

FINAL

**LEBANON HERITAGE COMMISSION
MEETING ROOM 3, CITY HALL OR
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
6:00 PM, WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nicole Ford Burley (Vice Chair and City Historian), Jeremy Rutter
Planning Board Rep.), 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 6:06 PM

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. December 14, 2022

Mr. Rutter MOVED to approve the December 14th, 2022 minutes as amended according to written grammatical/syntax edits provided to staff.

Seconded by Vice Chair Ford Burley.

**The MOTION was approved (3-0-1, with Mr. Wilkie abstaining due to absence from said meeting)*

B. January 11, 2023

Mr. Wilkie MOVED to approve the January 11th, 2023 minutes as amended according to written grammatical/syntax edits provided to staff.

Seconded by Mr. Rutter.

**The MOTION was approved (4-0).*

c. January 27, 2023

Mr. Rutter MOVED to approve the January 27th, 2023 minutes.

Seconded by Vice Chair Ford Burley.

**The MOTION was approved (3-0-1, with Mr. Wilkie abstaining due to absence from said meeting)*

3. PUBLIC REVIEW:

None

4. STUDY ITEMS:

A. Special Projects

• Historic Districts

Ms. Owens will be presenting at the state's annual planning conference in April about Lebanon's National Register district project with CLG funding. The City will not apply for the just announced 2023 CLG funding as the City typically does so every other cycle. The West Lebanon historic district could be evaluated for the next cycle.

▪ Landmark designations

City Council will present the 10 new local landmark designations to property owners at their February 15th meeting.

▪ Kiosk

Mr. Smith incorporated members' input from the last meeting and has a new draft with the landmark program content.

▪ **Landmark Designation**

Lebanon historic landmark designations and the local, Lebanon Historic District can be found on the Lebanon GIS website, but supporting details are missing. Additional categories for potential mapping through a reference separate from GIS are the National Register District, State Register of Historic Places, fountains, monuments, sculptures, interpretive and similar notable signage, and general interest categories like mills and the Mall Tunnel. The idea of incorporating these locations into google maps using a spreadsheet was brought up. It was suggested that address, company name (if applicable), description, designation type, and comments or links be included. Even a photo could be added later to each location where reasonable. An inventory of existing public signs would be a great starting point. The long-term maintenance of the list would need to be established and a responsible party identified.

• **Oral History - JAM project - Lebanon's Native and Indigenous Past**

Ms. Owens and Vice Chair Ford Burley had a kick off meeting with JAM (CATV) for the 15-minute video project. They helped identify references and stakeholders for content and primary interviews. Monadnock Archaeology just completed a study of Westboro Rail Yard for NHDOT and some of the content can be shared with members but the overall document has not been released to the public yet. The study includes some history relevant to the project.

B. Dana House

The Department of Public Works was not able to avail budgeting from 2022 to carry over into 2023 projects, as reported in January. Heritage/the Dana House have several accounts under the Finance Department and there was confusion about the restrictions on some of them to be specific to programming and rehabilitation, as opposed to general maintenance, of the house and site. Ms. Owens will inquire whether a lead and asbestos abatement estimate can still be obtained.

C. Education · CLG workshops

Planning of the National Alliance of Preservation Commission (NAPC) training is progressing.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. West Lebanon topics

This topic was postponed but as discussed above regarding the Westboro study and potential future CLG project, the commission will continue to seek opportunities for engagement in West Lebanon.

B. NHDHR Request for Project Review - Lebanon Rest Area follow-up

Ms. Owens noted that in lieu of the weigh station being relocated, NHDOT may offer mitigation such as interpretive signage. She took photos of the building. Mr. Rutter asked about the building's construction date and while the NHDOT representative had suggested the 1980s, Vice Chair Ford Burley found references for its construction in the 1960s.

C. NHDHR Request for Project Review – Route 120/Hanover Street RR Bridge

Vice Chair Ford Burley is a party invited to comment about this project in terms of cultural and historic resource impacts. The location was part of the Urban Renewal project of the early 1960s. There is mill history in the vicinity as well.

D. NHDHR Request for Project Review – 40794 Mascoma/Mechanic/High St. Roundabout

There will be a public hearing held in Lebanon, date TBD, in 2023. There were no comments other than that they do not feel that the loss of the former RR linear character is a significant adverse impact, and they agreed with the other assessments provided by the NHDHR.

E. Black History Month

Members agreed that it is too late in the year to do a major program such as an event but that the Commission's related webpage could be updated and Vice Chair Ford Burley will share content with staff. A similar acknowledgement can be better prepared for in conjunction with the 2023 Juneteenth event, in coordination with the DEI Commission, Mr. Wilkie suggested. He also noted that DEI is working on an events calendar and that the Upper Valley Business Association has a new BIPOC initiative. Mr. Rutter advocated for outreach to Dartmouth College.

F. Historic Marker and Interpretive Signage

Ms. Owens recalled that one idea for consistent, universal signage template/design in Lebanon is a QR code and if so, that could also serve to direct sign readers to information about Lebanon's land acknowledgment.

6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No one came forth

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Historical Society Coordination**
- B. Lebanon Woolen Mills 79E Request**
- C. Draft of local history book to be shared by Vice Chair Ford Burley**
- D. Chapter 11, Lebanon Master Plan, Implementation Status**

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Rutter MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vice Chair Nicole Ford Burley.

**The MOTION was approved (4-0).*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Owens, Associate Planner