

Newington Historic District Commission – FINAL MINUTES

Friday February 16, 2018 at 3:45 p.m. at the Town Office

Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ted Connors Member (2020) Selectmen representative ✓ Christopher Cross Member (2020) Planning Board representative ✗ Elaina D’Orto Member (2018) ✗ John Lamson Member (2018) ✓ Paul Pelletier Member (2019) ✓ Lulu Pickering Member (2020) ✓ Maxine Mintz Pottier Member (2020) ✗ NellAnn Hiatt Alternate (2020) ✓ Victoria Eversman Alternate (2020)
December 2017 – January 2018 activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 29, 2017 Submitted 2017 Year-end Newington CLG report (see attachment #2). • January 3, 2018 Budget Committee approval of HDC budget. • January 14, 2018 Received USB flash drive from Gail Pare containing HDC material; Martha Roy has it. • January 19, 2018 Submitted CLG grant application: “First Piscataqua River Bridge Historic District.” • February 12, 2018 Submitted HDC report for the 2017 Annual Town Report, see pp 117-118 of that report.
HDC structure and operating rules for 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HDC will primarily be a working committee that plans and completes projects of historical significance to the town. • Meetings will be scheduled as necessary to address planning board or other official reviews. • HDC working meetings will be held monthly to update progress on the projects being worked on. Most of the work of the committee will be done outside of these meetings. • There will be no chairman or vice chairman of the HDC but rather a managing group of members, who will commit to attending each HDC meeting and working on various projects.

<p>Preliminary prioritization of 2018 activities</p>	<p>A list of projects was submitted to the HDC at the September 2017 HDC meeting (see attachment #1).</p> <p>The selectmen liked the projects and thought many of them could be accomplished.</p> <p>The members who attended the February 2018 HDC meeting committed to the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arboretum Drive buffer zone – Ted Connors to take the lead. • Beautification of the Historic District – Lulu Pickering (trees), Chris Cross (stonewalls), and Maxine Pottier (canons). Paul Pelletier to work on blocks under the canon wheels. • Budget issues – We must confirm the amount of funds that were encumbered for the canons painting project. • Capture today’s history for future generations – later in the year. • CLG grant – pending announcement of grant approval, or not. • External requests – Selectmen representative Ted Connors and Planning Board representative Chris Cross to keep the HDC informed of relevant issues. • Inventory of existing historic resources – Victoria Eversman and Chris Cross to work on itemizing historic documents in the Town Office and their location – the back storage closet off the large meeting room, in particular, needs to be inventoried. • Map project and trail markers project – Maxine Pottier (slave history), Chris Cross, and Paul Pelletier (as needed). The town owns a lot of property and other properties exist with easements that permit public access. Maps of the property, access points, locations of bordering private property with no public access, areas of historic significance, etc. would all be useful to townspeople. The idea is to take the easiest location first and develop maps and/or trail markers to show how other locations could benefit from additional maps and markers. • Managing HDC members – Lulu Pickering, Chris Cross, Maxine Pottier, who else?
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<p>de Rochemont house located at 2061 Woodbury Avenue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The developer is working with the NH Division of Historic Resources to complete a study of some sort on this house. • Chris Cross will contact the NHDHR to see what the study involves. The HDC would like to see a comprehensive study done to capture everything of historic significance before the house is demolished.
<p>Paul Pelletier</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul is a long-standing member of the HDC and most recently worked on the underwater scanning project at the location of the old Piscataqua River Bridge, the update of the veterans' monuments, and the canon maintenance project. • He has other commitments that he plans to spend his time working on so has resigned from the HDC. • Paul says he is happy to answer any questions and to help on projects, such as the canon project or CLG grant with his boat, as needed. • Paul Pelletier's large HDC notebook covering his many years as a HDC member has been added to the historic resources inventory. • Newington is lucky to have had Paul's enthusiasm and dedication for so many years. We all wish him well!
<p>Schedule for 2018 working meetings</p>	<p>Third Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at the Town Offices</p>

Lulu/3-18-2018

Attachment #1 list

2018 Projects (long term, mid term, and short term)

Arboretum Drive buffer zone

Budget issues

- Capital reserve fund for Historic Preservation activities – stonewalls, Newington monument

