



Town of Edgartown
Historic District Commission
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Edgartown, MA 02539
508 627-6155

~Historic District Commission

MINUTES

December 1, 2015 

Members in attendance: James Cisek, Beverly Fearey, Carole Berger, Susan Catling, Ken Magnuson, Robbie Hutchison, Ann Floyd/alternate. Staff: Bricque Garber

Chairman Cisek called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

6 South Water St. (20D-188) Eugene Courtney. Change to an approved plan. Applicant proposes to disassemble structure and rebuild per approved plans. Applicant will use existing materials where/if possible. The structure is structurally unsound and a safety hazard. Mr. Courtney showed the members pictures from the project and provided letters from the contractor - Mr. McClure, Mr. Healy - Civil Engineer and Mr. Jason - Edgartown Building Inspector. These letters all describe the poor condition of the structure due to rot and beetle infestation. He described that there is little left of the structure and that that is left has extensive beetle infiltration. He proposes, reluctantly, to dismantle the building and rebuild as was planned. James said it is in rough shape and feels that there is virtually nothing left of this structure that can be saved. There was discussion regarding the current siding and the beetles that are present in the thick planking. There is a possibility of using a few members not structurally but for visual. The members reviewed the pictures and the James told the members that he had spent some time in the building and has never seen a standing building that is in worse condition. James Cisek asked that Gino Courtney work with Bob Hagerty and Stewart Fuller regarding the preservation of the large Russian Elm tree. Mr. Courtney agreed to do all in his power to preserve the tree. Susan Catling had a question regarding windows as the windows are not shown on the previous application. Mr. Courtney said they are unsure about windows as they did not know what the framing size would be until the project was begun. Windows will be heard at a future meeting. Motion to approve the application as submitted, Carole Berger. 2nd, Beverly Fearey, Unanimously approved.

Discussion regarding 2 Beach St. The members were told that the Edgartown Planning Board would be hearing an application for demolition and new construction at their meeting today, following the HDC meeting @ 6:15. It was

discovered that no member of the HDC was able to attend the Planning Board meeting and a brief letter would be written. Bricque would read the letter into the record. It was noted that the mass of the proposed new home is troubling as it is quite large and loses the distinctive architectural characteristics of this, the last historic beach house. The HDC would like to see the planning board consider the value of the original structure and would happily see this project referred to the HDC for recommendations, though it is outside the current Historic District.

Awards: Susan Catling suggested that the commission revisit the idea of community awards. The board concurred and discussed the nomination of a candidate.

124 N. Water: There was a discussion regarding the approval of the plans for 124 N. Water St. at the meeting on 11.17.15. The board was updated as to the approval of the project noting the belief that an error had occurred that would easily be remedied by notifying the applicant. This was not the case. The members were advised as to responses from the applicant's agent when notified of the error. Discussion ensued regarding a substantial detail of the plan that was not presented by the applicant nor discussed during the meeting prior to the approval of the plan. The plan was approved without discussion of 2nd floor deck doors which were not drawn on the previously approved plans. The members were dismayed by the lack of proper presentation.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of November 17th, Carole Berger. 2nd, Susan Catling. Approved.

Adjourned @4:55.

Respectfully submitted:

Bricque Garber, Assistant

Approved: _____ December 17, 2015