

Nantucket Historical Commission

July 18, 2025 Meeting

10AM

131 Pleasant Street, Nantucket MA and via Zoom

Attendees:

Rita Carr (Commissioner)
George Butterworth (Commissioner)
Betsy Tyler (Commissioner)
Angus MacLeod (Commissioner)
Abby De Molina (Commissioner) – online
Barbara Halstead (Commissioner) – online
Holly Backus (staff – Preservation Planner)
Bill Murphy – 89 Easton homeowner– online
Brian Lever – Epsilon Associates – online

Absent:

Sarah McLane (Commissioner)

Agenda

- Roll call at 10:02AM *Commissioners Rita, Angus, George, and Betsy are in person. Staff Holly is also in person. Commissioner Abby is online. Members of the public Bill Murphy (89 Easton) and Brian Lever (Epsilon) are also online. Commissioner Barbara joined online at 10:13AM.*
- Public comment *None*
- Election of officers *Motion to keep Rita as Chair made by Angus, seconded by George. Angus – aye, George – aye, Betsy – aye, Abby – aye, and Rita – aye. Motion to keep Angus as Vice-Chair made by George, seconded by Betsy. George – aye, Betsy – aye, Angus – aye, Abby – aye, and Rita – aye. Motion by Angus to keep Abby as Secretary and seconded by Betsy. Angus – aye, Betsy – aye, George – aye, Abby – aye, and Rita – aye.*
- Staff update *Surveys are finally up on MACRIS. 39 Brant Point and 98 of Fish Lots.*
- Repeat application for Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit – 89 Easton St *Brian noted the application should continue as project is almost done. Angus asked about the brick vs stone driveway. Bill commented that the original application had brick but the subsequent landscaping application had addressed that stone would be better. He asked if they could complete the landscaping and then see how it looks from North Street before deciding whether to make the brick vs stone change. Motion to write a new letter by Angus, seconded by George. Angus – aye, George – aye, Betsy – aye, Abby – aye, and Rita – aye.*
- Review of draft letter of support – 'Sconset Trust to the Community Preservation Commission for Sankaty Lighthouse work *Angus provided a few grammatical changes. Rita will make changes and then send out.*
- Civil War Monument repair *Drew is not here so will continue to next month.*
- Historic resource surveys update *As Holly mentioned FY23 MACRIS updates done.*

- Potential other funding sources *Holly applied for Wind Farm money to tackle town-owned resources. Discussion about how to proceed without knowing if the state is receiving funding. Rita asked what we should do. Holly said we can advocate as a commission and biggest roadblock is the OpenGov system. Rita hopes we get qualified applicants for the RFP. Angus noted the PiN presentation was fantastic.*
- Community Preservation Act – NHC sponsored applications for FY 2026 Next round is due September 5. *Holly spoke with Cleary. They are going to apply on continuing the West Monomoy lots. Other initiatives include the farms surveys on the island and the large aerials in the PLUS office to be scanned and digitized, plus the review of Building with Nantucket in Mind with a consultant. Motion to write a letter of support for these four initiatives made by Angus, seconded by Betsy. Angus – aye, Betsy – aye, George – aye, Abby – aye, Barbara – aye, and Rita – aye.*
- National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Summer Short Course, August 20 & 21 webinar *Holly mentioned we should receive the emails directly. The commissioners should always let Holly know if we attend any trainings. For the short course there are a series of workshops but it is all day for two days. Ex. Updated local ordinances – which could be helpful for HDC. We can watch after the fact but you have to sign-up for the classes. Please let Holly if you plan to attend or sign-up.*
- Commission Goals *Team discussed a series of workshops and plans to participate in reviews. NP&EDC will invite Holly quarterly and have NHC leaders when Section 106 reviews happen. Remain reuse workshop on Sep 12-13. Holly working on a DAR workshop and just met with them. She also mentioned the Bienenke rededication in the fall.*
- Approval of minutes – June 20, 2025 and July 18, 2025 meeting *Motion to approve with edits by Angus, seconded by George. Angus – aye, George – aye, Betsy – aye, Barbara – aye, Abby – aye, Rita – aye.*
- Other Business

Motion to adjourn by Betsy at 11:05AM, seconded by George. Betsy – aye, George – aye, Angus – aye, Barbara – aye, Abby – aye, Rita – aye.