



**Town of Amherst, NH
AMHERST HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES
FINAL MINUTES**

Landry Conference Room

Thursday, 11 May 2017, 7:30 PM

Regular Members in attendance were: Will Ludt, Mary Mahar, and Lisa Montesanto

Alternate Members in attendance were: John Bement and Conor Frain.

Public Member: Andy Ouellette (Regular Member in Suspension)

Also in attendance: Mr. Simon Corson, Amherst Community Development Planner

Recorder: Kristan Patenaude

I. Call to Order

Chairman Ludt called the meeting to order sharply at 7:26 PM.

II. Topics of Discussion

Chairman Ludt had to excuse himself early from the meeting, so he briefly ran through a few topics.

a. Site Visit - New Boston AFS – Luther Melendy Farmstead – 8 June 2017

Chairman Ludt explained that all members of the Heritage Commission, including their spouses and children, are invited to tour the New Boston AFS/Luther Melendy Farmstead on the 8th of June at 2pm. The group will be able to see many stone walls and the old foundation. There is also a disk of information on Melendy that the Chairman will make available to the members.

b. “Hidden Treasure” Events with FWH

i. Saturday, 13 May 2017 – Village Walking Tour, 1-2PM

Chairman Ludt stated that the walking tour will leave from the library at 1PM.

**ii. Saturday, 20 May 2017 – “Trail of the Month” – Lindabury Orchard,
10-11:30AM**

Chairman Ludt explained that this will be a small hike, concluding with a picnic lunch for those who choose to bring one.

c. Bertha Rogers Grant Update – Town Hall Vault Project

Chairman Ludt stated that this project is going along nicely. The consultant comes into the Town Hall twice weekly and this should be continuing for another month or two. The plan is to get an estimate for ordering new cabinets to hold some of the documents found during this project.

The Moose Platte Grant will soon be being delivered. This should allow some of the important identified documents to be digitized and put onto microfilm.

d. Roundtable – Attendance at Other Boards/Commissions

The group briefly discussed other meetings that they had attended during the month.

Chairman Ludt excused himself and handed leadership of the meeting to Ms. Mary Mahar at 7:39PM.

e. “Throw Back” Thursday – Amherst Heritage

The group briefly discussed the current state of disrepair of the Town Hall and if there were any ideas on how to help.

Mr. Simon Corson explained to the committee some of what was being found in the Vault during the project.

Mr. Andy Ouellette discussed wishing to find the old White Pine Blister Rust maps, as they pertain to Amherst that may currently be held in the State Forest facility in Hillsborough. The maps were created over a 60 year period during which time a program was put in place to eradicate the blister rust fungus, in order to save white pines. Every 5 years people would walk through the town to rip out and then burn any evidence of this fungus. The maps created from this process are hand-drawn and very accurate. They display a large number of landscape features of the town. There are maybe 25-30 maps that pertain to Amherst and the town currently has about 12 of them.

f. Minutes Review/Approval – 13 April 2017

There were no questions or comments on the minutes from the April meeting and Ms. Mahar stated that they should be considered as final minutes.

Mr. Conor Frain asked if there were any thoughts on the town doing something next year to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the end of WWI. Ms. Mahar stated that she would contact Marie Grella to find out if there are any plans.

III. Adjourn

Ms. Mahar declared the committee to be adjourned at 7:53PM.