

Newington Historic District Commission – draft MINUTES

All Interested Parties Meeting

January 29, 2018

Town Offices 6:30 – 7:45 pm

<p>Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> √ Ted Connors Member (2020) √ Christopher Cross Member (2020) John Lamson Member (2021) √ Edna Gove Member (2021) √ Lulu Pickering Member (2020) Maxine Mintz Pottier Member (2020) √ NellAnn Hiatt Alternate (2020)
<p>Attendees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cemetery Trustees Peggy Lamson Congregational Church Mary Wahl Conservation Commission – Economic Development Comm. Jeff Hiatt Historical Society Laura Coleman Langdon Library Lara Croft Berry, Cathy Hazelton, Jack O’Reilly, Peter Welch Planning Board Denis Hebert Recreation Committee Jarrad Savinelli Selectmen Ken Latchaw
<p>Meeting strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2018, the HDC began creating a Plan for the Old Town Center (see May 21, 2018 HDC meeting minutes) for the Creation of a Peoples Center, Beautification of the Historic District, and Management of the Town Forest. Throughout the year, the HDC had heard primarily from the library but none of the other town groups. • The purpose of the “all interested parties meeting” was to solicit ideas from the groups that use the old town center. This was done using a “Post-It note method” where each person wrote one idea per Post-It note and then stuck the note on one of the 13 large sheets for different buildings and activities in the old town center. The 13 categories and the 141 ideas are listed below. • The ideas on each sheet were organized and grouped by attendees. Chris Cross, Mary Wahl, Peggy Lamson, and Lara Croft Berry had time to present the findings for the meeting house, cemetery, and library. There was also a very quick discussion about the Old Stone School by Jeff Hiatt before the meeting ended.

