

Town of Harwich
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Historic District and Historical Commission
732 Main Street, Harwich, MA
Wednesday, October 20, 6:00 PM
Small Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Members and Staff Present; Chairperson Mary Maslowski, Lynne Zalesak, Brendan Lowney, Julia Eldredge, and recording Secretary Patti Macura
Member Absent: Bob Doane

Others in Attendance: Robert Stern

Chairperson Mary Maslowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Case No. HH2021-13: Robert and Lynne Stern, Owner of Unit 1 in the Solomon Thacher House Condominium, Salt Spray Sheds as Agent, have applied for a **Certificate of Non-Applicability, or, in the alternative, a Certificate of Appropriateness** for a new shed in the exclusive use area of said Unit 1. The subject property is 98 Parallel Street, Map 41 Parcel D12, located in the Harwich Center Historic District.

Robert Stern, homeowner of 98 Parallel Street introduced the project. Mr. Stern went through the documents submitted and explained the details of the shed. The board members discussed the photos and inquired about the white Azek trim and suggested that it be painted. Mr. Stern agreed to that suggestion. There were no additional comments from the board.

Mrs. Eldredge moved to close the public hearing. Second by Mr. Lowney. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Lowney moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness as presented with an amendment from the Chair to stipulate that the Azek trim will be painted white.

Second by Ms. Eldredge. Motion carried 4-0.

II. PUBLIC MEETING

A. New Business - No minutes to approve

B. Old Business

a. Proposed property study of additional historic properties to inventory – discussion.

Chairperson Maslowski informed the board that Mr. Doane was unavailable this evening to discuss the historic list however, she notified the board that they submitted an update into the

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) but held off sending in the bi-annual report to the CPC as both Chairperson Maslowski and Mr. Doane are awaiting notification from the Cape Cod Commission for their participation on FORM B. Chairperson Maslowski mentioned that Mr. Doane has made significant progress and will report back to the board at the next meeting. Chairperson Maslowski went on to say that the CPC is moving forward reviewing applications and will generally vote in January.

Mr. Lowney then updated the board on the Affordable Housing Trust purchase of 13 acres at the former exit 10 with the possibility of purchasing an additional acre which sits in the middle of the property. Next steps will be to research the ownership of the middle acre, create a subdivision and start crafting the RFP.

Further discussion took place with regards to the October Special Meeting and the approval vote to increase the short-term rental tax from 4% to 6% whereby 25% of those funds will go into a stabilization fund for Affordable Housing and an additional 25% of funds will go to a stabilization fund for the bonding required for the Sewer project.

Mr. Lowney went on to say that he would like the RFP to reflect some architectural history as it will be viewed from the entrance/exit of the highway as well as its close proximity to the Historic District.

Chairperson Maslowski indicated that the Selectmen voted to include the Demolition Delay By-Law on the spring 2022 Town Meeting Agenda. She suggested that we invite Mr. Jon Idman, Director of Planning and Community Development to an upcoming HDHC meeting as his legal background and expertise will be invaluable for any suggestions/improvements to the application submitted. Ms. Macura will schedule Mr. Idman.

Ms. Zalesak announced that she has been appointed by the Board of Selectmen to the Brooks Academy Commission. All congratulated her on the appointment. Chairperson Maslowski noted that the November 17, 2021 meeting will be canceled.

III. Adjourn

Hearing no other comments or updates, Ms. Maslowski called for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Lowney moved to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Zalesak. Motion carried 4-0.