External Requests

- De Rochemont house Woodbury Avenue

Beautification of the Historic District

- Selective tree cutting
- Landscaping
- Tree planting – fall colors and spring flowers
- Green areas enticing for people
- Sam Rowe’s Hill –PDA fence
- Stonewalls
- Parking areas – library
- Uniform lighting

Map project

- Composite maps that superimpose today’s lot lines and/or GPS information on historical maps with property boundaries of Historic District

Inventory existing historic resources

- HDC files and reports
- Electronic records
- Museum artifacts

Capture today’s history for future generations

- 2017 minutes, agendas, attachments and reports
- Bound volumes by year end

Trail markers

- Town Forest, Fox Point bridge, old turnpike road
- Main street banners
- Traffic circle monument
- Conservation parcels

Attachment #1 continued

September 28, 2017 ideas for 2018 budget:

- Forest management - Town forests have always been managed with certain trees selected for growth and others for cutting. The historic district could be improved by managing the trees crowding the old buildings:
 - Cutting of some pine trees to thin out the copse in front of the Old Stone School so the remaining hardwoods can bush out.
 - Thinning of smaller trees in the copse in front of the town garage so the hardwood trees can bush out.
 - Trimming and cutting trees and arboretum close to the veterans memorial that are preventing sun from drying out the canons.
 - Selective cutting of some pines that keep the back of the Old Parsonage in constant shade and dampness.
 - Bush hog or mow the ferns behind the horse sheds that are keeping the new wood shingles in shade and damp.
 - Cutting one large tree can cost \$700-800. Cutting about 24 large cherry trees in 2016 cost \$6,000 because the logs had value. Cutting many trees at once is most cost effective.
- Tree planting - Planting oak, maple, or flowering trees by the library and David Watson tree by the Old Town Hall to provide shade for people to enjoy the green areas.
- Soccer area atop Sam Rowe's Hill – Work with the PDA to have a fence installed by the scooped out bowl where they plan to clear cut trees. It is located just behind the goal area of the soccer area.
- Maps from Rockingham Registry of Deeds – Creating 3 composite maps that superimpose today's lot lines and/or GPS information on historical maps with property boundaries of prior owners for the Old Town Forest, Shattuck shipyard/Bloody Point, and Fox Point.
- Inventory the museum artifacts to provide information on their provenance. Begin inventory of historical records in the Old Town Hall to create a database/list of what exists and digitize some for better public access. Will require a few hundred dollars for acid free labels, paper, and archival supplies and volunteer time.
- Capture today's town history for future generations to enjoy. How are we preserving town meeting records and records of committee meeting agendas/minutes, and historical information from ongoing projects such as the Little Bay Bridge construction plans, etc. Requires making copies of relevant material on archival quality paper and having the documents bound into volumes. An area for preserving this historic information needs to be agreed upon for easy public access but also for the long-term safety of the volumes. How much space is reasonable to store ordinary "stuff" vs. significantly useful information/items we may need/want In the future?

Attachment #1 continued

- Trail markers for Town Forest, Fox Point underground bridge site and location of the old turnpike along the point. For example:



- Manage the scenic aspect of Newington's scenic roads, primarily by working to preserve the existing stonewalls and/or to have some rebuilt. There is no capital reserve fund for Historic Preservation activities, so perhaps money could come as part of the historic mitigation from the Eversource project or conservation mitigation monies. The flags mounted on the utility poles are nice but many other banners of historic scenes or activities would also be nice.
- Work with NH DOT to have a monument sculpted – perhaps in the shape of a large Gundalow bearing the name NEWINGTON – and placed atop the center of the new traffic circle by Woodbury Ave/Arboretum Drive/Spaulding Turnpike to let people know they are in Newington. Money could potentially come from the federal government – if the state decides not to restore the historic General Sullivan Bridge but to replace it with a modern structure.
- Begin the long process of creating a buffer along Arboretum Drive to protect the historic district, town forest, and residential areas. In 2017 the town reacted to FAA tree cutting plans, Eversource transmission plans, and fire training pollution plumes. We need to be proactive, not reactive. What will be involved in taking over Arboretum Drive and the land north of the drive to give Newington a green buffer for the historic and residential areas of town and so the town can control access to this road.