Conclusions	<p>No money commitments of any kind have been made for executing any of the ideas – anything that is eventually put forward will have to go through the selectmen and budget review process.</p> <p>The HDC was very pleased that 16 townspeople showed up to discuss how to improve the old town center.</p> <p>It was decided at the end of the meeting that the participants did not want to attend any more “all interested parties” meetings, which threw the project plan back into the lap of the HDC.</p> <p>The HDC welcomes any ideas from townspeople at any time.</p> <p>The HDC will continue its work on an Old Town Center Plan this year with the goal of organizing and prioritizing some of the ideas into projects that can take place each year for several years to come.</p>
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Cemetery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flowering trees 2. Columbarium 3. Plant trees 4. Plantings along foot of the granite cemetery wall 5. Any plantings should be low maintenance 6. Add bldgs for creations (cremations?) west of the horse sheds 7. Have a turn around so we don't back over someone 8. Keep town costs down 9. Investigate slave graves location and commemorate as appropriate
Horse sheds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Use the horse sheds 11. Keep historic nature 12. No more paving 13. Use this area to create more parking for the buildings close by 14. Convert sheds to covered parking 15. Clean out and use for parking 16. Fill w/ gravel base and place protective stone hitching post ballasters [bollards?] at all 7 entry posts at dripline 17. Clean out stables, use for library staff parking 18. Put storage container like the shed currently there 19. Keep town costs down 20. Place for bike racks
Library	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21. Low vegetation along walkway 22. Add flowering shrubs 23. Any outstanding “checklist items” from the addition/renovation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24. Keep town costs down 25. Add back entrance 26. Add low voltage lighting 27. Remove tall pines leaning toward library 28. Keep the same 29. More parking access to the library 30. Extend library parking lot 31. No more paving 32. Elevate existing parking lot – flooding 33. No additional parking at library. This is not necessary. 34. Needs parking
Main Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35. Remove gate to Pease 36. Improve gate entrance into “Old Newington” 37. Absolutely do not remove the gate at Pease. We do not need more traffic in town. 38. Keep the gate at Pease 39. Rebuild and expand stone walls 40. Rock walls added along Nimble Hill 41. Gas lights on roadway, entrance to historic district 42. Sidewalks or paths maintained for walking 43. Off street parking 44. Landscaping 45. Main street lighting could be more in line with “old lighting” 46. Decorative street lighting like library 47. Historic lighting along main street 48. Consistent lighting 49. Keep town costs down 50. Slow down traffic! 51. Major surface water issues, flooding catchment 52. Keep clear and solve drainage ponding from Old Town Hall to library 53. Place utilities underground
Meeting House (MH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 54. Vegetation at the entrance 55. Flowers outside 56. Window flower boxes 57. Holiday tree outside 58. Improve outside lighting 59. Light old steeple = Newington Landmark 60. Replace door light 61. Improve parking 62. Have parking year-round for events at each building 63. Keep town costs down 64. Check stability of balcony
Old Parsonage (OP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 65. Add gravel drainage base w/drains to fields at foundation 66. Ductless mini split Heat/AC system 67. Fire pit like Strawberry Banke has 68. Electrical outlets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 69. Internet access (OTH, OSS, OP, MH) 70. Tree plantings behind the parsonage 71. Keep town costs down 72. Old Parsonage Pub 73. Need a “corner bar” – used to be a tavern 74. Needs to be functional – start with entrance 75. Interior of the parsonage should be in line with the era
Old Stone School (OSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 76. Plant trees 77. Keep town costs down 78. Deeds too restrictive 79. Cost ?? to Rehab 80. What use? 81. Ground lease or sell to business 82. Do a plan for front improvement 83. Repair and lease building 84. Fund and hire a professional to investigate and recommend future 85. Find a use, preserve, or tear down 86. Rec director to open building to allow retired and elderly to socialize 87. Young and old activities, small kitchen to provide breakfast, etc. for elderly activities, i.e., games, social hour in the mornings 88. Meeting room 89. Historic archive and document room 90. Outside bathroom facilities for old stone school and old parsonage 91. Restore old stone school for townspeople
Old Town Hall (OTH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 92. Install air conditioning 93. A/C building 94. Keep town costs down 95. Charge only for insurance (event) and deposit – not additional fees for town residents for Old and New Town Halls 96. Remove, sell, clean bottom floor to better use 97. Clean out interior 98. Trees of color at the Entrance 99. Use 1st floor clean up 100. Remove items of interest and hang in the N.T.H. [Newington Town Hall] 101. Clean out!! 102. Revise agreements with the Newington Historical Society 103. Landscaping
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 104. Shared parking library and meeting house 105. Increase library parking 106. Library parking 107. Increase accessible parking to support library growth and safe access 108. Keep town costs down 109. No more parking 110. No more parking, no paving 111. No more parking

Recreation fields Veterans Memorial Cooking Pavilion	112. Horse shoe pits 113. Horse shoe pits, rec fields 114. No more paving 115. Benches at back/front of flag pole 116. Lights at soccer field 117. Outside bathroom facilities 118. Improve drainage at monuments/library 119. Stone wall around monuments 120. Extend water to soccer field 121. Water feature for summer rec program 122. Keep town costs down 123. Level and add more rec fields on land just cleared by PDA at runway side 124. Add flowering shrubs
Safety	125. Clean out excess 126. Keep town costs down 127. Drainage issues in walkway between the library and the meeting house (ICY)
Town Forest	128. Needs a managed selective cutting 129. Hire professional review/update Forestry Plan, Charlie Moreno plan? 130. Clear dead trees and dead branches 131. Clean out dead trees and undergrowth 132. Church land and prayer circle 133. New gateway into town forest 134. Small picnic table size shelters behind Old Stone School and behind Old Parsonage 135. Add walking paths 136. ID and mark walking trails through the forest, passive recreation 137. Keep town costs down
Town Garage	138. Keep town costs down 139. Landscaping 140. Landscape front yard 141. Using evergreen trees to screen garage

Lulu Pickering
February 1, 2019