



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

Brick School Community Room

Thursday, 14 December 2017, 7:00 PM

Regular Members in attendance were: Will Ludt, Conor Frain, Mary Mahar, Larry McCoy, Tom Grella, and Lisa Montesanto
Alternate Members in attendance were: John Bement
Historic District Members in attendance were: Jamie Ramsay, and Chris Buchanan
Also in attendance: Simon Corson, Planner
Recorder: Kristan Patenaude

I. Call to Order

Chairman Will Ludt called the meeting to order sharply at 7:04 PM.

II. “Throw Back” Thursday – Amherst Heritage

Mr. Ludt welcomed everyone to the Heritage Commission meeting. The group discussed the heritage of the town tree lighting ceremony and the memory tree. Mr. Ludt mentioned that the holiday open house is Saturday, with 5 houses participating. Mr. Grella stated that Mr. Bement had a nice write-up in the Historical Society newsletter.

Mr. Ramsay explained that there used to be a tree across from the farm on Christian Hill Road that the Amherst Ski Club would decorate with blue lights and a gold star. The group wondered if that tree still exists.

III. Welcome to Historic District Commission Members

Mr. Ludt suggested that the joint group discuss the upcoming CAMP Program. Mr. Corson explained that the Program will be held on January 6th, from 9am – 4:30pm. There will be three amazing experts from different fields available on that day. He suggested that the Historic District Commission come with any prepared questions for the preservation experts that day.

Mr. Ludt explained that the Amherst Conservation Commission is currently developing a brochure of trails and other educational information to help the population know what the

ACC does and where the trails are. He hopes the group will consider having Ms. Patenaude help them with something similar for the HC in the future.

Mr. Ludt stated that he attended the Board of Selectmen meetings in October and November. They are currently discussing redoing the Amherst Master Plan in the next 2-3 years. All groups will be engaged with this change whenever it occurs.

Mr. Ludt explained that he's planning to attend next month's meeting of the North Hampton Heritage Commission. The meeting will be held on January 18th at 9:30am. Anyone is invited to join him and they will go to lunch afterwards.

Mr. Ludt discussed with the group a special program that Joe Cummings has been creating called Amherst Beyond the Common. It highlights people, groups, and things around town. The Historic Commission is signed up to create a 2-3 minute short.

Mr. Ludt explained that the Commission received the Moose Plate grant of about \$10,000 and will be using that money to preserve and digitize 5 documents found in the vault.

IV. Combined Heritage Commission/HDC Discussions – Open Topics

Mr. Buchanan discussed with the group a historical project of looking at more appropriate street lighting for the Village and architectural lighting of some of the town buildings. He would like to research what sort of lighting would be suitable and possibly find some funding to pursue the project, if possible.

In response to a question from Mr. Grella, Mr. Ludt explained that the snowshoe event in January is a question at this point, as the Trail of the Month outings aren't currently being held.

V. Holiday Refreshments with HDC / Minutes Approval/Review – 9 November 2017

A MOTION was made by Ms. Mahar and SECONDED by Mr. Bement to accept the meeting minutes from November 9, 2017 as submitted.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

VI. Adjourn

Mr. Ludt adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Patenaude*