

Nantucket Historical Commission

September 20, 2024 Meeting

10AM

131 Pleasant Street, Nantucket MA and via Zoom

Attendees:

George Butterworth (Commissioner)
Angus MacLeod (Commissioner)
Rita Carr (Commissioner)
Clement Durkes (Commissioner)
Holly Backus (staff)
Cleary Larkin (Preservation Institute Nantucket)
Abby De Molina (Commissioner) – online
Diane Coombs (Commissioner) – online
Sarah McLane (Commissioner) – online
Mary Bergman (Nantucket Preservation Trust) – online

Agenda

- Roll call at 10:10AM *Commissioners George, Rita, Clement, and Angus are present in person. Holly as staff and Cleary Larkin as a guest are also in person. Commissioners Abby, Diane, and Sarah are online. Mary Bergman is also present online.*
- Public Comment *None*
- Election of Officers *George nominated Rita as Chair, second by Abby. George- aye, Rita – aye, Clement – aye, Diane – aye, Sarah – aye, and Angus – aye. Clement nominated Angus as Vice Chair, George seconded. George- aye, Rita – aye, Clement – aye, Diane – aye, Sarah – aye, and Angus – aye. Angus nominated Abby as secretary and Clement seconded. George- aye, Rita – aye, Clement – aye, Diane – aye, Sarah – aye, and Angus – aye.*
- Staff Update *Holly discussed finalizing the CLG report and highlighted volume of 2,025 COAs in FY 24 (!).*
- Ongoing survey work
 - Community Preservation Commission Survey funding update
 - *Preservation Institute Nantucket project to begin soon Cleary gave an update on the surveys and how to make the process more efficient. Kick-off date – Oct 19, 2024 with postcards and hopefully letter from Town. Want to do the kickoff at the Meetinghouse property. Will bring portable scanner and do interviews/discussions the following week. Meeting week of Sep 23 to finalize the details. Holly is excited to have a partner on all this work. PIN will focus on New Guinea next year (in the summer) and this work will help prepare for that. Want to have the community involved and meet MHC requirements.*
 - Massachusetts Historical Commission review of FY 2022 survey forms *Holly has received an email indicting comments and Rita will coordinate the meeting. Question on FY 2023 – Holly gave a quick background on needing staff support. The Chair will be able to support revising the scope so we can try to get a local*

organization (recognizing the Nantucket factor). Holly will put in for funding in the following year. Emphasize the public-private partnership.

- *Certified Local Government Memorandum of Understanding Angus mentioned that we had decided to wait for a full commission prior to creating a workgroup to work on revising the wording. Holly noted the HDC has already approved the version of the MOU as drafted at a prior meeting (vote was 4-1). Angus mentioned rewriting the MOU to provide changes but Abby asked how receptive the HDC would be to an updated version. Holly is giving background on this document and saying it is just a beefed-up version of the existing MOU. Angus mentioned it is missing some of the NHC's duties, such as 106 reviews, and concern with the special note. Angus asked Sarah for her perspective from Stowe, VT. She mentioned it is easier to have one commission vs two doing the same thing and having competing agendas. It seems to be based on HDC wanting to not lose control. Idea to have collaboration of both commissions with the wording – Holly cautioned on OML to not have many people together. Angus did point out the MOU may not be needed as neither commission has stepped on each other's toe. Abby asked what would happen if we do not sign the MOU? Rita is proposing to have a workgroup that discusses changes and it is presented to the NHC and if happy the Chairs will discuss. Angus, Clement, and George have volunteered. Abby made the motion to establish a workgroup of Angus, Clement, and George to draft changes and present at our October meeting, Angus seconded. Abby – aye, Clement – aye, Angus – aye, George – aye, Sarah – aye, Diane – aye, Rita – aye.*
- *National Alliance of Preservation Commissions [Webinar September 19](#) – Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Program Comment on Accessible, Climate-Resilient, Connected Communities Holly and Rita attended and it was informative and recording is available. Note was it for federally owned structures (Brant Point) or private buildings receiving public funding. Holly noted NAPC had some concerns. Cleary asked about concerns. Holly mentioned having a change in process and circumventing local requirements. Rita mentioned she attended a good National Preservation Law conference recently that discussed Section 106 reviews (and changes not impacting).*
 - *Public comment open until October*
https://www.achp.gov/program_alternatives/program_comment/PCs_2024
- *Commission Goals Abby reviewed the document.*
- *Approval of Minutes will wait until next meeting as there are a few edits*
- *Other Business [NPT 2024 Awards](#) ceremony is at Sherburne Hall, 11 Centre Street on Thursday 9/26 at 5PM; people can also visit award winner, the Maples, at 14 Broadway in Sconset, 10-12PM on the same day. Congratulations on the approval of the demolition delay at STM. Welcome to new commissioners Sarah and Diane!*

Motion to adjourn by Angus at 11:30AM, seconded by George. Angus – aye, George – aye, Clement – aye, Abby – aye, Sarah – aye, Diane – aye, Rita – aye.