Town of Scituate Historical Commission Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2018

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Doug Smith called to order a regular meeting of the Scituate Historical Commission at 7:02 pm on September 20, 2018 at the Scituate Town Library. The following Commission members attended the meeting: Doug Smith, Stephen Litchfield, Arthur Beale, Karen Desler, and Mike Cuneo. Aubrey Schwartz was absent. Lyle Nyberg and Bob Brand also attended, as did applicants and representatives of the demolition permit hearings on the agenda.

2. Demolition Review Applications

The hearing related to the demolition application for the house at **59 Glades Road** was continued from the August 16 meeting of the Commission. Doug Smith circulated a letter from the Building Commissioner expressing his view of the context in which the house should be considered as it falls within zone AE15. While this is not a Velocity zone, it is the next most vulnerable zone, and has identical rebuilding requirements.

A number of Commission members had visited the house the weekend preceding the meeting. Arthur Beale described the house, mentioning some work that appears to have been added relatively recently. He also described the current condition of the house including water damage throughout and a long-outdated electrical system.

Mr. Ed Walsh, the owner/applicant, talked about all the additions that had been made to the house that have led, in his estimate, to one-third of the house being built between the years of 1960–1980.

Other members discussed their opinions of the house and its historical significance based on the visit. A motion was made to close the hearing. This motion was seconded and approved. Doug Smith then made a motion that the property at 59 Glades Road be considered preferably preserved and subject to a twelve month demolition delay beginning on September 20, 2018. Commission members proceeded to vote, with the final tally being 3-1 against the motion. The town's building inspector will be notified accordingly.

The hearing for the property at **67 Collier Road** was continued from the August 16 meeting of the Commission and was attended by the co-applicants, Carol and Ken Conway. Mr. Conway spoke about the property and the research he had conducted on

it, including a chronology of the tax assessments over a number of years. The implication of the analysis, as asserted by the applicant, is that the house was either significantly or entirely rebuilt in a timeframe that would make it less than 100 years old. The applicant also shared a video of the house for Commission members. Despite the research and video, the applicant was informed that the Commission needed to conduct its due diligence and scheduled a time to visit the house.

3. Tercentenary Signs

No update.

4. Historic Resource Master Planning

Commission members have been invited to discuss the topic of historic resource master planning with some of the selectmen and the town planner, potentially on October 2.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:27p.m.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Commission is planned for 7:00pm on Thursday, October 18 at the Scituate Town Library.