

DUXBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Minutes, July 13, 2011

Present: Laura Doherty, Norman Tucker, Lee Adams, Terry Vose, Leslie Lawrence, and Lois Mc Keown, Tag Carpenter Absent: Jim Nihan, ex officio

Minutes from June 16 were approved as amended.

Public hearing on a proposal submitted for demolition of a structure at 31 Shipyard Lane.

- Application deemed complete on May 19; site visit by commission members, June 1
- Meets at least two of the three requirements for a regulated building
- Built in 1928, older than seventy-five years
- Associated with a historical place, a cottage colony and architecturally important
- Jessica Williams of Tremont Street, architect for the owners, the Langs, noted serious problems with the quality of construction and the costs involved in retaining the house. Christine Langs said that she and her husband had been very thoughtful in the process of making their decision but had encountered problems at every turn in trying to work within the current structure. A. Shohams, Shipyard Lane, noted that her family, when renovating, had stayed within the lines of the original home and questioned why the Langs could not do the same. Susannah Sheehan, also opposed the proposal stating that the house is older than seventy-five years and pointing out its importance in the history of the town as a summer community both historically and socially. J. Williams replied that the code has changed since the Shohams had renovated and that it is much more difficult to bring structures up to code. Jean Clarke of Surplus Street stated her concern regarding the historical aspect and also the economic impact on the neighborhood. She suggested asking "Is it (the demolition) more or less detrimental to the neighborhood?"
- A decision will be made at the next meeting.

Unanimously approved the short form application for demolition at 22 Mayflower Avenue, noting owners' plans to adhere to the design of present structure.

Agreed to set up a site visit for 41 Hawkins Place to determine whether a short or long form is needed for proposed work.

Time allotted for demolition delay for 180 High Street and for 24 Station Street is now up. Terry reported that every attempt is being made to salvage as much of the High Street house as possible.

Regarding requests for access for the historic properties survey, eight owners have said yes; one, no.

Report on Local Historic District activity – Attorney General's office has said that possible minor changes will be made in text of town meeting articles.

Next meeting will be August 18, 2011.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Doherty, Clerk