



Town of Amherst, NH

Heritage Commission

FINAL Minutes

Barbara Landry Meeting Room

Tuesday, April 12, 2018

Regular Members in attendance were: Will Ludt, Conor Frain, Larry McCoy, 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 7:28 PM.

II. Village Lighting and Lamp Project – Historic District Commission

Mr. Chris Buchanan from the Historic District Commission presented the group with a lighting/lamp project for the Village. He explained that the current street lighting consists of telephone poles with an industrial-style light on it. There are only a handful of surviving lamps from historic times in the area and his project is examining what lighting in the Village could be changed to look more historic. One of the options he's exploring is a company out of Massachusetts that makes historic style lighting for states in the area. The company was able to narrow down the options down to 4 different styles that might have existed in southern New Hampshire. Mr. Buchanan is hoping for some guidance from the Commission on how to pick a style, how many there might be, and where they might be located.

In response to a question from Mr. Ludt, Mr. Buchanan stated that one entire fixture costs about \$1,200. These are wooden, but metal ones are available and cost about \$100 more.

Mr. Ludt suggested that these could be funded through private donations or through a warrant article.

In response to a question from Mr. McCoy, Mr. Buchanan stated that these lights wouldn't be as bright as the current telephone pole fixtures.

In response to a question from Mr. Bement, Mr. Buchanan stated that the bulbs would be 3,000 Kelvin LED bulbs; the same as in a gas lamp.

34 In response to a question from Mr. McCoy, Mr. Buchanan explained that these lights
35 would cost the town less in terms of an electricity bill.

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37 The group discussed possible placement of the lights and the possible reactions of
38 neighbors to them.

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40 Mr. Buchanan explained that, from a light pollution position, these fixtures have flanges
41 that go around the bulb and project the direct light down towards the ground. This makes
42 them less obtrusive, in this sense.

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44 Mr. Corson suggested gathering a small work group in order to further understand the
45 details of this project. Mr. Bement, and Ms. Montesanto expressed interest in helping Mr.
46 Buchanan.

47 48 **III. Heritage Commission Mapping Resource – Community Development**

49 Mr. Corson explained that Mr. Ludt sent him 20 homes to map with additional research
50 on them. He's happy to add any other photos or information as it's discovered.

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52 Mr. Ludt stated that he would like the Commission members to split up about 5-6 of
53 these homes and do further research on them. He would like each home to have 2-3
54 paragraphs written about it.

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56 Mr. Corson explained story maps to the group and how this type of map could be used to
57 enhance their information on these properties and garner public interest.

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59 In response to a question from Mr. McCoy, Mr. Corson explained that one purpose of this
60 mapping resource could be as an educational tool to allow people to look at it and learn
61 more about their community.

62 Mr. Ludt stated that this could be used in schools, and could also be utilized from trails in
63 the future. This is a way to digitize the Historic Resource Survey in an interactive map.

64 Mr. Frain stated that making information easier for people to access also creates more
65 demand for it.

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67 Mr. McCoy stated that he believes this project is in the purview of the Historical Society
68 instead. Mr. Ludt explained that the Heritage Commission has the opportunity to create
69 something new for the town that can then be a mechanism to create partnerships with
70 other organizations in town.

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72 Mr. Frain, Ms. Montesanto, Mr. Bement, and Mr. Ludt split up the homes to do further
73 research on.

74 75 **IV. Review of Draft Heritage Commission Tri-Fold Brochure**

76 Ms. Patenaude discussed having a 2 panel pamphlet/rack card instead of a tri-fold
77 brochure. Mr. Ludt asked that the Commission members pass along any information or
78 verbiage they'd like to see included to Ms. Patenaude.

Mr. Corson suggested using information and pictures from the Historic Resource Survey.

V. Project Status Updates

Ms. Montesanto explained that the Amherst Villagers Chapter of the Questers has raised the funds in order to fix the main window in the Brick School foyer. The completed goal of \$1,000 will be presented as a check to Mr. Ludt next month to start restoration of the window. Mr. Ludt stated that the SAU has had 2 or 3 contractors come in to examine the entire foyer to determine the cost of restoration. This is a multi-year project.

Mr. Ludt explained that on May 12th the Heritage Commission has signed up to partner with Freedom's Way to lead a hike on the Haseltine Trail. The hike starts at 10am and he's hoping to have a Commission member there to meet and greet anyone who arrives. Mr. Frain tentatively agreed to be there.

Mr. Frain stated that the moving Vietnam Veteran's Wall will be at Souhegan High School from July 19-23. There will be a Flag Day 5k on June 15th to raise funds for the event.

Mr. Ludt stated that he will be working with Joe Cummings to set up a time in the June/July timeframe for the Commission to film some informative videos. He's still hoping to also film the Board of Selectmen climbing up to the top of the belltower.

Mr. Ludt explained that Mr. Jared Hardner nominated an idea of his, to create a new trail off of Josiah Parker trail to the corn crib, and that the ACC approved it. This new trail will traverse 2 stone walls. Mr. Bement and Mr. Frain offered to help with the creation of the new trail.

Mr. Ludt stated that the metal detecting policy should be going before the Board of Selectmen at their April 30 meeting.

VI. Roundtable Discussions and Topics

Mr. Ludt asked Mr. Frain to run the Commission's May meeting, as he will be out of town.

Mr. Bement stated that the town will be having an Old Home Day Festival on September 8.

Mr. Ludt went over what he had learned during the past month's Board of Selectmen and Conservation Commission meetings.

VII. Minutes Approval – 20 February 2018

A MOTION was made by Ms. Montesanto and SECONDED by Mr. Bement to approve the February 20, 2018 meeting minutes as submitted.

Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.

125 **VIII. Adjournment**

126 Mr. Ludt adjourned the meeting at 9:07pm.

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134 *Respectfully submitted,*

135 *Kristan Patenaude*

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