



**LEBANON HERITAGE COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 9, 2022 - 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL OR
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
LEBANONNH.GOV/LIVE**

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- 1. Call to Order**
 - 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. October 12, 2022
 - 3. Public Review**
 - A. None
 - 4. Study Items**
 - A. Special Projects
 - Historic Districts
 - Landmark designations
 - Walking tour/online map options
 - Kiosk
 - Oral History
 - JAM (CATV) indigenous history project
 - B. Dana House
 - C. Education
 - CLG workshops
 - 5. Other Business**
 - A. Historic Markers and Interpretive Signage
 - Westboro
 - B. Update to History of Lebanon webpage
 - C. Upcoming Lebanon Times articles - clock tower history and GAR statues
 - 6. Open to the Public**
 - 7. Future Agenda Items**
 - A. DPW projects/GAR follow-up
 - B. Conservation Commission coordination
 - C. Historical Society coordination

8. Adjournment

The order of agenda items is subject to change.

Meetings are open for in-person and remote attendance. Members of the public that wish to attend remotely may do so by going to LebanonNH.gov/Live where you will find instructions on how to enter the meeting. Members of the public will be able to participate and ask questions through the City's virtual platform or by phone. Please note: Should technical difficulties occur during the meeting that disrupts virtual or phone connection(s), the meeting will continue without remote access capabilities.

**Agenda
Heritage Commission
November 9, 2022**

**Agenda Item #2A
Approval of Minutes**

October 12, 2022

DRAFT

LEBANON HERITAGE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL or
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
WEDNESDAY, October 12th, 2022
LebanonNH.gov/Live
6:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nicole Ford Burley (Vice Chair and City Historian) Jeremy Rutter (Planning Board Rep.), Noel Figart, Matt Smith, Devin Wilkie (City Council Rep.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Zook (Alt. Council Rep)

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Owens (Associate Planner)

1 **1. CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chair Ford Burley called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2
3 **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** September 14th, 2022

4
5 *Mr. Rutter MOVED to approve the September 14th, 2022 minutes.*
6 *Seconded by Vice Chair Ford Burley.*

7
8 **The MOTION was approved (5-1)*

9
10 **3. PUBLIC REVIEW:** None

11
12 **4. STUDY ITEMS:**

13
14 **A. SPECIAL PROJECTS-**

15
16 **Mall Kiosk-**Vice Chair Ford Burley has materials regarding the history of the Lebanon Woolen Mills that
17 she will share with staff and also ask the project owner for detail regarding, specifically to request
18 information compiled by the consultant Scott Newman. She will work with staff on content for a new
19 kiosk display, and Ms. Figart committed to crafting a template for the display design.

20
21 **Historic Districts-**The DHR shared a contract for staff to review to initiate the CLG Phase 2 project for
22 updating the Colburn Park Historic District.

23
24 **Landmark Designation-**

25
26 Mr. Rutter conveyed that he has toured a good part of the City to evaluate which of the properties on the
27 historic landmarks list have visibly displayed plaques. He found that of the 60 visited to date (there are
28 over 80 sites total), only 35 had visible plaques (including AVA), and 15 definitely do not have anything
29 displayed. There was surmising that public places, at minimum, should be asked to show the plaques
30 visibility or have a kiosk.

31
32 Members pondered if Mr. Rutter's findings regarding a low rate of display of the landmark plaques has
33 anything to do with a lack of specific guidance on plaque placement and/or assistance in affixing the

1 plaques. They also questioned what happens to a property's listing (and plaque) if the designated structure
2 is destroyed, such as the Westboro buildings. Does it lose its status? And if there is no structure, such as
3 at the Densmore Brickyard, was a plaque awarded and where is it placed, if at all? Cole Park was also
4 noted as an example of a place lacking a building, though an existing kiosk there could be utilized.

5
6 Ms. Owens stated that she can investigate if other communities have useful wording about similar
7 programs that could help Lebanon to refine its program text. She can also look into how many plaques
8 have been ordered overall, as it is possible that some of the properties were not provided with them in the
9 early years.

