

TOWN OF AMHERST
Heritage Commission

June 10, 2021

DRAFT

In attendance: Will Ludt – Chair, Lisa Montesanto, Brenda Perry, and John Bement [6:33pm]
Staff in attendance: Natasha Kypfer – Town Planner, and Kristan Patenaude – Recording Secretary.
Also in attendance: Gordon and Linda Zuerndorfer

1. Roll Call to Order

Will Ludt called the meeting to order at 6:30pm., Natasha Kypfer read the following statement: As Staff of the Community Development Office, 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 869 8515 8688, or by clicking on the following website address: <https://zoom.us/j/86985158688> 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, John Bement, Brenda Perry, and Lisa Montesanto – all present.

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TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

2. “Throw Back” Thursday – Amherst Heritage – none at this time.

3. Cooperaage Task Force (CTF) Update

Will Ludt explained that a group met in May to begin the clean-up of brush around the area. He has sent a letter to the Amherst Land Trust (ALT) requesting funds for this project. The ALT would like more detail about the project before proceeding. He will try to put together information over the summer in order to fulfill this request.

Will Ludt noted that the July Heritage Commission meeting will be cancelled.

4. CYJ Site Visit- May 8, 2021, Recap

Will Ludt explained that three Commission members visited Camp Young Judaea for the May meeting. It was an impressive visit. He will try to put together minutes from that meeting to share with the group.

5. Resurgence of Metal Detecting Policy

Will Ludt explained that he would like to see an ordinance for this item, but the Board of Selectmen was more interested in making it into a policy. He noted that the issue with a policy is that it would be unenforceable.

Will Ludt noted that this might be a topic of discussion during the Master Plan update. The Master Plan Steering Committee will next meet on June 21, 2021. He believes there may be a presentation regarding heritage and cultural resources in Town and invited Commission members to attend.

6. DHR Recap of Certified Local Government (CLG) Zoom Meeting- Friday, June 4, 2021

Will Ludt noted that Amherst is one of the local Certified Local Governments (CLGs). Part of being a CLG includes having a Historic District and a vetting process for the District. Amherst has received 3-4 CLG Grants from the Department of the Interior over the last 12 years. The Commission was recently awarded a CLG Grant to enhance its GIS capabilities in terms of the Historic Resource Survey.

The group reviewed other topics that grants might be applied for.

6. Chair Topics and Discussion/Roundtable

Lisa Montesanto noted that the Wigwam Museum will be open both virtually and in-person on the 21st.

John Bement stated that the Garden Club, as part of its ongoing 50th Anniversary celebration planted the tree and installed the bench at the intersection of Jones Road and Mack Hill Road.

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Brenda Perry suggested the Commission consider applying for a grant to acknowledge the Town's indigenous people, with either a stone marker, plaque, or statue. Will Ludt stated that she should put the suggestion into a one-page letter.

7. Minutes: 08 April 2021

Lisa Montesanto moved to approve the meeting minutes of April 8, 2021, as submitted. John Bement seconded.

Roll call: Brenda Perry – aye; Lisa Montesanto – aye; John Bement – aye; and Will Ludt – aye; 4-0-0, motion carried unanimously.

John Bement moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm. Lisa Montesanto seconded.

Roll call: Brenda Perry – aye; Lisa Montesanto – aye; John Bement – aye; and Will Ludt – aye; 4-0-0, 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.)