

FEBRUARY 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town of Newton Historic Preservation Commission was held at the Town Hall on February 18, 2025.

Mr. Porter called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Mr. Porter stated that proper notice had been given for this meeting in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act."

Mr. Porter led the Salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Mr. McCabe – present

Mr. Ricciardo – present

Mr. Porter – present

Mr. Banner – present

Mr. Atkinson – absent

Professionals: Jessica Caldwell and Justin Singleton, HPC Planner, Kerry Brown, HPC Secretary

Mr. Porter nominated Mr. Mc Cabe as the Chairman for 2025. Mr. Mc Cabe seconded the motion.

AYE: Mr. Porter, Mr. Mc Cabe, Mr. Banner, Mr. Ricciardo

Chairman Mc Cabe resumed the meeting as the Chairman.

Mr. Porter nominated Mr. Ricciardo as the Vice-Chairman for 2025. Chairman Mc Cabe seconded the motion.

AYE: Mr. Porter, Chairman Mc Cabe, Mr. Banner, Mr. Ricciardo

Mr. Ricciardo nominated Ms. Brown as the Secretary for 2025. Mr. Porter seconded

AYE: Mr. Ricciardo, Mr. Porter, Chairman Cabe, Mr. Banner, Mr. Riccardo

December 16, 2024

Mr. Riccardo made a motion to approve the minutes from December 16, 2024. Mr. Porter seconded the motion.

Mr. Riccardo, Mr. Porter, Mr. Banner, Chairman Mc Cabe

OLD BUSINESS

SAK Associates LLC

18 Church Street, Block 7.05, Lot 9, Zone T-6 Zone

Replacement of window walls

Chairman Mc Cabe reminder Mr. Snook that he was still under oath from the last meeting.

Mr. Snook stated that he was before the Commission in December. Mr. Snook stated that the applicant is willing to install white hardy plank paneling instead of the vinyl siding. Mr. Snook detailed the proposed windows and provided a sample to the Commission. There was a discussion regarding the grill for the windows and it was agreed that the proposed windows would have the grills inside the windows. Mr. Snook stated the windows were manufactured by DenCo and was working with Northwest Building Supply. Mr. Snook also testified that the metal columns will still be exposed. Mr. Snook also stated the J channel would be replaced.

No one from the public came forward.

Mr. Riccardo made a motion to approve the application. Mr. Banner seconded the motion.

AYE: Mr. Ricciardo, Mr. Banner, Mr. Porter, Chairman Cabe

Syrene Crowell 25 Sparta Ave

Ms. Crowell stated that the Black Cemetery is listed on the National registry but not on the local Town registry. Ms. Crowell asked if the Commission was willing to add the Black Cemetery to the list. Ms. Crowell stated by adding the cemetery to the list, the volunteers would be able to apply for grants to make improvements such as fixing the existing fence, add signage and to add maps and data.

Chairman Mc Cabe stated that perhaps the Commission make an amendment to add the Black Cemetery to the list. Ms. Caldwell stated that the Commission could send a letter requesting the Black Cemetery be added to the Town registry. The Commission asked Ms. Caldwell to send the letter to the Governing Body on their behalf requesting the cemetery be added to the Town's plot list.

Mr. Banner made a motion to have Ms. Caldwell prepare a letter to the Governing Body supporting the request. Mr. Porter seconded the motion.

AYE: Mr. Banner, Mr. Porter, Mr. Ricciardo, Chairman Cabe

Newton Historic District Report and Surveys

Ms. Caldwell stated the Town received a grant to provide an intensive level inventory of the historic district in the Town. Ms. Caldwell stated that her office, with the help of Mr. Mc Cabe, have provided a survey of all the properties within the historic district.

Ms. Caldwell provided a detail of the project and the differences between contributing and non-contributing properties and the intensive level of the surveys. Ms. Caldwell stated the draft is complete and ready to be sent to the Historic Trust for review and approval. Ms. Caldwell stated that once the document is approved, the Town can seek additional grant money.

There was a discussion among the Commission members, and it was determined the Commission would review the document prior to sending it to the Historic Trust. Ms. Caldwell suggested that the report be sent by June to ensure adequate time for revisions if necessary.

Mr. Matthias made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Brown

Historic Preservation Commission Secretary