



Natick Historic District Commission
Meeting Minutes for March 29, 2023

Commission Members in Attendance via Zoom:

MC Mike Collins (Chair)
JKF Jeannine Furrer (Vice Chair)
CM Chris Milford
ML Matt Labrie
MS Melissa Sullivan
SF Susana Fernandes

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM

Old Business:

1. Minutes from the previous meeting March 6, 2023 were reviewed, corrected and Mr. Collins made a motion to approve, second by Ms. Furrer. Roll call vote unanimously approved.
Voice vote by name approved: MC, JF, SF, ML, MS, CM

New Business

2. **The Commission reviewed an application for 79 Eliot Street in the John Eliot Historic District for a Certificate of Appropriateness.** The application was presented by the owners Lisa and Cole Lafferty. Mr. Collins read the description of the project from the agenda.

Ms. Lafferty presented the application saying that the existing concrete wall was failing, and they wanted to replace it with a new retaining wall matching the existing wall. They are also repairing a portion of the existing stone wall to the left of the existing stair and the right of the large stone.

Mr. Collins said confirmed that the scope of the work was limited to the retaining wall, not the driveway. Ms. Lafferty confirmed this.

Ms. Furrer noted cobble stones are also include in the description. Ms. Lafferty said they would be adjacent to the existing driveway. Ms. Furrer said the proposal was a welcome improvement.

Mr. Milford had no additional comment, in favor of the application.

Ms. Fernandes agreed.

Mr. Labrie agreed.

Ms. Sullivan asked if any lighting was being considered. Ms. Lafferty said no.

Mr. Collins agreed, saying it was a great addition to the other additions they have made to the property.

Mr. Collins asked for comments from the public.

Mr. Joe Devaney, 75 Eliot Street, was in support of the application.

Ms. Furrer made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness, Mr. Collins seconded the motion. Voice vote by name, unanimous approved: MC, JF, SF, ML, MS, CM

Old Business:

3. **The Commission continued their review of an Application for 75 Eliot Street in the John Eliot Historic District for a Certificate of Appropriateness.** The modifications to the application were presented by the owner Joe Devaney.

Mr. Devaney noted that the addition has been moved back from Eliot St 2' further. He pointed out that the dormer facing Eliot street have been simplified and the 3 windows of the dormer have been reduced to 2 windows. They have added the water table to the drawing that previously was not shown, and he has located the condenser behind the fence.

Ms. Furrer note the importance of locating the condenser behind the fence and noted it was not shown on the drawings.

Mr. Milford said he thought the changes were an improvement, especially the modifications to the dormer.

Ms. Fernandes said she thought the application was now appropriate.

Mr. Labrie said he liked the changes.

Ms. Sullivan asked if any of the lighting had been changed. Mr. Devaney said the only lighting was downlights for the back entry.

Mr. Collins asked if there were any comments from the public.

Mr. Ken Van Blarcom, 63 Eliot, said he liked the modifications.

Mr. Collins made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness with the following condition: The condenser, not shown on the documents, shall be located behind the fence screening it from Eliot St.

Ms. Furrer seconded the motion. Voice vote by name, unanimous approved: MC, JF, SF, ML, MS, CM

Mr. Milford was assigned as the resource person for the project.

4. The application for 68 Eliot St. was continued to 4/12/2023. Approval from the applicant has been received.
5. Mr. Collins noted that there were open seats on the HDC and he is looking to recommendations for candidates. Mr. Devaney expressed interest once his project is complete.
6. Mr. Collins noted that one of the spires on the old Scared Heart Church appears to be delaminating. He will bring this to their attention.

Mr. Collins made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Furrer at 7:41. Roll call vote unanimously approved: MC, JF, SF, ML, MS, CM

These minutes were prepared and submitted by Chris Milford