

FINAL

**LEBANON HERITAGE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL or
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022
LebanonNH.gov/Live
7:00 pm**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Boisvert (Chair), Jeremy Rutter (Planning Board Rep.), Matthew Smith, Nicole Ford Burley (Vice Chair and City Historian), and Devin Wilkie (City Council Representative)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Zook (Alt. Council Rep)

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Owens (Associate Planner)

GUESTS: Barbara Slaiiby and Art Pease

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Boisvert called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 9, 2021

Amendments to the Minutes:

Page 2, line 48- change "late" to "later"

Page 2, line 11- change "Maple Avenue" to "Maple Street"

Page 3, line 45- change "Levitt" to "Leavitt"

Mr. Rutter MOVED to approve the February 9, 2022 minutes as amended. .

Seconded by Ms. Ford Burley.

**The MOTION was approved (5-0)*

3. PUBLIC REVIEW

A. None

4. STUDY ITEMS

A. SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. Historic Districts

2. Landmark Designations

Mr. Rutter and Mr. Wilkie presented a list of ten properties from the Hanover St. neighborhood area form that they feel are the best candidates for Landmark Designation. They included pictures and a short description of each property. The suggested properties have not been significantly altered from their original structures so their architectural significance remains intact. Ms. Owens will review the list of properties.

3. Oral History

Mr. Pease spoke to the Commission about his passion for Lebanon history and his approach to sharing that passion with others. He credited his third and fourth grade teacher, Ethel Rock Millen, for igniting his love of history. Mr. Pease brought a copy of Mrs. Millen's book, "Historical Sketches of Early Lebanon, NH" for the members to pass around as he spoke. Mr. Pease grew up in Orford but moved to

Lebanon in 1970; he taught History at Lebanon High School from 1971 to 2007. He provided the members with a syllabus from his course on Lebanon History and stressed the importance of educating students about their towns and neighborhoods, so that they grow into informed citizens. Mr. Pease shared some anecdotes about Lebanon through the years and discussed some of his favorite tools for teaching history: maps, slides, and yearbooks are a few examples. He stated that he is not intimately familiar with the Dana House project and is unsure exactly how it could be added to a local history curriculum. Mr. Pease suggested that older students could explore topics such as how the Dana House was constructed and why/ how it was relocated.

Ms. Slaiby said that she will email Mr. Pease some additional questions for inclusion in her oral history project. The Commission agreed to support Ms. Slaiby's proposed oral history project, which was presented at the last meeting. As she completes the interviews for the project, Ms. Slaiby will forward the transcripts to the Commission.

B. DANA HOUSE

C. EDUCATION

D. CLG 2022 Grant Application for Colburn Park Historic District Expansion

Ms. Owens reported that the Commission was invited to apply for the 2022 CLG Grant and she should receive the application next week.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

A. City Workplan/Outcomes (Master Plan)

B. Discussion re: NHMA Legislative Policy Proposals

Ms. Owens stated that the deadline for submitting a response was today. Mr. Rutter suggested that the Commission decline to comment at this time but request that, in the future, such information be provided further in advance.

6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. DPW PROJECTS

B. COLBURN PARK POLLINATOR GARDEN

Ms. Slaiby spoke about the proposal to create a native plant demonstration garden in Colburn Park. She stated that a noted decrease in bee, butterfly and songbird populations has spurred a national movement to bring native plants back into neighborhoods. The proposed demo garden will help to educate property owners who would like to start their own native plant gardens. Simple signage, including scannable QR codes, will help people access information such as: how to source native plants, how to plant them, why native plants are important, etc.. All of the information will also be available on the Garden Club website. The goal will be to choose plants that are colorful and will bloom throughout the growing season, combining aesthetics with wildlife value. The Members agreed that the garden would be an appropriate addition to the historic district. Ms. Owens promised to email Mr. Paul Coats to let him know that the Commission supports the project. Ms. Slaiby stated that the project start date will be sometime in May and invited members of the Commission with an interest in gardening to participate.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wilkie MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 PM.

Seconded by Mr. Rutter.

**** The MOTION was unanimously approved (5-0).***

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Castillo