

Town Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One committee member liked the historical information in Lulu’s draft report; another thought it should only cover activities discussed by the HDC; another added and removed items from the report to create a new version. • Lulu will pull the elements together and submit two reports – an HDC report and a Town Historian report.
General Sullivan Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HDC is a consulting party to the General Sullivan Bridge 106 process. Not much seems to be happening; maybe a letter from the HDC is needed. • Chris Cross does not know whether the bridge can be saved at this point. If not, historic mitigation funds should be designated to Newington. • Lulu Pickering has a dream that the Old Railroad Station might someday be returned to the town. The State is doing nothing with the property, and it is Newington’s second historic district. It could be a no-cost alternative to the State to uphold its historic mitigation responsibilities if the GSB is not renovated as previously planned.
All Interested Parties Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hope is that at least one person from various town committees will attend the kick-off meeting on January 29th to toss around ideas on how to improve the old town center. All input is welcome. • HDC members will contact some of the folks on the various committees to put on their “thinking caps,” attend the meeting, and toss out their wishes, hopes, dreams, ideas, etc.
Town Planner Action items for 2019	<p>Lulu Pickering attended a meeting with the Town Planner on Thursday January 17th at 11:00 am to discuss ongoing projects, plus anticipated ones for early 2019. This information is being included in these minutes for convenience (it was not part of the HDC meeting discussions of the previous day):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HDC is free to contact the Rockingham Planning Commission for updating the inventory of historic resources that is necessary for the Planning Board to use when updating the Town’s Master Plan. The list of contacts is on the RPC website. A CLG grant application a few years ago to update this inventory was not funded. The update is long overdue. • The old Rollins estate off Shattuck Way is a high priority for HDC review. • Stone walls (along the roads or those underground in wells, springs, rain cisterns, foundations, etc.) are historic resources. Any impact in development plans and any potential mitigation for stone walls (e.g., the second storage area on Shattuck Way) needs to specifically involve the HDC. The Planning Board has been speaking for the HDC in this regard (and others) and should not. Such historic resources need to be discussed at a public HDC meeting, whether the resources will be impacted, what the impact is, how to avoid or minimize the impact, and failing that how to mitigate the impact. These discussions and decisions need to be in the written record of an HDC meeting. • Not every tree or rock along a Newington road (many of which have been designated as scenic under RSA rules) has scenic or historic significance.

	<p>Some old specimen trees are certainly noteworthy and should be identified and protected, as are many stone walls, which should be mapped. Holding public meetings every time a property owner wants to cut a pine tree along the road or move a stone seems overkill. Some working guidelines would be helpful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The New Hampshire Geological Society has a new “Stone Wall Mapper” tool: www.granit.unh.edu/resource/library/specialtopics/stonewalls/.
Adjourned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HDC Meeting lasted from 10:15 am to 11:15 am; motion to adjourn by Edna Gove, seconded by Ted Connors. • Meeting with Town Planner lasted about one hour.

Lulu Pickering
HDC Member
January 17, 2019

Draft