

DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

APPROVED NOV. 6, 2019

Minutes: October 30, 2019

Present: R. Tag Carpenter, Vice-Chair, Arthur Evans, Sheila Lynch-Benttinen, Ed Mayo, and Nicole Walters. Michael Cole and Robert C. (Terry) Vose, Chair, were absent.

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

Vice-Chairman Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

1. Open Forum. Nothing discussed.

2. Minutes. Minutes of the October 16 meeting were approved by a 5-0 vote.

3. Final Determination on Demolition Delay Application for 761 Temple Street

Possible consequences for invoking and not invoking a demolition delay on this property were discussed at some length, with one commissioner concerned about the process and especially the transfer of a demolition delay from one owner to another. Sentiment at the public hearing Oct. 16 was clearly in favor of a delay. Moved and seconded that 761 Temple Street is a “preferably preserved” structure, and the twelve-month (12) delay stipulated in the Bylaw should be invoked. Passed 5-0. The delay period will begin October 31, 2019 and end October 30, 2020

4. Demolition Delays in Effect

a. *208 Myrtle Street, Joel Peterson House (DUX 455) ca. 1850, complete demolition.* Twelve-month demolition delay was imposed Sept. 18, 2019 and expires Sept. 17, 2020. Owner and contractor were present and submitted a plan to demolish rear sections of the house that are in poor condition and move the main front section forward (south) on the lot so the foundation of a new house could be poured. Efforts are underway to find a new owner for the front section: a classified ad for a “Free House” was placed in the *Clipper* by the owner for a six-week run. A member of the Historical Commission volunteered to prepare and publish a notice on a Duxbury Helping Duxbury social media forum with a picture to be supplied by the owner. Anyone wanting to move or dismantle the structure would have to do so at their expense. Commissioners agreed the plan intended to preserve the house, and voted 4-0, with one abstention to approve a motion to adopt it. A copy will be passed along to the Building Commissioner by the Clerk; it is understood that efforts will be made to keep the portion of the house being moved watertight.

5. New Demolition Delay Applications.

a. *31 Mullins Avenue, ca. 1925, Complete Demolition.*

Located in the Alden Heights area of town known for its dense collection of cottages built in the early 20th century. Commissioners thought the original architecture and style of the house were significant as an example of the cottage style, but agreed that because the structure has been remodeled several times and neglected in recent years it is beyond the point of preservation. A motion the Bylaw does not apply passed 5-0.

6. Recently Expired Demolition Delays.

- a. 208 Summer Street. Delay expired Oct. 6. No contact with owner; harvesting of the interior seems to have started and demolition of the building is expected in the near future.

6. Plymouth 2020 Events Sponsored by the Historical Commission. There was further discussion of possible walkaround tours guided by Town Historian Tony Kelso of the historic 1641 Edmond Hawes – Barker Hunt House at 8 Hound’s Ditch Lane, and the adjacent house at 4 Hound’s Ditch Lane. It was also suggested the HC identify houses in town from different periods and provide information to the public about them for self-guided tours. Ms. Lynch-Bentinnen said she had submitted a proposal for just such a project to the CPC, but was not approved. The website for Duxbury 2020 lists events that group has planned.

7. Plymouth Archaeological Rediscovery Project.

Craig Chartier of the Plymouth Archaeological Rediscovery Project inquired in an email to Maureen Hansen if the HC would like him to provide information on archaeological sites that have been identified in Duxbury. Cost would be \$1,000. Commissioners decided not to pursue this for two reasons: the DHC does not currently have funds for it, and it is too late to submit a proposal for funding to the CPC.

8. CPC Update/New Liaison. Consider at next meeting.

9. Local Historic District Commission. Consider at next meeting.

10. Motion to Adjourn. Made and seconded at 8:45 PM. Passed 5-0.

New Materials Received:

1. Email dated Oct. 22 to Maureen Hansen from Craig Chartier.
2. Undated plan from Jonathan Caffrey and Nathan Popoloski re: 208 Myrtle Street
3. Complete demolition application dated Oct. 18 for total demolition of 31 Mullins Ave.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Arthur B. Evans, Clerk

