

1                                   Town of Amherst, New Hampshire  
2                                   **Historic District Commission**  
3                                   **Minutes**  
4                                   **FEBRUARY 16, 2017**  
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6   The Amherst Village Historic District Commission met on **February 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm** in the Barbara  
7   Landry Meeting Room, 2nd floor, Amherst Town Hall, 2 Main Street, Amherst, NH 03031.

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9   *Historic District Commission members in attendance were Acting Chairman Susan Clark; Chris*  
10   *Buchanon, Alternate; Charlie Duval, Alternate & Tom Grella, BOS Ex-Officio.*

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12   *Staff in attendance included Community Development Director Gordon Leedy & Simon Corson, Planner.*  
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14   **CALLED TO ORDER:**

15   Acting Chairman Susan Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.  
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17   **CEMETERY STONE WALL DISCUSSION:**  
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19   Present: Marie Grella, Cemetery Trustee; Anthony Luongo, Mason; Will Ludt, Heritage Commission  
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21   Mrs. Grella thanked the Commissioners for allowing her to report on the proposed repair to the  
22   cemetery stone wall that is adjacent to the Town Hall. She stated that the bid was awarded to  
23   Anthony Luongo who is present with her to answer any questions that the Commissioners have on the  
24   repair.  
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26   Mr. Luongo presented photos of the damage to the stone wall and provided information on the scope  
27   of the work to be done which includes dismantling the 45' wall on the left side of the entry way to the  
28   base and do a total rebuild and cementing of the seams as needed. He stated that on the right side of  
29   the entry way, the wall is 87' feet long with a height that runs from 3 ½ feet to 3 feet high which will be  
30   dismantled to the base with a total rebuild too. He stated that the estimated time for completion for  
31   the entire job will be 4-6 weeks.  
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33   Tom stated that it was his understanding that they would move each piece of granite individually, have  
34   it stripped to the base and then level the entire base and stack the blocks back up. Sue stated that she  
35   would not want to see cement in the repair. Mr. Luongo assured the Commissioners that not much  
36   gets disturbed by the process and agreed that Tom's approach would be followed.  
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38   Chris B. questioned whether cement or rock chips would be used. Mr. Luongo stated "chips".  
39   Heritage Commissioner Will Ludt requested that photos be taken as they are replaced and  
40   documented and was glad to hear that they were preserving the dry fit. He stated that he didn't want  
41   it to have cement protruding in the rocks. Charlie questioned whether they would see any cracking  
42   with the process. Mr. Luongo stated that he couldn't guarantee that as there is always a chance. No

additional comments were made. The Commissioners thanked Mrs. Grella for providing them with an update.

ROAD RECONSTRUCTION – BRUCE BERRY, DPW SUPERINTENDENT:

Lower Mack Hill Road & Manchester Road (from the bridge to the intersection of Limbo Lane):

Deb stated that Bruce is on the agenda at the request from Jamie Ramsay to follow up on the status of the reconstruction work.

Sue questioned whether Bruce will be moving forward with the project. Bruce stated that he wasn't sure but added that nothing has gone out to bid. Sue requested that Bruce keep the Commissioners updated once a decision is made to proceed with Mack Hill Road.

Gordon commented that we should all figure out a way to accomplish everyone's goals and work together to enhance public safety as well as keeping in character with the Village. He stated that he would be doing some research on alternative pavements for sidewalks in order to come up with a more natural surface that is more historically appropriate than asphalt.

HISTORIC DISTRICT GATEWAY SIGNAGE & RELATED TRAFFIC ENGINEERING CONCEPTS:

Chris Buchanan provided a proposal for the implementation of roadway design standards and gateway signage as well as related traffic engineering concepts in the Amherst Village Historic District. He said he planned to make a presentation, however, because there were members not present, he proposed to reschedule to the March meeting. Members in attendance supported that request.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Town Hall Sign – Office Hours:

The Selectmen's office requested that the HDC review and approve a draft for a sign for the front door of Town Hall that would display office hours for town departments and any closures due to holidays. The bronzed sign would have embossed lettering and be approximately 10x14" with a plexiglass pocket to slide notices of holidays on it. Deb provided a draft sample of the proposed sign. Chris recommended that the lettering have a colonial font, i.e. Williamsburg style.

MOTION: Chris motioned to approve the sign as displayed but with a colonial style font, Tom 2<sup>nd</sup>.

VOTE: All in favor.

Historic District Regulations:

Planner Simon Corson felt that this would be a good opportunity to develop an understanding and learn new strategies of how to utilize the Commissioner's powers and he would be available to help the Commissioners work on revising their regulations. Sue questioned whether there should be a committee named and have Simon help direct and guide them. Sue and Chris B. agreed to be part of the committee and will ask Chris Hall if he would be available too. Gordon recommended that Sally Wilkins be on the committee and represent the Planning Board.

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Minutes:

Tom motioned to approve the minutes of January 19, 2017 as written, Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>. VOTE: All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

Sue motioned to adjourn at 7:50 pm, Tom 2<sup>nd</sup>. VOTE: All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debra A. Butcher