

Town of Lunenburg

Architectural Preservation District Commission

Cullen Dwyer, Chairman
Richard McGrath, Vice Chair
William Lloyd, Clerk
Anthony Sculimbrene, member
Nathan Lockwood, member



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday April 11th, 2023

Ritter Building

Call to Order: At 7:44 with McGrath, Dwyer, and Lockwood present.

Public Comment: None

Review of minutes:

The minutes for the March 7th meeting were read aloud and approved with the following alterations: McGrath was present, the name of Amory Phelps was misspelled, and it should be included in the minutes that the APDC agreed to take no action regarding the window replacement at the Phelps house without a CTA.

Correspondence:

The Massachusetts historic commission contacted McGrath and communicated its seven-year plan, which was read aloud. Lockwood mentioned the benefits of a community preservation act to achieve some of the goals therein. Discussion followed and it was agreed that a CPA would be beneficial to the goals of the APDC as well.

Old Business:

Ritter Building Renovations: Dwyer explained that he had communicated with the Select Board and explained that the APDC awaits a new application for a CTA, but there has been no reply so far.

Building Inspector: Per previous meeting discussion, Dwyer reached out to the Building Inspector to discuss a revised application process involving closer coordination with the building department, and also to ask about enforcement measures. No reply so far.

Bylaw Review: building on previous discussions regarding the intent, purpose, and workings of the APD bylaw, Lockwood offered to draft a revised bylaw for review at the July meeting.

New Business:

Lockwood contacted Rob Bowen, one of the owners of the Old Methodist Church at 50 Main Street. Deterioration of the steeple remains a concern. Mr. Bowen never received our previous letter expressing the APDC's concern, and asked when it was sent and to what address? He also inquired if grants were available to historic preservation work, and if the APDC could recommend any contractors for the work? Dwyer agreed to contact him and answer his questions. Bowen explained that he recently had the building painted, and did some other structural repairs. He had plans to repair the slate roof, and had gotten a bid from a contractor to repair the steeple.

Report from Historical Commission:

The Lunenburg Historical Commission is seeking a grant to update the town's inventory of "K-houses", or buildings noted on the 1838 Kilburn map. They intend to use the grant to hire a professional to do the work.

The Commission is currently researching the history of black persons residing in Lunenburg.

The Commission had no meeting in March due to an outbreak of COVID-19, but intends to present its military veterans' banner project at the next regular meeting of the APDC.

Other business:

Dwyer will pursue setting up the next meeting in the Ritter basement where there is equipment that will enable the meeting to be on ZOOM.

A CTA application from Ted Gaudet was received at the meeting, regarding re-roofing the house at 876 Massachusetts Ave. Lockwood and Dwyer were prepared to approve the application, but McGrath was concerned about the lack of detail in the description of the work. Members present agreed to approve it provisionally, pending the outcome of McGrath's further investigation.

Next Meeting: May 2nd, Ritter Building basement, 7:30PM

Close of meeting: 9:06PM