

Nantucket Historical Commission

February 21, 2025 Meeting

10AM

131 Pleasant Street, Nantucket MA and via Zoom

Attendees:

Rita Carr (Commissioner)
George Butterworth (Commissioner)
Angus MacLeod (Commissioner)
Clement Durkes (Commissioner)
Holly Backus (staff)
Mike Burns – Town Transportation Manager
Abby De Molina (Commissioner) – online
Diane Coombs (Commissioner) – online
Sarah McLane (Commissioner) – online
Jascin Finger – Maria Mitchell Association – online
Mary Bergman – Nantucket Preservation Trust – online

Agenda

- Roll call at 10:02AM *Commissioners Angus, Clement, George and Rita are present in person. Holly as staff is also present in person. Members of the public Mike Burns (Town Transportation) is also present in person. Commissioners Abby, Diane are online. Members of the public Jascin Finger (Maria Mitchell) and Mary Bergman (NPT) are also present online.*
- Public Comment *None*
- Staff Update *Holly noted we have a new staff member who will be doing more administrative HDC work so should have more time to spend supporting the commission.*
- Protection of town owned historic resources
 - Meridian Stones *Discussion on the importance of them and the need to preserve. Jascin mentioned how important it is to preserve them before they are destroyed. Question on how we can best advocate. Suggestion to create a bump out curb and wrought-iron fence. Holly mentioned other locations have similar protective fencing and noted it is a town-owned historic resource and will have a Form C. It will be recorded in MACRIS and included in any review. Question on funding to replace. Commissioner Sarah McLane joined at 10:22. Motion by Abby to write a letter to town administration emphasizing the importance of the stones and provide two options for repair and authorize Holly to have a discussion with the Director of DPW, Drew, to discuss further and seconded by Angus. Abby – aye, Angus – aye, Clement – aye, George – aye, Diane – aye, Sarah – aye, and Rita – aye.*
 - Civil War Monument *Noted this was recently hit in an accident and damaged. How can we also protect this monument? At least the second time this has happened. Will support any changes.*
- • Section 106 Review

- MassDOT Project #613597: James Coffin Rotary at Milestone Rd *Mike Burns presented these two projects – both have oversight from MassDOT at the request of the Town. For the rotary the signage will change – remove stop signs and have the yield condition to improve the flow. Stick with brick red pedestrian detectors to be consistent. Also, suggestion to include the Coffin family in any discussions of landscape changes. Clement supported Sarah's comment that if there is a lot of green space that it needs to be maintained. Rita notes that even though there are not any historic properties in the project area, there are many contributing abutting properties. She will provide a list to Mike. Mike noted there were articles in 2021 to transfer land between the Town and Land Bank, if there is need to expand. American Legion maintains the flagpole but DPW maintains the daffodils along the rotary. Abby will reach out to American Legion to get their input.*
- MassDOT Project #613595: Nobadeer Farm Rd at Milestone Rd *Appreciation of people slowing down on Milestone Road. Question the bus stop but not our purview. Want to keep brick red pedestrian detectors to be consistent. Motion by Angus to write up our suggestions and provide them to the Transportation Manager, seconded by Clement. Angus – aye, Clement – aye, George – aye, Sarah – aye, Abby – aye, Diane – aye, and Rita -aye.*
- Historic resource surveys
 - Public Archaeology Lab FY22 survey progress update *PAL has compiled all our comments. Note Ginny has retired.*
 - Request for Qualifications for FY23 surveys update *Extension on the contract will help us align on our timing.. Next month would like the RFQ results.*
 - Community Wind Fund surveys *Holly is looking for guidance from the Town but will be consistent with our survey process.*
 - Community Preservation Commission funded West Monomoy neighborhood reconnaissance surveys *Holly met with Cleary and Chair of CPC and understand next steps.*
- Commission discussion: minimum maintenance of contributing structures (Town Code ch. 124-13) – 10 New Whale Street, 5 Candle Street *There is no updated on the HDC discussion and new demolition application will be heard on March 18.*
- Certified Local Government Memorandum of Understanding *Still pending review by Town Counsel. Rita and Holly will discuss with Stephen Welch, Chair of HDC.*
- Commission Goals *Abby reviewed.*
- Approval of minutes – February 16, 2024, October 18, 2024 and January 17, 2025
- meetings *Motion to approve by Clement, second by Angus. Clement – aye, Angus – aye, George – aye, Sarah – aye, Abby – aye, Diane – aye, Rita – aye.*
- Other Business
 - March 12: Joint Meeting with Select Board – Easy St Flood Barrier Feasibility

Motion to adjourn by Clement at 11:38AM, seconded by George. Clement – aye, George – aye, Angus – aye, Sarah – aye, Abby – aye, Diane – aye, Rita – aye.