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources
19 Pillsbury Street, Concord, NH 03301-3570
TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964
www.nh.gov/nhdhr

603-271-3483
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preservation@dcr.nh.gov

**2017 NEW HAMPSHIRE CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ANNUAL REPORT**

(This report must be submitted in hard copy. Electronic submissions not accepted due to potential file size of the attachments.)

Newington

Lulu Pickering

CLG Name

CLG Contact Person

603-436-8158

pickering@informagen.com

Telephone Number

Email Address

- This Annual Report is required to be filed by each CLG.
- This Annual Report covers Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2017: October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.
- This Annual Report is due by **October 31, 2017**.

1. New or revised ordinance or commission regulations? (Y or N):

Explain: If yes, please attach the new document(s)

None

2. New or revised guidelines or rules of procedure? (Y or N):

Explain: If yes, please attach the new document(s)

None

3. Please provide a current list of commission members. Please indicate the names of new commission members appointed in FFY 2017 and attach their bio/resume that is on file with the commission:

NellAnn Hiatt

NellAnn is a realtor in Seacoast New Hampshire and a member of several local, state, and regional realtor associations. She is also involved in the Seacoast Rotary Club and is a Veterans Count volunteer.

Maxine Mintz Pottier

Maxine restored a 1700s South End home in Portsmouth and is currently restoring a 1800s work studio at the former Frederick William deRochemont property at the corner of Fox Point Road and Old Post Road in Newington. She has worked as an assistant art director for *Colonial Homes Magazine* and was treasurer of the Board of Directors for the Hillsborough NC Arts Council.

Lulu Pickering

Lulu is a lifelong resident of Newington and current owner of the Alfred Pickering Farm, which came into the Pickering family in 1788. The writings of Lulu’s uncle Frederick were used to create the Newington Town History and her mother Marjorie helped found the *Newington Neighbor* in the early 1970s to share town news and events, and capture history for future generations to enjoy. Following in their footsteps, Lulu has been editor of the *Newington Neighbor* for 20 years, continues to preserve and restore the old Pickering Farm buildings, and maintains an extensive collection of Pickering, *Newington Neighbor*, and Newington family photographs, documents, and histories. She has served on the Newington Budget Committee, Board of Adjustment, as Town Treasurer, and on the boards of several non-profit organizations.

4. Educational sessions attended:

List name of commission member and educational session attended.

Each of the new HDC members attended an orientation session with Chair Gail Pare to review the town’s zoning ordinance and regulations relating to the HDC, as well as the state’s regulations and best practices relating to CLGs, HDCs, and heritage commissions.

With the retirement of HDC Chair Gail Pare, others on the Commission look forward to attending NH DHR-sponsored educational sessions.

5. Number of meetings held during the year? (Include the total of regular meetings, study sessions, work sessions, site visits, design review committee meetings, etc.):

A. Numbers and types of cases reviewed and their disposition:

About 3 dozens meetings were held over the year, including HDC monthly meetings; evening sessions relating to the Eversource project; meetings, walks, and presentation with IAC consultants relative to the ongoing CLG grant; and meetings with folks involved in the underwater survey of the Old Piscataqua Bridge.

No planning board meetings, per se, but see item 9 for many of the activities the HDC was involved with.

6. List of new local designations. If a designation is a historic district, count it as one designation but also state the number of properties in the historic district regardless of whether the properties are contributing or non-contributing:

No new local districts were designated.

However, the HDC began preliminary discussions in 2017 on how best to establish a buffer along Arboretum drive that would shield the residential and Newington Center Historic District from further development at the north end of the Pease Tradeport and to better manage traffic flow through town. This buffer zone could, or could not, be used to expand the boundaries of the existing historic district in this area.

Local historic districts in Newington now include:

- Newington Center Historic District – established in 1974.
- Bloody Point Historic District – established in 1975.

7. List National Register nominations commented upon by the commission. Please attach commission minutes relating to National Register Activities:

No new National Register nominations.

However, the Old Piscataqua Bridge and First New Hampshire Turnpike located in Newington at Fox Point is the subject of multi-phase CLG grants for potential listing on the National Register of Historic Places and/or other local/state designations.

