilgrim History* published in 2020 had the advantage of being familiar with the Town's history and was the choice of the majority. Commissioner Evans will contact her and the other candidates regarding this decision. A budget cap of \$800 was set for the project, with a deadline of the end of February 2021 for completing it.

b. Preservation Award. Commissioner Lynch-Benttinen will circulate her list of candidates for this award to the commissioners, with a decision to be made at the January 20 meeting. The awards ceremony will be held remotely at a February meeting.

## **6. National Register Applications for Old Town Hall and Myles Standish Homestead Park.**

Notification these applications were passed on to the National Register Office in Washington D.C. by the Massachusetts Historical Commission was received over the holidays, and were sent without comment from the Town. It is now a "wait and see" situation while the National Register Office considers the applications.

**7. CPC Update.** No meetings are on the calendar. The CPC is considering recommending the American Legion Hall/Millbrook School be placed in a Local Historic District. It was suggested the Winsor House, recently purchased by Island Creek Oysters, also be placed in a LHD.

**8. LHDC Update.** At a recent meeting re: 47 Surplus Street the LHDC asked the architect to make considerable changes to the proposed plans for renovation of the property. It was not known if a public hearing will follow. The Historical Commission appreciates and respects the Local Historic District Commission's presence as the regulatory authority in the matter.

**9. Motion to Adjourn.** Made and seconded at 8:16 PM. The Commission will meet again Jan. 20.

## New Materials Received:

1. Complete demolition application dated Dec. 11, 2020 for 8 Pine Point Road.
2. Complete demolition application dated Dec. 22, 2020 for 65 Ocean Road North.
3. Letter dated Dec.10, 2020 to Tag Carpenter from the MA Historical Commission Re: National Register Listings for the Myles Standish House Site and Park and the Old Town Hall Historic District.

*Minutes prepared and submitted by Arthur B. Evans, Clerk*