

BILLERICA HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MINUTES
April 2, 2025

A meeting of the Billerica Historic District Commission was held on Wednesday April 2, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, in room 210 and via Zoom. This meeting is recorded.

Present: David Gagliardi, Chairman; Mary McBride, Secretary; Richard Hawes, Member; Michael Rea, Member; George Simolaris, Member; Dan Valentine, Alt Member; Katherine Malgieri, Town Planner and Joyce MacMillan, Recording Clerk
Via Zoom: Mary Jones, Alt Member; and Kathy Meagher, Alt Member;
Excused: Travis Brown, Vice Chairman; John McKenna, Member; and Tina Pesiridis, Alt Member

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gagliardi called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Lincoln of Medford, MA, and Chairman of the Middlesex Canal Commission – Mr. Lincoln would like to know why the Talbot Dam Removal is being continued to next month's meeting.

APPLICATIONS:

Chairman Gagliardi asked for a roll call of who was present.

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Dave Gagliardi – Present
Richard Hawes – Present
George Simolaris – Present
Mary Jones – Present
Dan Valentine – Present
Mary McBride – Present
Michael Rea – Present
Kathy Meagher - Present

Chairman Gagliardi stated that Travis Brown, John McKenna and Tina Pesiridis were all excused.

Talbot Dam Removal – Major – App #2025-01 (Continued until May 7, 2025)

Jill Griffith was at the meeting via Zoom and was asked if she could answer Mr. Lincoln's question regarding the continuation. Ms. Griffith explained that she and her group thought in the best interest of time and since there were still ongoing discussions regarding section 106, to put it off another month.

Chairman Gagliardi opened the floor for questions. There was some conversation regarding the March 17, 2025 meeting at the Canal Museum. NOAA is still compiling information. Looking to see what the next steps are. There are a lot of negative feelings surrounding the removal. Why is the mitigation of section 106 holding up the

voting of this committee? Most of the committee is ready to vote. If the commission votes no, what will NOAA's next step be? Section 106 has a provision for parties that cannot come to an agreement. It was suggested that the Advisory Committee should be next. Have you been before the Massachusetts Historical Commission? Yes.

Mr. Lincoln stated that this committee has the right to vote on this right now. He also said the 106 process was strange in its order of processes.

Another gentleman via Zoom, Howard stated the fish ladders should be implemented instead of removing the dam.

Mary McBride, seconded by George Simolaris, made a motion to approve the continuance of Application – Major - #2025-01 to May 7, 2025.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted 7-0:

Mike Rea – Aye
Richard Hawes – Aye
Mary McBride - Aye
Dan Valentine – Aye
George Simolaris - Aye
Mary Jones - Aye
David Gagliardi – Aye

1 Treble Cove Road – Minor – App #2025-04 – John McBride Ins. Agency, Owner
No one showed up in person or via Zoom for this application. The commission voted to continue to their next meeting.

Michael Rea, seconded by Dan Valentine, made a motion to continue Minor - Application – #2025-04.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted 7-0:

Mike Rea – Aye
Richard Hawes – Aye
Mary McBride - Aye
Dan Valentine – Aye
George Simolaris - Aye
Mary Jones - Aye
David Gagliardi – Aye

OTHER BUSINESS:

Miscellaneous Correspondence / Not Open for Discussion

None

Minutes: Approval of March 5, 2025, minutes

Mary McBride, seconded by George Simolaris, made a motion to accept the minutes of March 5, 2025.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted 4-0-3:

Mike Rea – Aye
Richard Hawes – Abstain
Mary McBride - Aye
Dan Valentine – Abstain
George Simolaris - Abstain
Mary Jones - Aye
David Gagliardi – Aye

ADJOURNMENT:

Mary McBride, seconded by Richard Hawes, made a motion to adjourn.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted 7-0:

Mike Rea – Aye
Richard Hawes – Aye
Mary McBride - Aye
Dan Valentine – Aye
George Simolaris - Aye
Mary Jones - Aye
David Gagliardi – Aye

Chairman Gagliardi adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Joyce MacMillan, Recording Clerk