

MINUTES

Demolition Review Committee ("DRC")

Meeting 07/10/2020

The "Coronavirus" statement was read by D. Choate and the meeting called to order at 11:05 A.M.

Present were: David Choate, Elizabeth Sanborn and Alex Herlihy.

Attendance: David Choate - Aye, Elizabeth Sanborn- Aye and Alex Herlihy - Aye.

Minutes reviewed from 07/02/20 site walk mtg. A. Herlihy moved to accept; E. Sanborn seconded.

Rollcall Vote: Elizabeth Sanborn - Aye, David Choate - Aye and Alex Herlihy - Aye.

Purpose: Discuss potential demolition of the tiny house 32 Gray Court.

Proposed Plan: Tear down and build a two story 2,000 sf house. Many variances were received from the ZBA and they were read to the Committee by D. Choate.

The Committee had a discussion on significance and the following concerns were expressed:

1. Density and context of a 2 story house in a neighborhood of 1 story bungalows.
2. We have not had a chance to review the ZBA Minutes of the March 4 meeting and to read any concerns expressed by abutters (this led to a discussion as to whether abutters should be noticed for the DRC public hearings). D. Choate will include this on his list of proposed changes to the Planning Board for the 2021 Town Warrant articles. K. Drago will email the 3/4/20 ZBA Minutes to the DRC for review.
3. The ZBA needs to know that the DRC has concerns about granting so many variances that allow a project like this to proceed and, accordingly, it was the consensus of the DRC that a letter to this effect should be sent to the ZBA and A. Herlihy volunteered to prepare a draft for the DRC review.

D. Choate asked for a vote on the significance of the building at 32 Gray Court and a motion was made by A. Herlihy to table this decision until after the DRC has had a chance to review the ZBA Minutes and based upon Section 509.7(D) of the Ordinance. The motion was seconded by E. Sanborn. Rollcall Vote: A. Herlihy - Aye; E. Sanborn - Aye; D. Choate - Aye.

The Committee voted to schedule the next meeting at Town Hall for July 16, 3:30 PM.

D. Choate will notify the Building Inspector, Peter Rowell, of our decision and he will notify the Applicant and invite them to attend (NB - this is NOT a public hearing, but merely a continuation of the 7/10 regular meeting).

A discussion was held about how to protect those significant buildings outside of the Historic District in light of the history A. Herlihy is writing. D. Choate suggested establishing a sub-committee of members of the DRC, Rye Heritage Commission and the Historic District Commission and D. Choate will email Phil Walsh (RHC) and Mae Bradshaw (HDC) to gauge their interest in such a project.

Jen Madden has submitted a letter to the Rye Heritage Commission to serve as an Alternate to the Demolition Review Committee and this appointment is on hold for some reason. D. Choate will find out why her application cannot be processed at Town Hall.

D. Choate will continue to seek to find out the Committee's approved budget from Kate and Janice.

A. Herlihy moved to adjourn and E. Sanborn seconded the motion.

Rollcall Vote: Alex Herlihy - Aye, Elizabeth Sanborn - Aye and David Choate - Aye.

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Choate