

Present: R. Tag Carpenter, Chair, Nicole Walters, Vice Chair, Michael Cole, Arthur Evans, Sheila Lynch-Benttinen, and Ed Mayo.

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

Mr. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

1. Open Forum. The Commission has received notification of the MA Preservation Project Fund Grants (Round 26). Deadline for proposals is March 20, 2020.

2. Minutes. Minutes of the Dec. 4 meeting were approved by a 6-0 vote.

3. Expired Demolition Delay Preservation Status Update

a. *308 Summer Street. Delay expired Oct. 6, 2019.* No new developments.

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. The house has been moved from its foundation 40 feet towards the street and the chimney removed. The back of the house is now exposed, in violation of the HC's agreement with the owner. The Chair will contact the contractor, Nate Popoloski about this.

b. *761 Temple Street, Issac Simmons House, ca. 1696, complete demolition.*

Twelve-month demolition delay was invoked Oct 31 and expires Oct. 30, 2020. The Town has received an updated purchase and sale agreement between Banner Construction Co., and the owner, Nathan Harington, that divides the property into four parcels. Two of these are part of former agricultural land that the town has the right of first refusal to buy, one priced at \$750k and the other \$1.5 million. The legality of the purchase and sale agreement is being questioned, and negotiations regarding it continue. A special Town Meeting may be held in January to consider the matter along with a related land acquisition off East Street.

5. New Demolition Delay Applications:

a. *1399 Tremont Street, ca. 1800. Complete demolition.*

Owner has decided not to tear down the garage and demolish only the house that was badly damaged by a felled tree during a recent storm. The locale is significant in Duxbury's history; no further information about the provenance of the house, deed research, etc. was provided by the owner, and neither the Town Historian nor DRHS Archivist had any additional information about the property. Given that the house is historic, it was moved and seconded that the structure is regulated by the Bylaw, and that a public hearing should be held regarding its proposed demolition. Passed 6-0. The public hearing is scheduled for January 8, 2020.

b. 184 Marshall Street, The Weston-Holt Summer House, ca. 1900, DUX 617, complete demolition.

After a brief discussion it was moved and seconded this is a regulated structure covered by the Bylaw, and that a public hearing should be held regarding its proposed demolition. Passed 6-0. Public hearing is scheduled for January 15, 2020.

6. Interview with Christopher Andrew

Mr. Andrew is a lifelong resident of Duxbury who lives in an 1830's farmhouse on Elm Street. His present employment and family situation allow him time to give something back to the town, which he would like to do by serving on the Historical Commission. Commissioners appreciated his knowledge of the community and commitment to it. Later in the meeting it was moved and seconded to recommend to the Selectmen that Mr. Andrew be appointed to fill the vacant position on the Commission. Passed 6-0. The Chair will follow up.

7. Tinkertown National Register District Nomination

Ms. Walters reported the DRHS Archivist has been in touch with Ms. Wendy Frontiero who is preparing the application for this nomination. She was able to answer some of Ms. Frontiero's questions about the application, and concluded after talking with her that Ms. Frontiero knew more about Tinkertown than anyone. The Chair will follow up.

8. Review of Mission and Purpose of the Historical Commission

The Chair initiated this discussion as a timely review of the Commission's mission and purpose. Questions about compliance with Massachusetts General Law (Part I, Title VII, Chapter 40, Section 8D), comparison with other communities, and relationship with other historic preservation efforts such as the DRHS were discussed. The Clerk was asked to deconstruct the MGL (above) and include a continuance of the discussion at the next meeting.

9. CPC Update. The CPC is considering funding for 761 Temple Street and the Loring Bog property off East Street. No decisions have been reached on either.

10. Local Historic District Commission. Nothing new to report.

11. Motion to Adjourn. Made and seconded at 9:00 PM.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Arthur B. Evans, Clerk

