



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

Landry Conference Room

Thursday, 11 January 2018, 7:30 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
Also in attendance: Simon Corson, Planner
Recorder: Kristan Patenaude

I. Call to Order

Chairman Will Ludt called the meeting to order sharply at 7:27 PM.

II. Topics of Discussion

a. “Throw Back” Thursday – Amherst Heritage

Ms. Mahar brought up that Amherst used to be called Narragansett Number 3 and, later, Souhegan Number 3.

Mr. Ludt explained that the town library hosted an Amherst Lyceum. They found documents from an organization called the Franklin Society, which had about 50 members that met every 2 weeks to ask questions, read poems, and etc. The highlighted question from this past Lyceum was “what makes it right to kill someone?” One of the high school ethics classes comes and the group discusses the question.

Mr. Bement stated that the Garden Club will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2021 and hope to make it a large weekend event with a symposium. They hope to leave a memorial, or maybe restore an old garden somewhere in town.

b. Feedback from CAMP Training – 6 January 2018

Mr. Ludt stated that he, Mr. Corson, and Ms. Patenaude attended the CAMP session and found it to have good information regarding preservation and rehabilitation.

Mr. Corson explained that one of the speakers from New Jersey has some great specifics on technology and preservation. He had suggestions for education people on the heritage of an area using GoPro's to tell the stories of a historic district. It might be a plan of the group's for 2018 to think of a project to transfer the heritage of Amherst to others in different ways.

c. Site Visit – North Hampton Heritage Commission Meeting

Mr. Ludt explained that he will be visiting North Hampton and attending their Heritage Commission meeting on the 18th at 9:30am. All who would like to attend with him are welcome.

d. 2018 Goals and Objectives

Mr. McCoy brought up for discussion the idea of trimming back trees for safety and beautification on the 15 or 16 scenic roads in town.

Mr. Ludt explained that he has gone to the Planning Board before if there is ever a concern about the heritage of an area being discussed, but Mr. McCoy explained that he's hoping to make this more of a priority than that.

Mr. Ludt listed the group's goals/objectives for the year:

- Complete the vault project
- Complete the moose plate grant
- Complete the metal detecting policy for the BOS
- Brick School Front Porch Door project (rehab front window)
- 1 or 2 site visits in Amherst
- Amherst-wide "scanning day"? (open to public for those with historical documents to present them and possibly make them digital)
- Assist with cellar hole/foundation identification?
- Heritage Commission pamphlet or brochure?
- Scenic road issue?

The group discussed the possibility of an Amherst mobile phone app to digitize the wealth of information and make it easily accessible to the public. Mr. Frain suggested partnering with the high school in order to make that possible.

Mr. Corson explained that the Community Development Office has ideas that the Heritage Commission might provide some educational items to the Historic District Commission, in order to inform people on property items that might not be important from a regulatory perspective, but are from a heritage point-of-view.

e. Roundtable Discussions and Topics

Mr. Ludt stated that Mary Guild emailed him regarding a possible new member for the Commission, Danielle Pray. He will meet with her to discuss this further.

89 **f. Minutes Approval – 14 December 2017**

90 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Mahar and SECONDED by Mr. McCoy to accept*
91 *the meeting minutes from December 14, 2017 as submitted.*

92 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*
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94 **III. Adjourn**

95 Mr. Ludt adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.
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106 Respectfully submitted,

107 Kristan Patenaude
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