Approved 1/24/2022

Duxbury Local Historic District



TOWE CLERK

MW JANSI PM 5: 23

DUXBURY, MASS.

Local Historic District Commission Meeting February 18, 2021

Attending: Renée Mierzejewski, Chair, Terry Vose, Phil Tuck, Janet Ritch, Pamela Campbell-Smith

Members of the Public: Jim Stanne, Stanne Construction

Chair Renée Mierzejewski called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and read and reviewed the remote meeting requirements.

Renée explained the reason for having this meeting: Last week she received an email from building inspector Daniel Garte saying that the windows had been replaced at the property located at 405 Washington Street. This house (formerly known as the Richards House) is located on the Island Creek Oyster Campus (formerly the Battelle Campus) with whom the town has a Memo of Understanding which states that ICO will treat this property as though it were included in a Local Historic District. Its status as a member of a Local Historic District was supposed to be voted on at Town Meeting 2020, but no vote was taken at that time due to COVID-19 restrictions which resulted in an abbreviated Town Meeting.

When the DLHDC last met with Mr. Stanne and the Island Creek Oyster Representative in the Fall of 2020, it was our understanding that no windows were going to be replaced. At tonight's meeting, Mr. Stanne explained that as construction proceeded, it became clear that the seals on several of the windows had failed and needed to be replaced. Mr. Stanne and his team ordered the windows, and it wasn't until they were on site that he realized he was not able to amend his construction permit to include window replacement, but needed to apply for an entirely separate permit, as this is a commercial property. As a result of that application, Renée received a call from Daniel Garte.

In his explanation of events, Mr. Stanne stated that he and Stanne Construction take full responsibility for the breach of required procedure. He extended his apologies to the group with the promise of not allowing it to happen again and made clear to the group that this is not typically the way in which Stanne Construction operates.

Renée also explained that she had a phone conversation with Chris Sherman from Island Creek Oysters yesterday in which he also apologized and made clear that they would not allow something like this to happen again as well.

Janet Ritch inquired about the type of windows that were installed. Mr. Stanne said they were simulated true-divide, thermal pane Harvey Windows, with a 6 over 6 muntin pattern to replicate the style of window that was replaced. Janet stated that she didn't like the black color, although she knew that in our Rules and Regulations, we do not regulate color. Renée then stated that the dark color was more accurate, historically than the white color of the previous windows. She also stated that Chris Sherman had said that he wanted to preserve this building to reflect Duxbury's industrial maritime past and at that time the windows and trim would have been painted a darker color. To illustrate this, Chris provided some old photographs of the property, in which the windows and trim are a darker color. He also provided an article from Yankee Magazine which discusses historic colors of various periods in history. (White paint wasn't invented until the 1800s and this house predates white paint.)

Phil then asked what decision was being made this evening and Renée said the decision was to approve the window installation. Renée then asked for a vote and Janet, Terry, Renée and Phil all voted to approve the windows. Terry pointed out that there is no other building on Washington Street with black windows.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm