

Nantucket Historical Commission

November 21, 2025 Meeting

10AM

131 Pleasant Street – Room B, Nantucket MA and via Zoom

Attendees:

Rita Carr (Commissioner)
George Butterworth (Commissioner)
Betsy Tyler (Commissioner)
Barbara Halstead (Commissioner)
Holly Backus (staff – Preservation Planner)
Abby De Molina (Commissioner) – online
Sarah McLane (Commissioner) – online
Angus MacLeod (Commissioner) – online
Elizabeth Kirkpatrick (US Coast Guard) – online
Leo Grenier (Senior Planner – US Coast Guard) – online
Abby Camp (HDC Commissioner) – online
Anne Dewez – online

Agenda

- Roll call at 10 AM *Commissioners Rita, George, Barbara, and Betsy are in person. Staff Holly is also in person. Commissioners Abby and Sarah are online. Elizabeth Kirkpatrick and Leo Grenier from the US Coast Guard are online as is HDC Commissioner Abby Camp and Anne Dewez.*
- Public comment *None*
- Staff update *None*
- Section 106 Review – Coast Guard Station Brant Point Pier Replacement *Commissioner Angus MacLeod joined online at 10:03AM. Elizabeth and Leo presented the documents and noted there are no major changes. Hardscaping may have to go to HDC. Motion by Angus, second by George to write a letter to note there are no adverse effects. Angus – aye, George – aye, Abby – aye, Sarah – aye, Barbara – aye, Betsy – aye, Rita – aye.*
- 10 New Whale Street Demolition Appeal *Rita and Barbara recused from the discussion. Question on whether Angus would recuse but he said he could be impartial. Sarah mentioned building an inventory and consistently monitoring them. Abby added that the data will help bolster the argument. Abby C mentioned BWNIM and discussed “significant structure” as to why those buildings cannot be demolished. Anne Dewez mentioned the HDC is independent of the Select Board since they are elected. She wanted to stress the importance of neighbors (Ex. Woodbox). HDC has hands tied on what they can do. Holly emphasized the importance of the surveys in identifying these buildings and pointed out Woodbox was in Fish lots and 6 Fair Street was rehabilitated. Betsy supports creating the list. George mentioned 21 North Water Street in his neighborhood and how some aspects are being rehabilitated.*
- Historic resource surveys update

- Wind Fund RFQ response – PaleoWest, LLC *We hope they will look forward to doing the work and we expect to have their plan in 2 weeks and can review at the December meeting.*
- Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) FY23 funding RFQ *Holly has been an intermediary between the Town of Nantucket (TON) and MHC. OpenGov software has been making the process difficult.*
- FY 2026 Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey & Planning Grant Pre-Approval Application *Was mailed on Nov 17, 2025, and met the deadline for pre-approval. Requested \$30K with a \$20K match from TON for \$50K total. Holly said we should find out next month. Only for CLGs. Federal government funding for next FY is up in the air.*
- Community Preservation Committee applications *4 of which the NHC was involved with. Holly was part of the process, and they have blessed all of them and they will all go on the warrant to be voted on at ATM. PiN – West Monomoy, PiN – historic farms, Funding for updating BWNIM, and digitize aerals available for public on website and NHA.*
- Civil War Monument repair *Holly needs to reach out to Drew. No word on whether the old stone has been returned and the status of the insurance claim.*
- Nantucket Association of Real Estate Brokers Workshop recap *Holly, Sarah and Mary presented to NAREB and went well. Sarah spoke about her experience and how difficult the historic tax credits are and that no one should put advertising 'reimagining' space. Sarah said she saw an ad being changed a week later. Holly asked Lara Hanson about continuing to be involved. Need to put restrictions on the interior because HDC only has jurisdiction over exteriors. Angus mentioned more training, and clearer guidelines provided to buyers will be best for all.*
- Upcoming training opportunities *Holly mentioned NAPC training this week and western MA trainings on surveys. Let Holly know if you attend.*
- Commission Goals *Abby had technical difficulties so we can review it next month.*
- Other Business

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