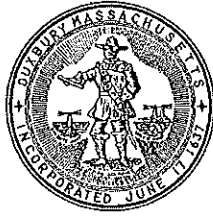


# Duxbury Local Historic District



TOWN CLERK

2022 MAY 25 AM 11:43

DUXBURY, MASS.

## Commission

LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING     April 26, 2022

Attending: Renée Mierzejewski, Chair, Pamela Campbell-Smith, Terry Vose, Evelyn Walker, John Bates, Janet Ritch, Georgia Taft Pye

Members of the public attending: Norm Kendall, Lester Lloyd

Renée Mierzejewski called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. and read the notice regarding Zoom meeting protocols pursuant the pandemic.

There were no items for the Open Forum.

### Review of First Parish Church Entrance Renovation:

Renée raised the matter of a review of the plans for the renovation of the front steps for the First Parish Church entrance doors. Pamela Campbell-Smith asked about the handicap access ramp at the front door and whether it was still in the plans or not. Renée said that she believed that front ramp had been eliminated from the plans. She said that question could be confirmed when the designer Les Lloyd joined the meeting. Pam also asked if it would be possible to use some of the same type of granite currently used for the front steps as part of the renovation. She said it was a pink granite and it matched the foundation granite blocks so it would be a good design complement to continue with that type of granite. She also asked about the current railings and if the present railings would or could be re-used in the renovation. John Bates mentioned that the plan drawings called for new railings. Lester Lloyd joined the meeting and confirmed that the ramp for the front entrance had been eliminated and said he thought it would be possible to use the same type of granite for the new steps. He explained that the railings would have to be new as the old ones did not meet current Building Code or fit the configuration of the new steps. The boot scrapers will stay.

Renée asked if the entrance road in the front would be changed. Les said that the new steps will project further out by about six (6) feet, which will mean the road in the front of the Church that is currently eighteen (18) feet wide will then be about twelve (12) feet wide and will have to

be extended approximately eight (8) feet towards Tremont Street. He said that this renovation is primarily a safety issue as the existing steps are very narrow and steep. Terry Vose said that this project is long overdue and has been being discussed for about ten years.

Renée requested a vote to accept the modern accessibility plans with the wider steps and an increase in height of the railings for the First Parish Church front entrance renovation. Pam Campbell-Smith so moved, Janet Ritch seconded and the vote was unanimously in favor of accepting the plan.

Member review:

Renée announced that she will no longer be Chair of this Commission as of the end of June. She also announced that Bill McArdle has left the Commission. Pam Campbell-Smith will move from alternate to full member as of July 1, and Georgia suggested that she serve as both the representative of the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society as well as the required Realtor member which would allow for another full-time member. The need for an appointment of a new chairman means it will be necessary to find someone willing to serve in that capacity. Renée said it needs to be someone who can be the point person for the State and the Town. Georgia suggested writing a job description for the Chairman's position and have several people help with some of the specific responsibilities. Pam suggested having people serve for only a year and move the chairmanship responsibilities around as Renée has observed the duties of the Chair are as demanding as a full-time job. Georgia asked that everyone think of people who have expressed interest in historical preservation. Pam suggested checking with the Town's volunteer list.

Janet asked if there has been a new Town Planner hired yet. Renée said she didn't think so. Janet also mentioned that the Mass Historical Society clips are of interest as they show what other Towns are dealing with for preservation issues.

Pam suggested possible dates for the Local Historic District Day in September. The two dates discussed were September 10 and 24. Pam said she would check with Chris Skelly to see if he would be the speaker.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.