

# DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Approved March 26, 2024

TOWN CLERK  
2024 MAR 27 AM 10:15  
DUXBURY, MASS.

Minutes: March 12, 2024

Present: Tag Carpenter, Chair, Ed Mayo Vice Chair, Andrew Burns, Michael Carlson, and Arthur Evans.  
Chris Andrew and Brendan Wall were absent.

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

This was a remote only meeting. Mr. Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and confirmed members present could be heard by calling for a roll call. He then read the following preamble:

*Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting will be conducted via remote means in accordance with applicable law.*

1. Open Forum. Mr. Carpenter has been in discussions with the Conservation Commission about the future of 474 Franklin Street.
2. Minutes. Minutes of the February 27 meeting were approved by a 5-0 vote.
3. New Demolition Applications
  - a. *6 Fort Hill Lane, The Levi Sampson Sr. House (DUX.87) ca. 1811. Chimney demolition.*  
Owners had the chimney they want to remove inspected and evaluated by a structural engineer as requested at the Feb. 27 HC meeting. In a letter dated March 8, 2024, Robert M. Desrosiers, P.E. of ASAP Engineering & Design Co. Inc. wrote that in his view "the chimney assembly can be taken down with no effect upon the adjacent timber-framed roof, ceiling, and floor assemblies." A motion was then made and seconded that because the chimney at 6 Fort Hill Lane is not structural its demolition will not affect the exterior appearance of the house except for the possible removal of the chimney stack. The demolition delay bylaw should not apply. Passed 5-0.
  - b. *227 Bay Road, The Jabez Prior House, ca. 1750 (DUX.6). Complete demolition.*  
A public hearing is scheduled for March 26.

#### 4. Town Meeting Follow-up.

General discussion of the results of the March 9 Annual Town Meeting. All CPC articles were approved, including one related to historical preservation: repair and restoration of the clock owned by the town in the Pilgrim Congregational Church. The article to fund repairs to the Girl Scout House was indefinitely postponed because cost estimates for the repair work were not available.

For some reason a table for the HC had been set up at the ATM, but it was vacant. Why a table was set aside for the commission was not known; to the best of anyone's knowledge a table had not been asked for nor was the commission notified one would be available.

#### 5. Historic Preservation Brochure and Letter.

The final draft of the letter and brochure were submitted to the Town Manager's office today for review by the Town Counsel. The mailing list was further reviewed and now totals 740. It is hoped the mailing can be made before the end of March or early in April.

6. Historic Property Inventory. Mr. Evans circulated a sample summary of houses and districts in four areas in town identified in the Communitywide survey reports that were recommended as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Commissioners found this useful and encouraged the summary be continued. The goal is to identify all specific properties and districts in town that are eligible for listing on the NRHP, fulfilling a recommended action item for the Historical Commission in *Envision Duxbury*. Mr. Carlson volunteered to meet with Mr. Evans to help move this along.

7. CPC and LHDC Update.

a. *Girl Scout House.* As noted above and in the minutes of the last meeting, Article 28 in the Warrant requesting CPC funds for work to rehabilitate this structure has been indefinitely postponed. Maintenance of town owned historic buildings is a concern of the Historical Commission that will be the subject of discussion in future meetings.

b. *Town Clock in the Pilgrim Congregational Church.* Article 29 in the Warrant to use CPC funds to rehabilitate this clock was approved at the town meeting. The original cost estimate has increased slightly. One commissioner thought the cost was high and expressed an interest in reviewing the RFP.

c. LHDC news: Article 21 on the Warrant proposed that two town-owned historic buildings be placed in local historic districts: the Wright Building at 147 St. George St. in a new Alden Local Historic District, and the Bluefish River Firehouse at 645 Washington St. be added to the current Winsor Historic District. The Article was approved.

8. Next meeting date. Tuesday, March 26, 2024. Remote only.

9. Motion to Adjourn. Made and seconded at 8:02 pm. Passed 6-0.

New Materials Received:

1. Letter dated March 8 from ASAP Engineering & Design Co., Inc. to Peter Silva of Harbor Construction Co. re: chimney assembly at 6 Fort Hill Lane.

*Minutes Prepared and Submitted by Arthur B. Evans, Clerk*