



# City of New Bedford

## HISTORICAL COMMISSION

133 William Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740  
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**JONATHAN F. MITCHELL**  
**MAYOR**

### MINUTES

May 7, 2018

City Hall, Room 314 -133 William Street

**Members Present:**

Diana Henry, Chair – departed 6:47  
Bill King, Vice Chair  
Janine da Silva  
Alex Jardin  
James Lopes

**Members Absent:**

Bill Barr

**Secretary and City Planning Staff:**

Anne Louro, *Preservation Planner*

**Call to Order:**

D. Henry called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

**Roll Call:**

A formal roll call was conducted confirming a quorum of the members present as stated above.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the April 2, 2018 public meeting were approved.

**Continued Public Hearings**

**Case #2018.09**

**34 Union Street (Map 47, Lot 39)**

**Certificate of Appropriateness: Sidewalk Café Seating** Continued from the April 2, 2018 meeting.

Barry Flynn presented the application, explaining that the area he was proposing met the ordinance requirements for accessibility clearances and would be connected to the building façade. He answered members' questions relative to the tables, noting that he was proposing five (5) picnic-style tables which would be five feet in length and seat four people each. Mr. Flynn stated that he would get the smallest table available. B. King voiced concern relative to the proposed string lighting. Mr. Flynn stated that he had spoken to Christina Connolly in the Mayor's office, who stated that he would be allowed to tie his lighting into the City's power source at the pole. He stated that the lights would be installed to enhance the aesthetic of the façade and reflect the location as attractive and vibrant, as they do in other cities.

In response to J. Lopes question regarding the recommended conditions, A. Louro noted that the conditions related to the barrier installation initiated from Mr. Flynn's conversation with the City's Commissioner of Inspectional Services, Danny Romanowicz. Mr. Flynn stated that pending NBHC approval; he would be required to meet with Mr. Romanowicz relative to the installation methods. There was brief discussion relative to the use of concrete footings, with Mr. Flynn stating that Mr. Romanowicz was opposed to the use of concrete, and that Mr. Flynn would be able to construct the barrier without the use of concrete. Mr. Flynn stated that he would use a post sleeve and bolts to secure the barrier, as it is meant to be a temporary structure. A. Louro stated that she would prefer to have the condition relative to dyed concrete remain, in case, for some reason, concrete is required.

**MOTION to open the public hearing.** Moved by B. King and seconded by J. da Silva.

**Motion carried.**

*There were no public comments offered or recorded in favor of the petition, nor in opposition to the petition.*

**MOTION to close the public hearing.** Moved B. King and seconded by J. da Silva.

**Motion carried.**

There was no member discussion.

**MOTION to approve Case #2018.09 for 34 Union Street (Map 47, Lot 39) and grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to include the change of paint color for the storefront's trim from its current "Black" color to "Essex Green" and the installation of Sidewalk Café Seating with the following conditions: the use of commercial grade string lighting; the use of a dark stain on the picnic tables; all exposed concrete be dyed to match brick pavers; all anchor plates be encased in wood; the applicant secure any other permitting required for the barrier; the applicant work with staff to ensure installation methods and materials adhere to the design aesthetics of the District; and if substantial changes are required through additional permitting, the applicant may be required to seek a further modification to the Certificate.**

Motion moved by J. Lopes and seconded by J. da Silva.

**Motion carried.**

#### **Public Hearings:**

##### **Case #2018.14**

##### **37 N Water Street (part of 18 Johnny Cake Hill) (Map 53, Lot 161)**

##### **Certificate of Appropriateness: Window and Molding Trim Replacement**

Michelle Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer & CFO, New Bedford Whaling Museum presented the application with Guido Coucci, of Guido's Plate Glass Service. They provided members with an enlarged image of the subject window as well as a sample of the replacement trim. Ms. Taylor explained that due to condensation, the Museum was seeking the removal of three sections of ¼" glass and replacement with double-pane insulated glass which is approximately 1" thick, requiring the removal and replacement of the existing glass stop moulding. Mr. Coucci explained that the new trim would match the existing profile, but would be extended to accommodate the added thickness of the glass. A. Louro clarified the use of Low-E glass which would not be tinted. Mr. Coucci confirmed the use of clear glass.

**MOTION to open the public hearing.** Moved by J. da Silva and seconded by J. Lopes.

**Motion carried.**

*There were no public comments offered or recorded in favor of the petition, nor in opposition to the petition.*

**MOTION to close the public hearing.** Moved by J. da Silva and seconded by B. King.

**Motion carried.**

There was no member discussion.

**MOTION to approve Case #2018.14 for 37 N Water Street, part of 18 Johnny Cake Hill (Map 53, Lot 161) and grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the application as presented with any necessary conditions.**

Motion moved by J. da Silva and seconded by B. King.

**Motion carried.**

**Case #2018.15**

**15 Johnny Cake Hill (Map 53, Lot 153)**

**Certificate of Appropriateness: Hardscape**

Frederick Toomey and Jodi Stevens, President and Development Director respectively, New Bedford Port Society, presented the application explaining that they had recently received funding for the garden area south of the Bethel, had a ship anchor donated to them by the Whaling Museum, and therefore had developed a landscaping plan for the south lawn.

Mr. Toomey reviewed the landscape plan with the members, explaining that were two areas which were terraced. Mr. Toomey explained that the anchor has been placed in the upper terrace with granite benches, similar to the existing benches in the lower terrace. He also noted the addition of bluestone which had been removed at some point. He noted the upgrade of an irrigation system and the use of cobblestone edging in the planting area within the lower terrace.

