

March 12, 2020

APPROVED-Amended

1 In attendance: Will Ludt – Chair, Conor Frain – Vice-Chair, Lisa Montesanto, and Brenda Perry
2 (Alternate).
3 Staff in attendance: Nic Strong – Community Development Director and Natasha Kypfer – Town
4 Planner.

5
6 Will Ludt called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

7
8 *Brenda Perry sat for Mary Mahar.*

9
10 TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

11
12 **1. “Throw Back” Thursday – Amherst Heritage**

13
14 Chairman Ludt stated that, as part of his project regarding the 100th anniversary of the passage of
15 the 19th Amendment, he went to the NH Archives and found the October 1920 voter registration
16 list. He then made a list of all of the women that were on the list, having registered to vote for the
17 first time.

18
19 Brenda Perry noted that her grandmother is listed on the form.

20
21 Will Ludt stated that the list contained 366 Amherst voters, 131 of those were women (35.7%).

22
23 In response to a question from Nic Strong, Conor Frain noted that Wikipedia states Amherst’s
24 population according to the 1920 census to be 868 people.

25
26 **2. Introduction of Natasha Kypfer, Planner**

27 Natasha Kypfer, new Planner for the Town, introduced herself to the group. She explained that
28 he comes to New Hampshire from Montana, where she spent the last six years working in higher
29 education, and previously worked in planning and community development for Bozeman,
30 Montana. She has a Master’s in Public Administration and is happy to be here in New
31 Hampshire. She explained that, while Montana is a large state, its population only hit one million
32 people in the last few years.

33
34 In response to a question from Will Ludt, Natasha Kypfer stated that there is nothing in the area
35 of Montana she was in that rises to the level of heritage/historic involvement that takes place
36 here.

37
38 The group welcomed Natasha Kypfer.

39
40 **3. Update on Historic Resource Survey – 2009 Photo Spreadsheet**

41 Will Ludt explained that the chart in the Resource Survey didn’t correlate well to the included
42 photos. He has added a column to the sheet that helps with more easily matching the picture
43 numbers.

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45 **4. Comments of March 2020 CUP, Subdivision and Lot Line Adjustments: 1) 17**
46 **Christian Hill Road, 2) The Farmhouse Market – LaBelle, 3) 69 Walnut Hill Road,**
47 **4) 79 and 83 Horace Greely Road**

48 Will Ludt explained that the 69 Walnut Hill Road application deals with the split of a property
49 between two brothers. This item shouldn't need comment by the Heritage Commission. The
50 Horace Greely application is a lot line adjustment, and also does not need comment by the group.
51 In regards to the 17 Christian Hill Road project, the Commission has only received the plan, but
52 not the full application. He believes this project plans to blow through some interior stone walls
53 on the property, so the Commission can send along comments to the Planning Board requesting
54 that this damage be limited.

55
56 Lisa Montesanto suggested that the comments include any previously submitted comments from
57 a previous application for this property, including preserving any heritage items on site, if
58 possible.

59
60 Will Ludt stated that he had a conversation with the Planning Board Chair, in which it was stated
61 that the Heritage Commission should not comment on safety items in these applications. Will
62 Ludt explained that safety items are probably the main concern for groups such as the Heritage
63 Commission, Historic District Commission, Fire Department, and Police Department. He
64 believes that the Commission should continue to include these comments until notification to do
65 otherwise is given. He believes that the comments submitted to the Planning Board should be
66 acknowledged, possibly during the application hearings, so that the public can hear the thoughts
67 of other groups in town.

68
69 Nic Strong, Community Development Director, explained that the Farmhouse Marketplace
70 application is a CUP for encroachment to the wetlands and buffers. The plan is otherwise the
71 same as what has been presented in the past. She believes that the Commission may not feel the
72 need to comment on this CUP.

73
74 **5. Review of Heritage Commission's "Rules of Procedure – 2002"**

75 Will Ludt stated that this item will be pushed off until the Commission's next meeting.

76
77 **6. Freedom's Way National Heritage Area "Hidden Treasures – 2020" Event on 16**
78 **May 2020**

79 Will Ludt explained that, for the past couple of years the Heritage Commission has participated
80 in the Freedom's Way May project to showcase hidden treasures within the 38 towns it covers.
81 He and Conor Frain recommend the group host a hike on May 16, 2020 from Pond Parish, down
82 the Josiah Parker trail, to the corn crib. This would be set up ahead of time by clearing out the
83 trail. The group agreed to tentatively go to the trail and clear it out on March 28, 2020 10am-
84 12pm.

85
86 **7. 100th Anniversary Celebration of 19th Amendment and Amherst WMD**

87 Will Ludt explained that he met with Jeanne Ludt, Susan Fischer, and Brenda Perry, as a small
88 subcommittee regarding this celebration. The group discussed having a lecturer in the September

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89 timeframe at the Library. Liz Tentarelli will talk about votes for women: the history of the
90 suffrage movement, on September 18, 2020 from 7-8:30pm. She will also talk about Amherst
91 women who made a difference.

92 **8. Minutes: 9 January 2020**

93

94 **Conor Frain moved to approve the meeting minutes from January 9, 2020, as**
95 **submitted. Brenda Perry seconded.**

96 **4-0-1; motion carried.**

97

98 **9. Chair Topics and Discussion/Roundtable**

99 Kristan Patenaude explained that Town-wide Clean Up Day and Amherst Earth Week will be
100 held on April 18, 2020 – April 25, 2020. Will Ludt explained that he has been asked to speak
101 during the Earth Week Celebration regarding the heritage/historic background of the
102 Buckmeadow property. He stated that Jake Young was the developer of this property and that
103 something on the property may be named after him. Brenda Perry agreed to look for some
104 information on Mr. Young and Buckmeadow.

105

106 In response to a question from Brenda Perry, Kristan Patenaude stated that she heard the lantern
107 project outside of Town Hall is being moved forward, but was on hold for a bit.

108

109 Lisa Montesanto stated that the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's Old House and Barn
110 Expo will be held on the weekend of March 21, 2020 in Manchester.

111

112 Will Ludt stated that, as part of the upcoming Board/Commission appointment schedule, he will
113 recommend that Brenda Perry be made a regular member of the Heritage Commission.

114

115 Will Ludt explained that he attended an event put on by the Milford Freedom's Way chapter a
116 couple of weeks ago. During the event, the group walked through the Town Hall and celebrated
117 the first African American of any gender to have a novel published, Harriet Wilson. There is a
118 plaque for her near Milford's bandstand in the Oval. The sign contains a QR code that sends
119 people to a website to read more information.

120

121 He explained that Conor Frain is working on a placard design that could be used in town and put
122 at various heritage sites. He believes the Amherst Conservation Commission is looking into
123 doing something similar.

124

125 Will Ludt stated that he's working with a retired Air Force officer to set up a group walk at the
126 New Boston Air Force Station (NBAFS). The group would walk from Amherst onto the base.
127 Permission will be required and the group could be about 10-15 people in size. The walk could
128 start at the end of Brook Road, or from Mack Hill Road.

129

130 Conor Frain suggested that a NBAFS staff member be present to give the group some history of
131 the property.

132

TOWN OF AMHERST
Heritage Commission

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133 **Brenda Perry moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm. Lisa Montesanto seconded.**
134 **All in favor.**

135

136

137

138

139 Respectfully submitted,

140 Kristan Patenaude

141

142 Minutes approved as amended: May 14, 2020