

TOWN OF AMHERST
Heritage Commission

April 08, 2021

DRAFT

In attendance: Will Ludt – Chair, Lisa Montesanto, Brenda Perry, John Bement, and Conor Frain.
Staff in attendance: Natasha Kypfer – Town Planner, and Kristan Patenaude – Recording Secretary.

1. Roll Call to Order

Will Ludt called the meeting to order at 6:30pm., 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 various Executive Orders, 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 898 0693 1929, or by clicking on the following website address: <https://zoom.us/j/89806931929> 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, John Bement, Brenda Perry, and Lisa Montesanto – all present.

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Will Ludt noted that Brenda Perry spoke with a couple of new alternate members for the Commission, Gordon and Laura Zuerndorfer. The two have joined tonight to watch the meeting.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

2. “Throw Back” Thursday – Amherst Heritage

Conor Frain stated that 200 years ago, on April 4, 1821, Amherst resident, Daniel Davis Farmer, got into an altercation with a woman and murdered her. He was hanged for his crime in January 1822 – the first and last hanging in Amherst, and the last one carried out in New Hampshire. The execution was carried out at the building located across from Amherst Gas, where the Barnabas Davis House is now located. Some 10,000 people attended the execution.

3. Cooperage Task Force (CTF) Update

Will Ludt explained that the Task Force met on April 1, 2021. John Bement participated in examining the tree outside the cooperage. It has been determined that the tree probably just needs to be trimmed and not necessarily removed. This will be run by the DPW to see what they recommend. Conor Frain is working to create a post regarding this project to be put on Facebook. Will Ludt explained that the Task Force is looking into creating a 2-3 car parking lot, to be placed near the break in the stone wall on the property. The group discussed a Cooperage Cleaning Day to clear the area on either April 17th or April 24th at 10am, weather-dependent.

Brenda Perry suggested the Garden Club be contacted about possible future plantings at the site.

Will Ludt stated that the Task Force is still looking to find someone to complete architectural drawings of the Cooperage.

4. Discussion of May 2021 Local Trip to Amherst Historic Resource

Will Ludt explained that he has been in contact with Camp Young Judaea regarding the Commission’s visit to the site. The group agreed to schedule the field trip on May 8, 2021, at 11am.

5. FWH “Hidden Treasures- 2021” Participation

The Commission agreed to schedule a date and time in May to do a walk at PMEC for this event.

6. Chair Topics and Discussion/Roundtable

Kristan Patenaude noted that Town-wide Clean Up Day will be held on May 15, 2021, along with a bird watching event at Buck Meadow. Both events are sponsored by the Conservation Commission.

John Bement explained that, as part of the Garden Club’s 50th anniversary this year, the Club is still working to install a commemorative bench and tree at the intersection of Mack Hill and Jones Road.

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Conor Frain stated that he recently read about the oldest sugar maple in the US being cut down in Kingston, NH. It was 4' in diameter. He questioned if there are similar aged trees in Amherst that have been identified.

Will Ludt explained that Natasha Kypfer has identified other towns that use similar processes for barn easements. He will circulate the document to the group for review.

Will Ludt noted that the Planning Board voted last night to deny the Carlson Manor application, due to the density proposed being too high.

Will Ludt also noted that the Commission was notified on Monday that it has been awarded a CLG Grant for \$5,200 to work on its digitization project previously discussed. DHR does not yet have this funding, but the group can begin to plan this project.

7. Minutes: 11 March 2021

Conor Frain moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 11, 2021, as submitted, and to also adjourn the meeting at 7:02pm. John Bement seconded. Roll call: Brenda Perry – aye; Tom Grella – aye; Lisa Montesanto – aye; John Bement – aye; and Conor Frain – aye; 5-0-0, motion carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Patenaude*

Minutes approved: (enter date of meeting at which approved and then go to header, change DRAFT to APPROVED and include approved date in the footer.)