



New Bedford Historical Commission

April 4, 2016 – 6:00 PM - **Minutes**

Room 314, City Hall, 133 William Street New Bedford, MA

Members Present:

Diana Henry, Chairman
Bill King, Vice Chair
Bill Barr
Janine da Silva
James Lopes

Members Absent:

Corey Pacheco

Secretary:

Anne Louro

Call to Order:

D. Henry called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, confirming a quorum. The Chair indicated that B. Barr would serve in the primary Historical Organization position.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the January 4, 2016 and February 1, 2016 meetings were unable to be approved due to a lack of quorum of members present who were in attendance at the aforesaid meetings.

MOTION to table the acceptance of the January and February 2016 meeting minutes. Moved by B. Barr and seconded by B. King.

Public Hearing: Certificate of Appropriateness

38 Bethel Street (Map 53, Lot 103)

New signage.

Laura Orleans, Director of the Fishing Heritage Center, presented the application for new signage. Ms. Orleans described the proposal to replace the insert of the existing blade sign utilizing the existing bracket, replacing the no parking signs on the building's east façade which exist from the former tenant, and adding hours of operation lettering on the glass entry door.

J. da Silva sought confirmation that the sign was black and white in color as presented. Ms. Orleans confirmed that the sign had a white background with black graphics and black lettering.

MOTION to open the public hearing. Moved by B. King and seconded by J. da Silva.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Public comments in favor: Deborah Baker spoke in favor of the application, and as the owner of the property sought to clarify that additional parking signs are to be placed on the east retaining wall of the parking lot to correspond with newly lined parking spaces.

Public comments recorded in favor: None

Public comments not in favor: None.

Public comments recorded not in favor: None

MOTION to close the public hearing. Moved by J. da Silva and seconded by B. King.
Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Members discussed the application. B. Barr asked that the parking signs of all the building's tenants be consistent in design. Ms. Orleans and Ms. Baker indicated that their willingness to comply with that request.

MOTION to approve the application as presented and grant the Certificate of Appropriateness.
Moved by B. Barr and seconded by B. King
Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

8 Dover Street (Map 53 Lot 103)

New signage

Steve Henriques, part owner of Igemakers, presented the application for new signage. He explained that they had recently moved to the 8 Dover Street location and were seeking approval of a double sided blade sign to be located above the entry door. A. Louro indicated that the presented Photoshop image was accurate in its portrayal of the sign location. She additionally noted that the building was infill construction consisting of a concrete block wall and that there was already wood blocking in place to attach the proposed bracket due to the existence of a previous blade sign. B. King asked if the charter school had signage on Dover Street. A. Louro indicated that there were none. B. Barr asked if the presented bracket could be changed. J. da Silva stated that she did not favor the toggle iron design of the bracket. A. Louro stated that she would contact the sign manufacturer to determine what other brackets were available which were simpler in design.

MOTION to open the public hearing. Moved by B. King and seconded by B. Barr.
Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Public comments in favor: None

Public comments recorded in favor: None

Public comments not in favor:

Public comments recorded not in favor: None

MOTION to close the public hearing. Moved by J. Lopes and seconded by J. da Silva.
Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Members discussed the application. There was confirmation that there was no exterior lighting for the sign and A. Louro indicated that she would contact the sign manufacturer regarding the bracket choices.

MOTION to approve the application and grant the Certificate of Appropriateness with the condition that a new bracket is determined by staff and that the existing wood blocking is painted black to match the bracket. Moved by B. King and seconded by B. Barr.
Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

19 Centre Street (Map 53 Lot 185)

Door replacement.

Anna Surma, architect for the applicant, presented the application. Ms. Surma stated that the design of the proposed door replacement would match the existing doors of the adjacent, connecting building

with simple mouldings and square inset panels. The doors would be painted to match the existing doors.

MOTION to open the public hearing. Moved by J. Lopes and seconded by J. da Silva.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Public comments in favor: None

Public comments recorded in favor: None

Public comments not in favor:

Public comments recorded not in favor: None

MOTION to close the public hearing. Moved by B. Barr and seconded by J. da Silva.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

There was no member discussion on the application.

MOTION to approve the application as presented and grant the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Moved by B. Barr and seconded by J. da Silva.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Old Business:

B. King sought information regarding the property at 66 N Second Street, stating that aluminum gutters replaced the wooden gutters in the recent rehabilitation. A. Louro affirmed that the Certificate issued for that project conditioned that the wood gutters would be replaced in kind. B. King indicated that in the past, a similar situation arose with a District property, and the aluminum gutters were removed at the request of the Commission. J. da Silva stated that the granite post which was removed had not yet been replaced. A question arose regarding the removal of the ball finials at 70 N Second Street. A. Louro stated that a mock-up granite cap was developed and that it was unacceptable to the property owner. There was brief discussion regarding the status of violations and the associated fine structure. A. Louro informed the members that the language establishing a fine under the City's Code of Ordinances specific to the Historic District would be presented to the Commission and Solicitor's Office for review.

MOTION to send letters to the property owner of 70 and 66 N Second Streets regarding the existing violations. Moved by B. Barr and seconded by J. da Silva.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

New Business:

25 Elm Street Signage

D. Henry informed members that she had recently approved a modification to the original Certificate of Appropriateness specific to the approved monument sign for BayCoast Bank to be located along the JFK Boulevard. She informed members that there was a hardship in the original design that would not allow for safe lighting and snow blockage due to the sign's location directly at ground level. D. Henry stated that the sign would be raised off the retaining wall by 12-14 inches. A. Louro stated that raising the subject sign would be similar to the approved monument sign at the Elm Street entrance.

Section 106 Reviews

A. Louro updated members on Section 106 Reviews which she had responded to as a representative to the Commission.

- A. Louro informed members that she reviewed the plans for the Verdean Gardens rehabilitation project and had sought minor changes related to windows in the Donaghy School, site fencing and brick repointing. All requests were accommodated and the State Historic Preservation Office agreed that with the changes, the project had no adverse effect on the historic resources.
- In addition, A. Louro made note that antenna placement on utility poles within historic districts require Section 106 review and that there were three locations that were recently seeking approval and were determined to have no adverse effect on nearby historic resources.

J. da Silva notified the members that the Commission's paper files had recently been transferred to the City. She also notified members that a member of the Mayor's staff had contacted her earlier that day to determine if she would be interested in serving as a member of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), representing the Historical Commission. J. da Silva indicated that she was interested in being the Commission's designee to the CPC.

MOTION to designate J. da Silva as the Historical Commission's representative to the CPC.

Moved by B. Barr and seconded by B. King.

Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Communications:

Massachusetts Historical Commission, RE: 20 S Sixth Street. Levi Standish House. A. Louro informed members that the Commission was notified by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) that the proposed addition to the Levi Standish House was deemed to have an adverse effect on the property, and the plans required revision and resubmission to the MHC for approval.

Date of Next Meeting: The next regular commission meeting was scheduled for May 2, 2016.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was moved by B. Barr and seconded by B. King. All voted in favor and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Louro

Secretary to the Historical Commission

Approved: 05.02.16