

TOWN CLERK

DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Approved ~~August 2, 2022~~ August 2, 2022 1:31 PM

Minutes: August 3, 2022

DUXBURY, MASS.

Present: Ed Mayo, Acting Chair, Andrew Burns, Michael Carlson, and Arthur Evans. Tag Carpenter, Chris Andrew, and Brendan Wall were absent.

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

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom. Mr. Mayo called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM and confirmed that members present could be heard by calling for a roll call. He then read the following preamble:

"Pursuant to Governor Baker's Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 dated June 16, 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain Covid-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency regarding suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, as amended on July 15, 2022, the Town of Duxbury's Board and/or Committee meetings will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible with members. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so by following the ZOOM meeting links."

The meeting was convened via Zoom video conference and recorded.

1. Open Forum. Nothing presented.
2. Minutes. The July 20, 2022, minutes were approved by a 4-0 vote.
3. New Demolition Delay Applications:
  - a. *15 Lewis Court, 1875, total demolition*. Owners Charles and Elizabeth Bradford participated. Currently occupied, this cottage has suffered water damage and structural deterioration over the years and the Bradfords want to replace it with a new raised structure. In January 2019 the Commission considered the neighboring cottage at 13 Lewis Court, similar in design and condition to 15 Lewis Court, and voted then that "while aware of the desirability of preserving cottages in this section of Duxbury...the historic value of this structure did not meet the criteria of the bylaw." A motion, made and seconded that this same logic and wording applies to 15 Lewis Court, passed by a 4-0 vote. The demo delay bylaw does not apply in this case and demolition is allowed.
  - b. *163 Abrams Hill, 1938, total demolition*. The bylaw applies only to one part of this small house, the 12 x 24 eastern section built by William Edwards, who occupied it until his death in the early 1940's. The structure was updated in the early 1950's when approx. 500 sq. ft. living space, deck, and porch were added. After brief discussion, it was moved and seconded the structure does not meet the criteria as a regulated structure defined in the demo delay bylaw. Demolition should be allowed. Passed 4-0.
4. 761 Temple Street - Isaac Simmons Farm. Because Mr. Carpenter, the main liaison with the Harrington Working Group, the Town, and the Commission was not able to be at the meeting, nothing new was reported about the sale of this property. The due date for Request for Proposals is August 30.
5. 685 Washington Street - McLaughlin Walkway and Pier.

As noted in the July 20 minutes, Mr. Carpenter was to send a letter restating the Historical Commission's prior findings to Cally Harper, Environmental Analyst, DEP Waterways Regulation Program, 20 Riverside Dr., Lakeville, MA 02347. A copy of the letter was not available for discussion at the meeting.

6. Historical Commission Preservation Programs.

a. *Local Historic Districts.* Mr. Carlson reported some progress, but nothing conclusive, on his discussions with neighbors on High Street about making this section of town a LHD. Prior attitudes toward this that were negative are now open, if not positive.

b. *National Register of Historic Places Listings.* Mr. Evans asked for feedback to the draft report distributed early in June. He proposed that an alternative to this draft might be a simple listing of all properties noted in the Town Wide Community Surveys prepared in 2001, 2002, and 2004 for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Mr. Mayo agreed this would be a good idea; others concurred.

c. *Preservation Easement.* No news.

7. Preservation Plan. Mr. Carpenter will circulate the draft of this to commissioners via email.

8. CPC Update. No news

9. LHDC Update. No news.

10. Misc. Borrego Solar Energy Storage System Facility, 0 and 711 West St. Plans for installation of a commercial Energy Storage Facility at this site were briefly discussed. As noted in an email from the Chair, this is not an action item for the Commission, but one of interest because the site is considered to be archaeologically sensitive by the MA Historical Commission. Mr. Carpenter will follow up with the MHC.

11. Motion to Adjourn. Made and seconded at 7:51 PM. Passed 4-0.

New Materials Received:

1. Letter dated July 13, 2022 from Brona Simon of the MHC to Erin Kendrick of Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. re: Solar Energy Storage System Facility on West Street.

2. Email dated August 3 from Tag Carpenter to Commissioners forwarding and commenting on #1, above.

*Minutes Prepared and Submitted by Arthur B. Evans, Clerk*