

FINAL

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 14th, 2022

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

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

3. PUBLIC REVIEW: None

4. STUDY ITEMS:

A. SPECIAL PROJECTS-

Mall Kiosk-Vice Chair Ford Burley and Mr. Smith indicated that they can work together on content for an updated display, focusing on Lebanon Historic Landmarks. Ms. Figart offered to provide graphics assistance.

Historic Districts-None

Landmark Designation-

Mr. Smith provided a spreadsheet summarizing the landmark property inventory findings to date, using data provided by Mr. Rutter. Ms. Owens still intends to draft a property owner reminder letter to increase awareness of the program and opportunities to display the plaques and to review other communities' program language for ideas.

Members believe that updating the program purpose, the "why" for accepting and promoting landmark designations, would be helpful to increasing the program's participation including as relates to plaque display rates. For example, could sense of place be highlighted. Also, they asked what the future holds for the program, as the number of eligible properties draws down; is there a goal to add a certain number of new designations each year, or to cap and complete the program? Mr. Wilkie noted that there should be fewer new designations over the years as the program reaches saturation. Members liked a group idea to

add properties to an online map, which Vice Chair Burley showed a draft of, and which Ms. Owens compared to Rochester, NH's storymap. Future designation candidates should include properties that are National Register contributing and which as noted in eligible districts like Crafts Ave. and Maple St.

Oral History-Ms. Owens reviewed if JAM (CATV) has any Lebanon history-related videos in its archives to avoid duplication of effort with the potential new pre-colonial history project and did not find any although there is a nice series about other Lebanon history that CATV produced with the Historical Society.

B. DANA HOUSE-

Members expressed interest in inviting DPW staff to a meeting to better understand their project budgeting and plans for 2023 and beyond. They also recommended, per the City's lease terms, for staff to contact SAU88 to see if they have interest in providing a representative for Dana House project collaboration. Ms. Owens was emailed by a member of the community who thinks that blacksmithing would be a suitable activity as part of the site's reuse.

C. EDUCATION-

Members discussed the Commission's funding award from the National Preservation Alliance to conduct two CAMP mentor trainings, a "core" open to all NH Certified Local Government (CLG) communities either in-person, remote, or hybrid, and a 1-2 day "custom" workshop for Lebanon. They reviewed the CAMP menu which included design guidance for historic properties, preservation strategies, economic incentives, legal and ethical training, public engagement strategies, and additional opportunities.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Lebanon Woolen Mill DHR inquiry-

This agenda item title was incorrect and should have identified 2 Mascoma St. NHDHR asked if the Heritage Commission has comments on cultural resource findings that the developer provided as due diligence. Members asked staff to relay a recommendation for someone to be present during site excavations who can report when intact items are exposed, if any—in addition to similar matters of interest.

B. Historic Marker and Interpretive Signage- Ms. Owens said that she can provide a volunteer with content sources to start drafting signage language for Westboro. Local banks and businesses may be interested in helping to fund signage there or elsewhere. Members asked whether the 1 Foundry St development will include any interpretive signage; the owner apparently wishes to preserve the existing pedestrian bridge (built in 1940s) to the neighboring mill property although Vice Chair Burley expressed that it more of a curiosity than a functional feature and could not be used because they do not own it all. Follow-up needs for the signage effort include adding landmark properties to the map, adding kiosks to the map, looking for other community examples, and incorporating Lebanon postcard and gallery photos into the map.

Vice Chair Burley shared that she was contacted by a UVM student who is doing a survey of large agricultural barns. She will share her findings and there may be preservation money to support projects. It could be of interest to do a LebNews about local agriculture history that features the barn findings.

6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

A. DPW projects/GAR follow-up- None

8. ADJOURNMENT:

***Mr. Rutter MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 PM.
Seconded by Mr. Wilkie.***

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

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Owens