

# Historical Commission Minutes, 4/29/21

Held at Hanover Town Hall with remote participation via Zoom

Members present in person: Peter Johnson, Judy Grecco, Charlie Minott, Chris Haraden

Member present via Zoom: Caleb Estabrooks

Others present via Zoom: Stephen Ryerson, Greg Cogan, Justin Saboo, Linda Glennon,

**Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m.**

**Review and approve meeting minutes from March 8, 2021 meeting**

Motion to approve as submitted.

Moved by Judy

Second by Charlie

Vote: 5-0

## **733 Main Street.**

Peter read the bylaw section that indicates that the Commission is holding its meeting tonight to determine whether the building is historically significant, and the definition of what "significant" means.

If deemed not significant, the Commission will sign off on the demolition permit

If deemed significant, the Commission will hold a hearing to determine whether it is "preferably preserved" and there could be a demolition delay imposed of up to one year.

Caleb reviewed the three criteria in relation to this property:

- On National Register? No, and unknown if the house is eligible
- Associated with a significant person in Hanover's history? Original owner John House and later owner Colonel John Bailey, a shipbuilder and a member of the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War
- Building is historically or architecturally significant? Position on Main Street is part of the historic streetscape

Charlie: Also, son Calvin Bailey who lived in the house at one time, was a noted clockmaker and nationally known. One of the examples of these clocks is in the town library.

Chris: Agreed that there is significant history with its association with the Baileys, for the shipbuilding and clockmaking connections, which are not typically recognized with historic markers in town.

Judy: Potential that some shipbuilding techniques were used in the construction of the house. Also a Bailey clock is at the Stetson House.

Peter: PAL consultants have indicated that the building may be eligible for listing on the National Register. Also, the home is tied to people who are significant to the town and beyond the town. Building is of an ensemble of buildings on Main Street that is rare. Also, the rear part of the house needs more research to ascertain whether it is from the 17th century. Old workshops (outbuildings) may be of interest to the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Greg Cogan, Trustee. Sent the Commission a structural engineer's report. Peter indicated that those issues are typically part of the conversation of whether it is preferably preserved, the next phase of the process.

Motion to declare that 733 Main Street and outbuildings meet the criteria under Bylaw 6-26 to be declared "significant" buildings.

Moved By: Chris Haraden

Seconded by: Judy Grecco

Amended motion made by Peter Johnson, Seconded by Charlie Minott:

Motion to declare that 733 Main Street and not more than three of its outbuildings (identified by Commissioners during the site visit timber-framed workshop and smoke house, and possibly the chicken coop) meet the criteria under Bylaw 6-26 to be declared "significant" buildings.

Vote to accept the amended motion, 5-0.

Vote on final amended motion, 5-0.

Peter will notify Joe Stack regarding the Commission's vote and scheduling if the hearing.

Hearing date selected - Thursday, May 27 at 7 p.m.

#### **Establishing Local Historic Districts - update.**

Caleb appeared before the selectmen on Monday to present the Commission's desire to establish a Local Historic District Study Committee. There was no vote taken. Caleb will appear the next meeting to request a vote. Potential is to start with a smaller district in order to work out the process and determine how long the process will take.

#### **Town meeting articles of interest to the Commission.**

Historical Society's rehab article - two items.

Sylvester Field, Article 22 - Peter is speaking on the article on behalf of the Commission, and Hal

Thomas is speaking on behalf of the Open Space Committee.

Sylvester School and Salmond School study, Article 21.

#### **Sylvester School RFP update.**

The RFP due date is long after town meeting, and the tour for potential bidders is May 7 (also after town meeting). Not sure what will happen with the proposal at town meeting because of this timing.

#### **Other Business:**

Judy reported that the town's finance department says that \$31,250 still exists in the CPC account for the third phase of the historic house inventory project. Peter believes the actual number is higher and will verify.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Moved by: Charlie

Seconded by: Second

Vote: 5-0

Upcoming meetings:

Monday, May 3 (during Town Meeting in case discussion of warrant articles is needed)

Monday, May 10

Thursday, May 27 - Hearing on 733 Main St

Monday, June 14