

**DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**Minutes: August 19, 2020**

**Approved Sept. 2, 2020**

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

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

Mr. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:03 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 (781) 934 1100 xt.5409 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.** The history of Duxbury posted on the Commission’s and Town’s website contains errors and should be corrected. It was suggested the history be reviewed, and possibly rewritten or replaced in its entirety. The document prepared for *Envision Duxbury* includes a complete and presumably accurate account of the Town’s history and could be a suitable replacement if there are no restrictions on it. Clerk to follow-up.

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

**3. New and Pending Demolition Delay Applications**

a. *57 Shipyard Lane, the Zadock Bradford House, ca. 1795, complete demolition.* Owner Warren Hadley participated in the meeting. An unanswered question was whether the house was moved to its present location. Leslie Lawrence, former DHC commissioner, may have information about the history of the house that was not available; architectural plans for restoring the house prepared for a prospective buyer a few years ago were not available either. Owner are considering all options and remain open to suggestions. A motion the house meets all three criteria of the bylaw as a regulated structure and that a public hearing should be held regarding its proposed demolition passed 5-0. Date of the hearing was not set.

b. *9 Puritan Way, complete demolition.* J.P. Kenn, contractor, and Dennis Daly, architect participated in the meeting and provided information about the condition of the structure and plans for replacing it. A motion the house fails to meet the criteria of the bylaw was objected to by the Chair, who noted that as a cottage it is a distinct period piece fast disappearing from the Duxbury landscape. A revised motion was made that as a representation of the cottage style of the 1930's, the house meets one criteria of the bylaw, but because of structural deficiencies it is not a candidate for renovation and the bylaw should not apply. Passed 5-0.

c. *338 Washington Street, The Ahira Wadsworth House, ca. 1803 (DUX 18), partial demolition/addition.* Owner seeks to raise roof on addition at rear of house to add bedroom above a mudroom. A motion that because the proposed demolition was minimal and preservationist in nature the bylaw should not apply passed by a 5-0 vote.

#### **4. Demolition Delays in Effect**

- a. *313 Washington Street, expires July 29, 2021.* Rumored the house has been sold to a Duxbury family. No further information was available.
- b. *208 Myrtle Street, expires Sept. 18, 2020.* New house nearing completion at rear of existing structure. Old house appears about to collapse.
- c. *761 Temple Street, expires Oct. 1, 2020.* No new information.
- d. *184 Marshall Street, expires Feb. 6, 2021.* Not discussed.
- e. *260 Washington Street, expires August 5, 2021.* Not discussed.

#### **5. New Commissioner**

The Chair will follow-up and poll commissioners via email.

#### **6. Letter to the Editor**

The Chair allowed that letters to the editor of the *Duxbury Clipper* should be from individuals or co-authored and not from a commission. All agreed. Individual commissioners were encouraged to send any version of the proposed letter discussed at DHC meetings July 1 and 29 on their own if they were so inclined. Carolyn Ravenscroft, DRHS Archivist, has been distributing letters about historic homes in Duxbury via Facebook and on the DRHS website.

**7. Motion to Adjourn.** Made and seconded at 8:12 PM. The next meeting of the Commission will be held remotely on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 7 PM.

#### New Materials Received:

- 1. Complete Demolition Delay Application dated August 6, 2020 for 9 Puritan Way.
- 2. Complete Demolition Delay Application dated August 4, 2020 for 338 Washington Street.

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