Four National Register properties currently exist in Newington:

- Newington Center Historic District – listed in 1987
- Newington Town Forest (boundary increase of Newington Center Historic District) – listed in 1991
- Margeson, Richman “Hawkridge” Estate – listed in 1990
- Newington Railroad Depot – 2010

Note, however, that:

- Hawkridge Estate was demolished.
- Extensions were added to the Langdon Library and the Old Town Hall in the Newington Center Historic District.

- 1913 Springhouse Shed (contributing structure to the National Register Form for the Newington Center Historic District) was demolished when the library extension was added.
- New town garage was built at the south end of the Newington Center Historic District.
- Meetinghouse steeple was extensively restored through an LCHIP grant.
- Hundreds of old stones and monuments in the Town Cemetery have been washed and/or reset.

8. List new survey of historic properties in city/town:

No new historic properties were surveyed.

Of note, however, the Adams Homestead dating to about 1717 was listed on the NH Register of Historic Places in November 2017. Rev. Joseph Adams – a relative of President John Adams and President John Quincy Adams – and eight generations of the Adams family have owned and farmed the property whose development fate is currently being decided.

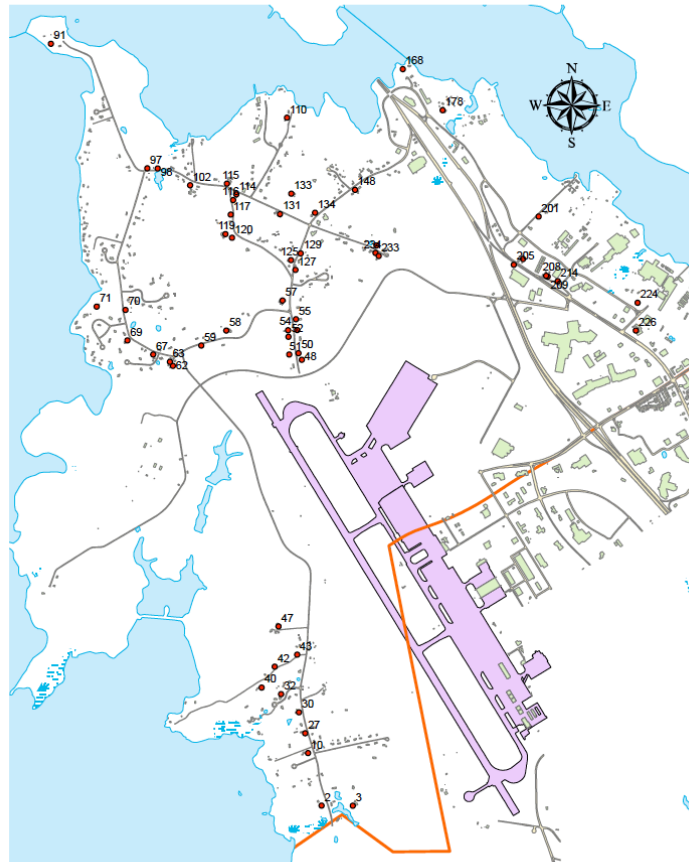
NH Historic District Area Forms for Newington include:

- Fabyan Point Cabins 7/11/2012
- Fox Point 1/13/2010
- Patterson Lane Area 2/9/2005
- Sprague Energy Area 2/9/2005
- Pease Air Force Base Weapons Storage Area 2/22/2012

Note, however, that the cabins on Fabyan Point have been demolished, as were the nuclear bomb bunkers at the PAFB weapons storage area.

Chapter 4 of the Town of Newington’s Master Plan (2010-2020) is devoted to Historic Resources in Newington and provides figures relating to historic resources. However, many of these properties have been impacted, negatively or positively, and an up-to-date listing and map is needed, part of which will be done as the new Master Plan is developed for 2020-2030. Following the figure below is a list of buildings that have been impacted in the last 5-10 years.

Historic Building Survey



SOURCE: Rockingham Planning Commission, 1980

List of historic buildings that have been negatively impacted in the last 5-10 years:

- Watson barn on Fox Point Road collapsed and removed about 2014.
- Paul Beane second barn on Nimble Hill Road collapsed and removed.
- John Fabyan (Beals) house on Fabyan Point dismantled by Greg Tuveson over 8 months in 2014; he has plans to rebuild it in another town.
- Margaret Pickering house on Old Dover Road in good condition but demolished about 2010.
- Thomas barn on Newington Road collapsed during the winter of 2013-2014.
- Mott House on Fox Point in OK condition but demolished in 2007.
- Old Downing (Yeaton) barn on Patterson Lane collapsed in 2017.

