

DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Minutes: December 16, 2015

APPROVED JANUARY 6, 2016

Present: Robert C. (Terry) Vose, Chair, R.Tag Carpenter, Vice-Chair, David Amory, Mark Barry, and Arthur Evans constituting a quorum. Nicole Walters was absent.

Note: the numbering below is chronological and may not correspond to agenda item numbering

Mr. Vose called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

1. **Open Forum.** No discussion. Ten people from the general public were in attendance.
2. **Minutes.** Minutes of the November 19, 2015 meeting were approved as written.
3. **Demolition Applications**

a. 326 Powder Point Ave. - *Complete Demolition.* Mr. Amory noted three distinguishing characteristics of this house that he felt met the criteria of the demolition delay bylaw: 1) it was originally owned by Frederick B. Pratt, who once owned the Duxbury Beach and whose son, David was assistant Secretary of the Navy; 2) it is a fine example of a spacious summer house of the early 20th century designed by the noted Boston architectural firm Chapman & Frazer; 3) the landscape was designed by Arthur Shurtleff, a well known landscape architect who among other things was the Chief Landscape Architect for Williamsburg, VA. Other Commission members agreed, and it was moved and seconded that a public hearing should be held. In the discussion period that followed, Matt Walsh, attorney representing the owners questioned the start date of the delay process and asked that it begin as soon as possible. To accommodate this request it was agreed to schedule the Commission's January meeting one week earlier than usual, January 13 rather than January 20, to move the process along as quickly as possible. The motion to schedule a hearing was unanimously agreed and the hearing was scheduled for January 13, 2016.

b. 195 Standish Street - *Complete Demolition.* General discussion. The scheduled moving of this house to a new location on 12/15/2015 was delayed because additional trees needed to be removed that required approval of the Planning Board and Tree Warden. There was some question about whether or not the Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and the new owner dated Nov. 5, 2015 had ever been signed by the owner; Mr. Vose agreed to check on this.

c. Battelle Memorial Institute. According to an article in the December 16 edition of the *Duxbury Clipper*, the sale of this property to the University of Massachusetts was off and the property was again on the market. Three historical buildings are involved.

4. **Demolition Delay Bylaw Revision.** Messrs Carpenter, Vose, and Barry attended a meeting of the Planning Board on December 14 at which the proposed bylaw revision was discussed. The Planning Board and Town Counsel had several concerns and questions that were submitted as suggestions to incorporate into the document. These revisions and the preparation of a new final draft were the subject of discussion for the balance of the meeting. The new draft

met the approval of all those present, and Mr. Carpenter agreed to deliver it to Town Hall the following day, December 17, so it could be included on the agenda for the next meeting of the Planning Board. The next step is for the revised bylaw to be the subject of a public hearing at the Planning Board's meeting January 11, 2016.

5. **New Business.**

 a. It was noted with regret that Christopher Tice had submitted his resignation from the Commission effective immediately. A search will be conducted for a new member.

 b. The rules and regulations for administering the demolition delay bylaw by Municipal Services will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. **Adjournment.** Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 PM. The next meeting will be on January 13, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the basement of the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur B. Evans, Clerk