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ORLEANS TOWN CLERK



HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**Orleans Historical Commission
Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 4:30 pm**

This was a hybrid meeting of the Orleans Historical Commission convened in the Skaket Room at Town Hall, with remote participation also provided by Zoom technology. Real-time public access was provided by Orleans Channel 18 on the Town website and cable television.

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm by Historical Commission Chair Ron Petersen. Also attending, and thus constituting a quorum were Committee Vice Chair Joan Nix, Members Bill Wibel and Charles Ellis, Edmund Marcarelli, and Associate Member Francis Mustaro.

Also, in attendance: Student Representative Kelly Clifford and Historic Preservation Consultant Eric Dray (participated part-time). Snow Library Trustee Sue Lynch.

(00:00) Public Hearing on a Notice of Intent To Demolish a Significant Building at 163 Beach Road.

Peter Haig (Architectural Design) and David Herrick and Ellen Herrick (homeowners) were present. Mr. Petersen said that he and Ms. Nix had both visited the site and Mr. Haig provided the Commission with a paper copy of his presentation. The intent of the project is to restore the main structure of a barn on the property. Mr. Haig noted that there are 2 sheds on either side of the barn, which they wish to remove, demolish, and replace in-kind. He described using the new barn as an ADU.

After the conclusion of Mr. Haig’s presentation, the Commissioners asked questions: Mr. Marcarelli asked if the intention was to renovate and rebuild, rather than restore; Mr. Haig said that in order for the structure to be used it needs insulating. He said the intention is to keep the big barn door in the front, as well as the beams and walls; it will be a contemporary home in the sense that it can be heated and cooled. Mr. Mustaro asked how old the sheds were; Mr. Haig was unsure but said that the barn was built better than the sheds.

Ms. Nix agreed that it is not a restoration, but a renovation, and she did not have a problem with the project as it will keep the look of the barn. Mr. Petersen said it’s a repurposing of the materials. Mr. Petersen said that the net impact of the project is to improve the historic value of the property – with the barn remaining on the property with a close resemblance to the original appearance. He felt this project was a positive attribution to the preservation of the historic landscape; he did not think it was appropriate to impose the delay.

Mr. Marcarelli said that it was important to encourage this kind of project, preserving the streetscape and historic value. Ms. Nix would also be inclined to not impose the 1-year demolition delay. Mr. Wibel asked about the foundation under the barn; Mr. Haig said that it would be raised 4 feet.

Approved 6/14/2023