

Provincetown Historical Commission
August 6, 2008
Minutes

Meeting called to order 9:00 AM

Members Present: Stephen Borkowski, Polly Burnell, Steve Desroches, Eric Dray, Steven Milkewicz, Taylor Polites and Char Priolo

Also Present: Mona Anderson, Rose Kennedy, and Chris Lucy

1. Approval of Agenda

Polites moved to approve the agenda. Desroches seconded.

Vote: 5-0-0

2. Public Statements

Statements made by non-members attendees were included in the discussion of 2 Commercial Street.

3. 2 Commercial Street/Murchison House

Dray updated the Commission regarding the current status of the referral of the planned development of 2 Commercial Street to the Cape Cod Commission. A joint meeting had been posted for the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board with the proposed developer of 2 Commercial Street so that the developer might have the opportunity to present in an open community forum the plans of development. Commission members agreed with Dray that there was some concern about the meeting and it was determined members would attend. Dray presented the Commission members with a draft statement to be read at the meeting.

Mona Anderson, a realtor with Thomas Brown Realty and the representative of the proposed purchaser for 2 Commercial Street, expressed her dissatisfaction with the actions of the Historical Commission. She stressed the quality of the buyer and his passion for the preservation of this structure.

Chris Lucy stated that he was a member of the Truro Board of Selectmen, but was at the meeting as a private citizen. Lucy is a landscaper and was responsible for the removal of plant life on the sides of the dune on which 2 Commercial Street sits. He spoke in favor of the proposed purchaser of 2 Commercial Street.

Rose Kennedy, a realtor with Thomas Brown Realty and the representative of the sellers of 2 Commercial Street, echoed comments made by Anderson and Lucy. Kennedy stated

that everyone is concerned about the future and preservation of the house and that this purchaser has those same concerns.

Members of the Commission responded to the non-member attendees, questioning why, given the proposed purchasers commitment to preservation, a review by the Cape Cod Commission posed a problem. Members also questioned Kennedy's statement that she was unaware of Commission activity related to the Murchison property, given that she had given the chair of the Commission a tour of the property earlier in the year at which time preservation efforts were discussed.

An open discussion ensued among the members regarding the draft statement.

Polites moved to approve the statement as written. Burnell seconded.

Vote: 5-0-0

4. Other Business

Members planned the agenda for the next meeting, scheduled for August 29, 2008.

Dray moved to not close the meeting, but to reconvene at 7pm at the joint meeting between the Planning Board and Conservation Commission. Milkewicz seconded.

Vote: 5-0-0

5. Joint Meeting between the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board

Members reconvened in the evening, including Stephen Borkowski, Stephen Desroches, Eric Dray, Steven Milkewicz, Taylor Polites and Char Priolo.

Dray read the statement previously approved by the Commission. He also contributed to a discussion of historic preservation related to the proposed development at 2 Commercial Street. Howard Burchman, chair of the Planning Board, adjourned the meeting after agreeing to enter into a Memorandum Of Understanding with the proposed purchaser that would detail community requirements for the development to be determined at a later date.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.