

MINUTES

Demolition Review Committee
Meeting 10/26/2022

D. Choate called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. at the Rye Town Hall.

Present were: David Choate, Elizabeth Sanborn, Jenn Madden, Jay Longtin, Frank Lagana, and Land Use Assistant Kara Campbell.

Purpose: Request for demolition of 28 Pine Street.

The Minutes from the 10/12/22 meeting regarding 1595 Ocean Blvd. were approved. E. Sanborn moved, J. Madden 2nd. Unanimous approval.

E. Sanborn made a motion that the house at 28 Pine Street is neither architecturally important nor historically significant. F. Lagana 2nd. Unanimous vote of no objection to having permit issued.

D. Choate will notify the Building Inspector.

Other Business:

The site walk held on 10/24 was discussed for 1595 Ocean Blvd. J. Longtin said renovation of 20 years ago seems consistent, but he was not sure. D. Choate said owner's comments that, if the renovation costs exceed 50% of building value, then the owner must meet new codes is the heart of the problem. Owner wished we could be at the beginning of the discussion. Lots of discussion and questions followed:

What do we do next?

Is the above building code rule federal or state or town?

How do we get in front of these issues?

How do we get with Kim Reed (Planner) or the Building Inspector to involve the DRC right after requests or notification where potential demo of a building is anticipated?

We, the DRC, can be a resource not a hurdle.

Kara was asked to look in to the above DRC concerns and hurdles and report back to the Committee with ideas and suggestions.

The issue of a public hearing for 1595 Ocean Boulevard was discussed. There are only 2 abutters and they already know because they were at the Zoning Board and Planning Board meetings where this property was first discussed plus they have both written letters of support to the Boards. What would a public hearing achieve? F. Lagana, J. Madden, E. Sanborn, D. Choate, and J. Longtin all expressed that now is not the time for a public hearing.

E. Sanborn moved that, even though the house is architecturally important and historically significant, after the site visit we feel a public hearing is not needed and the Committee takes no exception to issuing a demolition permit. J. Longtin 2nd. Unanimous vote.

J. Longtin moved to adjourn and F. Lagana seconded the motion.
Unanimous approval.

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Meeting Adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Sanborn