

TOWN OF AMHERST
Heritage Commission

September 10, 2020

APPROVED

In attendance: Will Ludt – Chair, Lisa Montesanto, Brenda Perry, Tom Grella – BOS Ex-Officio,
Conor Frain, Liz Larson (Alternate), and John Bement.
Staff in attendance: Natasha Kypfer – Town Planner, and Kristan Patenaude – minute taker.

1. Roll Call to Order

Will Ludt called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm., with the following statement. As Chair of the Amherst Heritage Commission, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, and 2020-10, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are: Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:

We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting.

All members of the Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone #312-626-6799 and password 850 6604 0579, or by clicking on the following website address: <https://zoom.us/j/85066040579> that was included in the public notice of this meeting. Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the Planning Board at: www.amherstnh.gov. Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access: If anybody has a problem, please call 603-341-5290.

Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote. Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to- Know law.

Roll call attendance: Will Ludt, Conor Frain, Tom Grella, Liz Larson, John Bement, and Lisa Montesanto – all present.

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TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

2. “Throw Back” Thursday – Amherst Heritage

Kristan Patenaude noted that she found postcards depicting historical Amherst sites while in western Massachusetts. She will send copies of these postcards to Will Ludt.

3. Review of Heritage Commission’s “Rules of Procedure – 2002”

Will Ludt noted on page three of the document, 2.1 D, that he would like to take out the wording “upon request.” He stated that he would like the Heritage Commission to be able to comment on matters that it finds important as necessary. Conor Frain noted that this wording does not come directly from the RSA. The Commission agreed to recommend removing the “upon request” language.

Will Ludt explained that the next time the Commission submits a CLG report to NHR he will need to submit a resume for Liz Larson and updates to other Commissioners resumes.

In response to a question from Tom Grella, Will Ludt stated that he did not believe the Rules of Procedure document has yet been reviewed by Town Council.

Brenda Perry entered the meeting.

Connor Frain moved to approve the Rules of Procedure document as discussed, with the recommended deletion and run the document by Town Council. John Bement seconded.

Roll call: Will Ludt – aye; Conor Frain – aye; Brenda Perry.- aye; Tom Grella – aye; John Bement – aye; and Lisa Montesanto – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

4. 16 September 2020, 7:00 PM, Speaker via Zoom, “Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement in NH and the Nation”

Will Ludt explained that he, Brenda Perry, and Susan Fisher spoke regarding an event honoring the suffrage movement. The Heritage Commission, together with the Amherst Library and New Hampshire Homeland Council will be presenting Liz Tentarelli, next Wednesday at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Liz is a well-respected speaker on New Hampshire suffrage. Those interested may go to the Library website to sign up to hear her speak.

5. Budget Input for FY 21-22

In response to a question from Will Ludt, Tom Grella stated that the Heritage Commission should focus on any additional requests in its budget. Will Ludt requested Commissioners to consider this item for further discussion at next month's meeting.

Will Ludt asked Tom Grella to bring the Heritage Commission on a visit to Eagle Rock within the next month or two.

6. Minutes: June 11, 2020, and August 13, 2020

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Brenda Perry moved to approve the minutes of June 11th, 2020, and August 13th, 2020, as written. Tom Grella seconded.

Roll call: Will Ludt – aye; Conor Frain – aye; Brenda Perry.- aye; Tom Grella – aye; John Bement – aye; and Lisa Montesanto – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Chair Topics and Discussion/Roundtable

Tom Grella mentioned a possible Heritage Commission project regarding researching houses with cisterns in the village.

Conor Frain noted that another interesting project could be candid photos of the town turned into a story map.

In response to a question from Lisa Montesanto, Natasha Kypfer explained that she and Nic Strong, Community Development Director, include comments from all Boards and Commissions, including the Heritage Commission, in the application packets that go to the Planning Board and on the town website. These comments are also referenced in the Staff Reports. Natasha Kypfer noted that she could also include these comments as exhibits in the Staff Report.

Will Ludt stated that he would like for the Heritage Commission's comments on any applications to be acknowledged in public. He will send an email to the Chair of the Planning Board to try to further this request.

In response to a question from Lisa Montesanto, Will Ludt stated that a subcommittee of the Master Plan Steering Committee is in the process of looking at potential themes. This group will meet again tomorrow, and he will pass along any documents to the Commission.

Will Ludt stated that he will soon meet with Eric Hahn, DPW Director, to discuss the Baboosic Lake community septic system and how it accommodates properties in the area.

Connor Frain moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM. John Bement seconded.

Roll call: Will Ludt – aye; Conor Frain – aye; Brenda Perry.- aye; Tom Grella – aye; John Bement – aye; and Lisa Montesanto – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Patenaude*

Minutes approved: October 8, 2020