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**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS
NEWTON UPPER FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

DATE: January 13, 2022

PLACE/TIME: Fully Remote
7:00 p.m.

ATTENDING: Jeff Riklin, Chair
Scott Aquilina, Member
Judy Neville, Member
Daphne Romanoff, Member
Paul Snyder, Member
Jay Walter, Member
Valerie Birmingham, Staff

ABSENT: Laurie Malcom, Member
John Wyman, Alternate

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Jeff Riklin presiding as Chair. Voting permanent members were S. Aquilina, J. Neville, D. Romanoff, P. Snyder, and J. Walter. B. Kurze acted as recording secretary and the meeting was recorded on Zoom.

999 Chestnut Street – Certificate of Appropriateness

Laurel Lalukaur presented an application to install a free-standing four-foot tall and six-foot wide cedar barrel. She explained that she had already bought the tub but could install it elsewhere if needed; she did want to use it to manage a health condition. The electrical equipment would be located in the shed.

Materials Reviewed:

Product information
Photograph with elevation sketch
Site plan
MHC Form B

Commission members requested additional information to show how the tub would look from the street, a plan or view that showed the entire site in case it was possible to locate the tub elsewhere, a planting plan for screening, and information about the proposed piping. More fencing would be obtrusive. If it was found to be

appropriate, the tub would have to be screened from the street with arbor vitae or some other evergreen plantings. P. Snyder said that the commission had to consider what the hot tub would look like without plantings and fences. J. Walter moved to approve the application with the requirement that additional information be provided. J. Riklin seconded the motion. Commission members were concerned about the conditional approval and said he would vote against because there was not adequate documentation to understand the project. J. Walter withdrew his motion. The owner agreed in writing to continue the review to a future meeting.

Energy & Sustainability in Historic Districts – Presentation and Discussion

Liora Silkes gave a presentation on how the work of the historic districts paired with Newton's climate action goals. She spoke about modern energy updates that were becoming more popular, such as solar panels, electric car charging stations, and heat pumps. She explained that owners who were not approved for solar panel projects could sign up for Newton Power Choice and/or community solar.

Administrative discussion:

Minutes: The December meeting minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Recorded by Barbara Kurze, Senior Preservation Planner