

## DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Approved Oct. 20, 2021

Minutes:      October 6, 2021

Present:      Tag Carpenter, Chair, Andrew Burns, Michael Carlson, Arthur Evans, and Sheila Lynch-Benttinen. Chris Andrew and Ed Mayo were absent.

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

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom. Mr. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:05 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, 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. The recording is available via video on-demand on PACT’s website.

**1. Open Forum.** The ZBA will consider the proposed raising of the structure at 449 Washington St. at its October 13 meeting. In the HC’s discussion of the application to demolish the garage at this address on Sept. 15, Ms. Lynch-Benttinen provided an historical overview of the site, which Paul Brogna, representing the owners, asked the Commission to share with the ZBA. Ms. Lynch Benttinen will draft a letter to send to the ZBA with this information and circulate it to commissioners for comment prior to the ZBA meeting.

**2. Minutes.** Minutes of the Sept. 15 meeting were approved by a 5-0 vote.

### **3. Demolition Delays in Effect**

- a. *57 Shipyard Lane, expires September 16, 2021.* Tony Kelso’s mother recently passed away diverting his attention from this project to family affairs. The question of whether this would put “flaking” and relocation of the 1795 portion of the house on hold, and whether Michael Burry can go ahead with the flaking as planned were discussed. Mr. Carpenter to contact owners of 57 Shipyard to discuss options.

### **4. New Demolition Applications:**

- a. *1 Abrams Hill Cottage, ca.1923, total demolition.* Application received today (October 6) and will be discussed at the October 20 meeting.

**5. 761 Temple Street (Issac Simmons Farm).** The group working on the future of this property met once since the last HC meeting. Their focus is on preparing a presentation for the March 2022 annual town meeting; work on the application to include the property in a Local Historic District is in final draft form. Plans are being made for an open house on October 30; Ms. Lynch-Benttinen volunteered to represent the Commission at the event. Concern about the proposed design of houses for the 40B development to be known as The Village at Harlow Brook across the street from 761 Temple St. was discussed. Present design has several houses situated on Temple St., which would be a marked contrast to

the rural nature of the area. Agreed the Commission should send a letter to the ZBA expressing these concerns; Mr. Carlson will prepare a draft and circulate among commissioners. The ZBA is scheduled to consider the project at its meeting in late October.

**6. Review of Draft Documents.** *Draft request to CPC re: Historic sign for Nathaniel Winsor I House, and proposal to the CPC for the study artifacts at 73 Washington Street.* Mr. Carpenter received a cool reception to both ideas when he presented them to the CPC at its Sept. 16 meeting. He reported CPC funds are not available, and there was concern about using CPC money to fund projects on privately owned properties. The CPC encouraged the HC and other entities to look for other sources of funds. Moved and seconded the Commission refrain from submitting a request for CPC funds in the Fall of 2021 and reconsider the effort for the Fall of 2022. Passed 5-0.

**7. CPC Update.** Work is proceeding to fund restoration of the Duxbury American Legion Post 223, formerly the Millbrook School built in 1873. (DUX 608)

**8. Local Historic District Commission.** The preliminary study report to present to the Annual Town Meeting in March is nearing completion.

**9. Annual Report.** Completed on time and submitted to the Town Manager October 1.

**10. Online Workshops present by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.** The list of online workshops to be presented over the next few months was discussed. Messrs. Carlson and Evans indicated they tried to register for some of these; other commissioners were encouraged to follow suit, time permitting.

**11. FY 2022 Initiatives.** Mr. Carpenter circulated the list of Historic and Cultural Resources Recommendations found in the in the "Implementation Plan" (Chapter 6) of the *Envision Duxbury Comprehensive Master Plan* for discussion. This is comprehensive and ambitious list of action items for the Historic Commission, some proposed for short term action and others medium and long term. It was questioned if a volunteer commission, such as the HC could accomplish these items on its own, noting other towns such as Hingham, Norwell, Plymouth, among others have a full-time staff member for such work. Agreed to consider the items listed and discuss at the next meeting.

**12. Motion to Adjourn.** Made and seconded at 8:08 PM. Passed 5-0.

New Materials Received:

1. Demolition Delay Application dated Oct. 6, 2021, Cottage at 1 Abrams Hill.
2. Email from Tag Carpenter dated Oct. 4, 2021, re: Historic and Cultural Resources Recommendations in *Envision Duxbury*.

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