



Minutes for July 12, 2024; adopted January 14, 2025

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

2 Fairgrounds Road
Nantucket, Massachusetts 02554
www.nantucket-ma.gov

Commissioners: Stephen Welch (Chair), Ray Pohl (Vice-Chair), Abby Camp, Val Oliver, Angus MacLeod

Associate Commissioners: Carrie Thornewill, Constance Patten, Joe Paul

~~ MINUTES ~~

Friday, July 12, 2024

This meeting was held via remote participation using ZOOM and YouTube.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Welch called the **special meeting** to order at 1:01 p.m.

Staff in Attendance:	Holly Backus
Attending Members:	-
Remote Participants:	Welch, MacLeod, Oliver, Paul, Patten, Camp
Absent Members:	Pohl

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion:	Motion to approve. (Made by: Camp)
Vote:	Carried 6-0//Welch, Oliver, Paul, Camp, Patten, Thornewill (Aye)

I. STM WARRANT ARTICLE: AMENDMENT TO DEMO DELAY BYLAW 139-26A

Voting:	Welch, Pohl, Oliver, Paul, Camp, Patten, Thornewill, MacLeod
Discussion:	Chair Welch - Informed the Board that the purpose of the special meeting was to address two key issues: the number of days involved in the demolition delay process and proposed modifications to the process Mary Bergman - Explained that the purpose of the demolition delay bylaw is to extend the time frame for individuals to obtain the necessary documentation to relocate structures with potential for reuse. Additionally, the intent is not to prohibit all demolitions on Nantucket, as such a restriction would be unreasonable. - Stated that the bylaw will not apply to structures requiring emergency demolition or to those determined to have no potential for reuse Chair Welch - Confirmed with Bergman the current time period a building is held in the demolition delay process under the existing bylaw. The timeframe is 60 days from the date of the first publication. The interested party has 30 days from the date of publication to contact the owner or the owner's agent. Carrie Thornewill - Inquired about the 30-day period, questioning why it had not been adjusted given that the goal of the bylaw amendment is to provide additional time for individuals to gather the necessary documentation to pursue acquiring the structure for reuse Mary Bergman - Stated that she would be open to amending that portion of the time frame, provided it receives the necessary support. Additionally, the goal is not to make the process

	burdensome for the building owner. Chair Welch - Prompted the Board to begin discussion regarding the number of days involved in the demolition delay process The Board - Discussed concerns regarding potential tactics to work around the Bylaw, possible repercussions to extend the notice period, and the intent of the Warrant Article - Discussed various ways to streamline the notification process - Agreed that the 30-day timeframe should be extended Mary Bergman - Responded to the Board's concern regarding a potential increase in demolitions aimed at circumventing the Bylaw, reminding the Board that it is within their authority to deny demolition of historic structures - Responded to the Board's concern regarding landfill waste, it was noted that the ultimate goal is to establish a salvage facility on Nantucket, and while a broader effort to reduce waste on the island is ongoing, the proposed Article is an important step in the right direction - Asked the Board what their next steps would be regarding a vote or consensus on the Warrant Article amendment Chair Welch - Stated that the Board would postpone voting until Board member Ray Pohl is able to participate and a consultation with Town Counsel has occurred - Noted that there appeared to be a majority of Board members who support the concept of the Article, as well as a majority in favor of the proposed timeframe Public Comment - Hillary Rapport emphasized that a building should first be determined by the HDC as eligible for demolition, with sufficient time allocated to complete the necessary work. Additionally, Rapport expressed support for the Article as drafted.
Motion:	-none made
Vote:	-none made

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion:	Motion to adjourn. (Made By: Macleod)
Vote:	Carried 6-0// MacLeod, Welch, Paul, Oliver, Patten, Thornewill (Aye)

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lk5fN2qoIMg>