



Town of Amherst, NH
AMHERST HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

Landry Conference Room

Thursday, 12 January 2017, 7:30 PM

I. Call to Order

Chairman Ludt called the meeting to order sharply at 7:30PM. Regular Members in attendance were: Will Ludt, Andy Ouellette, Mary Mahar, Lisa Montesanto, and Tom Grella- BOS Ex Officio. Alternate Members in attendance were: John Bement and Conor Frain.

Absent member was: Larry McCoy.

Also in attendance: Mr Gordon Leedy, Amherst Director of Community Development. Chairman Ludt will be taking minutes.

II. Topics of Discussion

a. "Throw Back Thursday- Amherst Heritage"

Chairman Ludt started off the meeting with reminding the commission that the town library has an annual program called "Amherst Lyceum" headed up by Ruslyn Vear. The latest lyceum was from a topic from an Amherst Franklin Society meeting in 1809 on "What Benefits Does War Have On Mankind". A discussion panel of 3 military veterans and the audience provided discussion on the topic. Chairman Ludt discussed the possibility of providing town data on the way life was in Amherst for the next lyceum. Ms Vear concurred. Mr Ouellette and Mr Grella discussed that there was a popular swimming area in Milford in the 1950's and 1960's called the "Pump Station."

b. Welcome to the New Heritage Commission Recorder

Chairman Ludt announced that the Heritage Commission has a new recorder, Kristan Patenaude, Amherst resident. Her duties will start at our next Heritage Commission meeting on 9 February 2017. A nice welcome was made.

c. Development of Plan for Metal Detection Guidance for Public Property

Chairman Ludt was in attendance at a Amherst Conservation Commission meeting on in December 2016. Metal Detecting on public property was

discussed. In attendance at the meeting was Mr Peter Lyons, BOS, who recommended that the Heritage Commission develop a policy for the town and present the draft policy to the BOS for their consideration. Chairman Ludt accepted the action item. Mr's Bement and Ouellete volunteered their time to work with Chairman Ludt to develop the draft policy. A meeting in February 2017 of the three will be planned.

**d. Heritage Commission-FWHA Partnership for "Connecting Communities"-
29 January 2017 Event**

The Freedom's Way National Heritage Area is planning to have a "Connecting Communities" event in Amherst this year in January. The Heritage Commission will support the event the same as last year. Event is to support a snow shoeing and hiking session at Joe English Conservation Land and at the PMEC. Ms Mary Mahar volunteered to provided refreshments and Mr's Bement and Ouellette volunteered their time. A revised schedule of support will be provided closer to the event date.

e. NH Preservation Alliance- "52 Barns in 52 Weeks"

The NH Preservation Alliance is conducting a state-wide program to identify "52 Barns in 52 Weeks" that are in need of repair. The Nobel Farmstead, with it's barn and the proposed LaBelle expansion to the Bragdon Farmstead and barn were considered as possible candidates. Both locations will need the support of the property owners to continue. The LaBelle property was discounted because of it being a business property and Nobel property was discounted due to uncertainty of ownership. No nominee will go forward to the NH Preservation Alliance.

f. Roundtable-- Attendance at Other Boards/Commissions

- Mr Leedy mentioned that at the Hazen property there is log harvesting on the property.

- Ms Lisa Montesanto mentioned that the Villagers Chapter of Questers is making a commitment to restoring the front window of the Brick School Foyer project

- Chairman Ludt mentioned that the Amherst Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on 18 January 2017 at 7:30PM to discuss road reconstruction and tree removal on two scenic roads in Amherst, Ponemah Hill Road and Mack Hill Road (from Manchester Road to Dodge Road). Chairman Ludt requested that members from the Heritage Commission attend if available.

- Mr Grella mentioned that that it would be a great adventure for the Heritage Commission to revisit and tour the town steeple and clock tower of the Congregational Church in the spring. All agreed. Mr Grella is to set up the tour. Also, Chairman Ludt recommended that the Heritage Commission revisit the New Boston Air Force Station Melendy farm foundation in the spring as well. All agreed. Chairman Ludt to set up the tour.

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94 **g. Minutes Review- 10 November and 8 December 2016**
95 The minutes from 10 November and 8 December 2016 were reviewed with only
96 minor comments or corrections. A motion was made by Mr Ouellette to
97 approve the minutes, with corrections. The motion was seconded by Ms
98 Mahar. The motion was approved unanimously. A motion was made by Mr
99 Bement to approve the minutes of 8 December 2016, with corrections. The
100 motion was seconded by Mr Grella. The motion was approved unanimously.

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104 **III. Adjourn**

105 The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

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