

Nantucket Historical Commission

May 16, 2025 Meeting

10AM

131 Pleasant Street, Nantucket MA and via Zoom

Attendees:

Rita Carr (Commissioner)
Angus MacLeod (Commissioner)
Holly Backus (staff)
Jane Slade - SpecLines
Nick Burt – Spring City Electric
Mary Bergman – Nantucket Preservation Trust
Abby De Molina (Commissioner) – online
George Butterworth (Commissioner) – online
Clement Durkes (Commissioner) – online
Gail Walker – Nantucket Lights – online
Drew Patnode – DPW Director – online
Caroline Baltzer – online

Absent:

Sarah McLane (Commissioner) – online

Agenda

- Roll call at 10:01AM *Commissioner Angus and Chair Rita are present in person. Holly as staff is also present in person. Commissioners George and Abby are online. Members of the public Jane Slade (SpecLines) and Nick Burt (Spring City Electric) are also present in person. Staff DPW Director Drew Patnode is online, as is member of the public Gail Walker (Nantucket Lights. Member of the public Caroline Baltzer and Commissioner Clement joined at 10:26 and 10:31, respectively. Member of the public (NPT) Mary Bergman joined in person at 10:40.*
- Public Comment *None*
- Staff Update *Today is deadline for open seats on the NHC and will discuss historic research surveys later in the agenda*
- Downtown street lighting fixtures – compliance with 2023 Annual Town Meeting Article 76, Presentation from Spring City Electric *Presentation by Jane Slade and Nick Burt. Holly noted the Cambridge example is appropriate as it is also a historic district and in Massachusetts. Each commissioner gave their thoughts and consensus seems to be that we like the inner globe. Gail asked a question about maintenance. Mary asked a question to Drew on the procurement process so we can know how the vendor is chosen and if there are plans for new DPW site to align with the ‘dark skies’ movement, as well as airport and schools and hospital. Drew said he felt the major maintenance confirms should not be an issue. Noted both Penn Globe and Spring City both have access to the process. WPI students did an inventory. Lighting expert from a local university will be out in June to scope and develop suitable replacements. He also confirmed that the*

taxpayers would Holly mentioned her support of the globes and gave her expert opinion. Thanks, from Nick and Jane for us having them present.

- Historic resource surveys Procurement has been a difficult process – sending out with Windfarm funding and finalize MHC grant funding FY23 – part of needed onboarding. Finalizing FY22 grant and unknowns of upcoming federal grants. Holly hopes to have updates by June meeting.*
- Sewer Force Main project – Sidewalk, Curbing, and cobblestone replacement David was going to let Holly know when they install them. Drew said cobblestones on Winter St and across Main St were installed yesterday and that is complete.*
- Civil War Monument repair update Slated to happen this upcoming Sunday. Frank from Colonial Stone is coming this weekend. Will remove some rows of cobble and curbing and got a police escort. Will look new and will take time to get the correct patina and we should inform the public. We should work with communications on some outreach to the public.*
- Advocacy for Federal Historic Preservation Funding Motion by for the commission to draft a letter to support reservation of funding Angus, second by Abby. Angus – Aye, Abby – aye, Geroge – aye, Clement – aye, Rita – aye.*
- Commission Goals Abby reviewed with everyone. Clement dropped at 11:40*
- Approval of minutes – March 21 and April 18, 2025 meeting Angus made a motion to approve March 21 minutes, second by George. Angus – aye, George – aye, Abby – aye, Rita – aye. Abby will send April minutes with May minutes.*
- Other Business Holly reminded us it is National Preservation month and June is Nantucket's Preservation month. Rita reminded us the next meeting is June 20 and the CLG meeting will be in June as well.*

Motion to adjourn by Abby at 11:47AM, seconded by Angus. Abby – aye, Angus – aye George – aye, Rita – aye.