In response to J. Lopes, Mr. Toomey indicated the near-future plan to install a 16"-18" recognition plaque within the garden to commemorate the funding donors.

**MOTION to open the public hearing.** Moved by J. da Silva and seconded by A. Jardin.

**Motion carried.**

*There were no public comments offered or recorded in favor of the petition, nor in opposition to the petition.*

**MOTION to close the public hearing.** Moved by J. Lopes and seconded by J. da Silva.

**Motion carried.**

There was no member discussion.

**MOTION to approve Case #2018.15 for 15 Johnny Cake Hill Centre (Map 53, Lot 153) and grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the application as presented with the condition of allowing Staff to work with the applicant relative to the appropriate siting of a future memorial plaque in the south lawn.**

Motion moved by A. Jardin and seconded by J. da Silva.

**Motion carried with B. King's recusal.**

**Case #2018.16**

**22 Centre Street (Map 53, Lot 191)**

**Certificate of Appropriateness: Hardscape and Signage.**

Dora and Trip Millikin presented the application explaining that a new driveway is being installed to the property west of their driveway and that there will be a shared curb and apron opening, necessitating the need of fence to separate the two driveways. Dora described the dimensions of the driveway at 10'W X 73" L and noted that the land had been recently surveyed to determine the property boundary location. Ms. Millikin presented a material sample of a hand forged iron bar, copied from a Model T crank shaft. She noted that eleven to twelve iron posts would be used, spaced approximately 6' apart, with the addition of nautical rope. Ms. Millikin indicated that the iron posts would be set into cement footings.

Ms. Millikin described the wood signage to be approximately a shingle score high by 18” in length, Essex Green painted background with painted white lettering, and would be installed under the first window on the west façade.

In response to J. Lopes, Ms. Millikin clarified that the driveway was not a “shared” driveway and explained the legal necessity of marking their property boundary and further described the agreement with the adjacent property owner at 24 Centre Street to be amicable relative to the fence installation.

There was brief discussion based on a scenario in which the 24 Centre Street property owner may wish to install their own fence, and B. King’s concern that both property owners were not present to discuss the current fence proposal. A. Louro explained that the consideration of a future scenario was not currently under the Commission’s purview and that the current fence proposal would be within 22 Centre Street’s property. She also explained to members that she has been working closely with both property owners throughout the months long process; from the development of the new driveway as well as the current fence proposal, and based on her conversations with the 24 Centre Street owner, Mr. Maynard, he is acceptable to the proposed type of fence and its installation along the property line.

A. Louro noted that a solid fence would be a challenging for car door opening due to the restricted widths of the driveways and additionally, the fence materials tie in with the nautical aesthetic of the District.

B. King voiced concern relative to the visibility of the black posts at night with J. da Silva suggesting the use of reflective tape, and A. Louro suggesting its use on the south side of the posts to aid in backing out of the driveways. There was concurrence with this suggestion by both the members and the applicant to place reflective tape on the back of the steel posts.

**MOTION to open the public hearing.** Moved by B. King and seconded by J. da Silva.

**Motion carried.**

*There were no public comments offered or recorded in favor of the petition, nor in opposition to the petition.*

**MOTION to close the public hearing.** Moved by J. da Silva and seconded by B. King.

**Motion carried.**

There was no member discussion.

**MOTION to approve Case #2018.16 for 24 Centre Street (Map 53, Lot 191) and grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a fence as presented with the addition of reflective tape on the south side of the iron posts.**

Motion moved by A. Jardin and seconded by J. Lopes.

**Motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

*Discussion regarding the potential screening of exterior venting at 42-46 N Water Street*

*Discussion regarding the potential screening of exterior venting at 141 Union Street*

A. Louro informed members that Teri Bernert was in the process of developing sign specifications, based on the previous month’s meeting discussion, and that Jessica Coelho was seeking additional quotes for the screening, and that both would return the next month.

**Other:**

*CNA: 18 Johnny Cake Hill-Roof Repair*

A. Louro explained that a winter storm had damaged roof shingles on the Whaling Museum's Bourne Building and they were repairing and replacing with in-kind materials.

*CNA: 56-62 N Water Street Hill-Roof Repair*

A. Louro explained that the north slope only was being replaced with an architectural shingle, and the three tab shingle will remain on the south slope. She noted that she was not concerned with the use of two types of roof shingles, due to the shallow roof slope and that both sides of the roof could not be seen wholly from the public way.

*Non-Historic Demolition: 1233 E Rodney French Blvd.*

A. Louro explained that an early twentieth century house had been vacant for approximately ten years and had been gutted. She explained the FEMA regulations relative to the waterfront parcel and that the property had no historical or architectural significance.

*Massachusetts Rehabilitation Tax Credit Support Letters:*

- *Manomet Mill #1*
- *222 Union Street*
- *Wamsutta Cloth & Harness Room*
- *Kilburn Mill #2*

A. Louro explained the three round funding processes for tax credit applications and the requirement to obtain a Historical Commission letter of support. She noted that all of the current applicants had applied in previous funding rounds.

In other matters, J. da Silva briefly noted her disappointment with the Spooner barn demolition which was before the Commission at the April meeting. A. Louro noted that the property owner intended to dismantle the barn and reconstruct it elsewhere.

B. King questioned the replacement of doors at 27 Centre Street without a certificate. A. Louro noted that she would look into the matter.

**Adjourn**

**There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was moved by J. Lopes and seconded by B. King. The motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

NEXT MEETING Monday, June 4, 2018

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Louro

Secretary to the Historical Commission  
Preservation Planner

*Approved: 07.09.18*