10
11 **Noel Figart MOVED to "Create a landmark emeritus designation for City of Lebanon designated**
12 **landmarks that are no longer in existence due to natural or human causes." Seconded by Mr. Smith.**

13 ***The MOTION was approved (5-1)**

14
15 **Oral History-**Ms. Owens confirmed that members wish to learn about JAM (CATV) local cable service
16 opportunities for collaboration in interviewing locals on historical perspectives.

17
18 **B. DANA HOUSE-**Ms. Owens reviewed the City's lease of the property from SAU88, including terms
19 of required maintenance and use for educational programming.

20
21 She mentioned that a resident of Connecticut, Carole Enright, requested and received a visit to the Dana
22 House with Staff, following genealogical discovery of family ties to Joseph Dana; Ms. Enright
23 commented that she may have ideas regarding fundraising for and reuse of the Dana House and would
24 like to stay in touch. Ms. Owens observed a large number of boxes of the late Mr. Leavitt's notes that
25 could be digitized.

26
27 A LebTimes summary of the Dana House's current status was published in August.

28
29 A resident contacted Vice Chair Burley with the idea to use the Dana House as a contract space for
30 instructors to run courses, e.g., from OSHER, Billings, and AVA, in ways that tie to local history and that
31 could be a source of some revenue to at least support ongoing maintenance costs. Some free slots could
32 be offered to address the equity issue. Vice Chair Burley commented that she will ask the NH League of
33 Craftspeople if there is decent public activity and interest in such programming. Doing so doesn't require
34 'stuff' on site; staff noted that there could be some insurance coverage requirements depending on the
35 type of instruction. The space to be used would include the annex and site vs. the original building. There
36 is the question of how to find vendors and who/how to manage them, as well as the frequency; members
37 agreed it could be an interim or pilot use of the ell to help activate the rest of the building. Ms. Owens
38 mentioned there is some potential synergy with the Claremont Makerspace and Ms. Figart agreed some
39 such organizations likely showcase traditional arts/crafts and even reenactments. Ms. Owens was asked to
40 contact SAU88 to involve with future discussions about the Dana House reuse, per the terms of the lease,
41 to confirm what level of involvement SAU88 wishes to maintain.

42
43 Other follow up recapped in the discussion included invitation to James Haff to speak about his findings
44 related to the Danas and slavery, follow-up with Cori Hirai about plantings around the foundation,
45 lead/asbestos/structural abatement, and NH Preservation Alliance funding for a business plan. A member
46 suggested that the Dana House could be a training opportunity for hazardous material

47
48 **C. EDUCATION-**None

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2 **5. OTHER BUSINESS:**
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4 **A. Historic Marker and Interpretive Signage-** This topic was discussed in relation to the prior
5 discussion on historic landmark signage. Mr. Rutter asked staff if there is a list of kiosks throughout the
6 City, starting with those on Conservation parcels, like the Mill parcel. These could be opportunities for
7 historic signage to utilize existing City displays. Ms. Owens noted that NPS has offered technical
8 assistance for signage at Westboro and that she still plans to apply for a grant for National Register
9 signage. An overall City inventory of signage was discussed and Ms. Owens referenced a draft
10 framework from her notes; members noted that the places like the Pedestrian Mall, cemeteries and
11 dedications (e.g., the High St. pocket park) could be added. The effort could be collaborative, including
12 support from partners like the UV Business Alliance.
13

14 **6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** None
15

16 **7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**
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18 **A. DPW projects/GAR follow-up-** Members debriefed on their Sept. 12th tour of the Soldier's Memorial
19 Home (GAR). They noted that there were a lot of artifacts and that the collection is selectively augmented
20 at the discretion of the assigned guardian, Bob Therrien; items covered the Upper Valley, not just
21 Lebanon, and also all veterans, not only the Civil War. Members wondered if there is a plan for continuity
22 or succession of the GAR's guardianship, or a recent report on the facility's activities and if a similar
23 guardianship (vs. the Heritage Commission) is a model for the Dana House.
24

25 **8. ADJOURNMENT:**
26

27 *Vice Chair. Ford Burley MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 PM.*
28 *Seconded by Mr. Rutter.*
29

30 ** The MOTION was unanimously approved (5-0).*
31

32 Respectfully submitted,
33 Rebecca Owens