

CONCORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Public Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
Virtual Meeting

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk's office, the Town of Concord Historical Commission held a virtual public meeting on Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. using the Zoom meeting platform. Meeting ID: 812 7929 0991 Password: 193639

Commission Members Present: Melissa Saalfield, Michael Capizzi, Alan Bogosian, Rebecca Lemaitre, Robert Gross, Nancy Nelson,

Staff: Heather Gill, Senior Planner

Others: Susan Bates, Select Board Liaison
Karlen Reed
Jeffrey Gower

Ms. Saalfield called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. by a roll call vote.

325 Nashawtuc Road – Demolition Review Public Hearing

Mr. Gower explained that they are not 100% sure of their plans yet, so the two garage structures may not be demolished. Mr. Gower stated that they are looking to create a guest house for aging parents and may re-use one of the existing structures, but would like to ability/option to demolish the garage structures to construct a new building. Ms. Nelson stated that it is a beautiful brick structure. Mr. Gower agreed and stated that they may try to re-use it and move it over. Mr. Bogosian stated that Ms. Rasmussen and he conducted the initial site visit and found the two car wood garage to be not historically significant, but that they found the three car brick garage to be historically significant. Ms. Gill clarified that they are only reviewing the brick structure at this meeting. Mr. Gross stated that it is important to preserve architecture because it speaks to the social history of the town. Mr. Gower explained that he would love to have the flexibility to be able to take down the structure, but understands the Commission's concerns. Mr. Capizzi stated that the brick garage is what you can see from the street and that it would be detrimental to the town to lose it. Mr. Capizzi stated that he is hopeful for adaptive re-use. Ms. Lemaitre agreed with Mr. Capizzi.

Ms. Nelson moved to find the three care brick garage structure to be preferably preserved and delay demolition for a period of one year. Mr. Capizzi seconded the motion and all others voted in favor by a roll call vote. The motion passed (5-0).

Demolition Review Bylaw Amendments Warrant Article

Ms. Saalfield stated that she presented their warrant article to the League of Women Voters and helped to clarify the article and answer any questions they had. Ms. Saalfield also stated that Ms. Gill and her prepared a one page summary of the article for the meeting materials that will be provided at Town Meeting. Ms. Bates stated that the Select Board wrote a letter of support for this article and recommended affirmative action. The Commission discussed the possibility of having someone prepared to speak in favor in the event there is a lot of opposition at Town Meeting.

Updates and Liaison Reports

Ms. Nelson stated that she volunteered the Historical Commission to help draft the Preservation Restriction for Wright Tavern, which is required as a condition for CPA funding. Ms. Saalfield stated that 1094 Monument Street is going to be developed into several lots, but that during the

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site visit, Ms. Gill and herself determined the house to be not historically significant due to significant alterations to the structure. Ms. Saalfield provided a brief update on a few Planning Board projects. Mr. Bogosian stated that the HDC is reviewing an application for changes to the house at 1 Sudbury Road at their next meeting. Ms. Nelson provided a brief update on the DPW Commission.

Ms. Saalfield stated that she is interested in resurrecting the historic issues coffee.

Ms. Gill stated that as of June 15th the provision allowing for virtual meetings ends and we will need to begin meeting in person again if the extension does not pass the legislature.

Ms. Nelson stated that the neighbors of Hildreth Corner would like to preserve what's left.

No new updates on 1710 Lowell Road.

Minutes

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes. Gross moved to approve the minutes as drafted. Mr. Bogosian seconded and all other voted in favor by roll call vote.

Ms. Gill stated that Ms. Lemaitre's term expired in January while she was out on maternity leave and it had been overlooked until this point. The Commission was all in favor of re-appointing Ms. Lemaitre as an associate member of the Historical Commission.

Ms. Saalfield declared the meeting adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

Minutes Approved: June 10, 2021

Respectfully submitted by:
Heather Gill
Senior Planner