List of historic buildings that are in danger of being negatively impacted:

- Myers/Pare (Gee Pickering) house on Little Bay Road built about 1760; once owned by opera singer Glacia Calla (Lillian Carkin) and the site of a 1908 murder. The Conservation Commission and Southeast Land Trust reviewed the property for a potential conservation easement but decided it was flanked by upscale developments (Gundalow Landing and Dumpling Cove Roads) on either side and would likely be too costly to purchase an easement.

- Old Downing (Yeaton) house on Patterson Lane threatened with being demolished when the current owner first wanted to merge two adjacent lots for expansion of a business and then decided not to.
- Old deRochemont house on Woodbury Avenue, previously owned by Great Bay Services is likely to be demolished soon. Filmmaker Louis deRochemont lived there before he bought and named Blueberry Banke in Newington.
- Old Stone School, a million-dollar asset, is getting scant maintenance attention and has been unoccupied for more than a decade.

List of historic buildings and properties that have been positively impacted in the last 10 or so years:

- Darius Frink barn on Nimble Hill Road has a new addition.
- Mazeau (John Stone Pickering) house on Newington Road renovated in modern style.
- Gracie Smith house/barn on Little Bay Road renovated in modern style; extensive interior changes.
- Frederick William deRochemont house on Fox Point and Old Post Roads renovated in modern style; many interior changes.
- Paul Beane house on Nimble Hill Road gutted internally and currently being renovated as part of a modern duplex.
- Louis deRochemont (Blueberry Banke) house saved and moved to the corner of Shattuck Way and Piscataqua Drive in 2007. It is now the home to Whole Life Health Care.
- Meetinghouse (LCHIP grant) and Old Parsonage restorations over many years.
- Town Cemetery (2003 CLG grant) new granite post and chain fence.
- Jackson Hoyt/Paul Harvey barn on Nimble Hill Road saved and renovated.
- Alfred Pickering farmhouse addition and barn foundation, floors, sills, and internal wood stave silo renovation ongoing for 10 years.

9. Local issues update:

- A. Briefly describe preservation activities that the CLG sponsored or directed in FFY 2017. This might include public education about preservation, a historic sites survey, preparation of a historic preservation plan, etc.
- Completed work for CLG Grant # CLG-P16AS00039-02 (Goat Island – Piscataqua Bridge Phase IV). Cosponsored a public meeting with Independent Archeological Consulting for them to present their results.
 - Cosponsored Pontine Theater of Portsmouth for performances in March and November. Many of their events relate to local history.
 - Worked to preserve trees in the Newington Center Historic District from planned land-clearing activities by the Federal Aviation Agency, Pease Development Authority, and Hoyle Tanner consultants. Most of the 19- acres of planned cutting in Newington happened anyway, but none occurred in the

old town center. Efforts continue to have some trees replanted to improve the current viewscape.

- Worked with contractors hired by the US Air Force to designate which trees could be cut in the Old Town Forest so more wells could be installed for the PFOA/PFOS pollution remediation efforts that are underway. The aquifer under the Newington Center Historic District, adjacent farmland, and several resident wells have been polluted at levels up to 100-fold higher than human health advisory levels.
- Worked with town boards to limit the impact of the Eversource Seacoast Reliability Project on the town's residential and historical areas (see 9C for further information). Cosponsored a public session with the NH DHR.
- Reviewed lighting requests from the Langdon Library Trustees for installing additional lights along the walkway in front of the library.
- Stockpiled a large collection of stones for expanding stonewalls in the historic district and along key adjacent roadways in the next few years.
- Began preliminary discussions on how to document the history of the deRochemont house on Woodbury Avenue; it is in imminent danger of being demolished for a new car dealership.

B. Briefly describe any problems--practical, political, or financial-- encountered by the CLG in planning or implementing its activities during FFY 2017.

- Fighting outside development pressures in consuming the HDC's time and preventing us from working on projects of historic significance that are also important (see 9C below). The HDC would like to be *proactive* but we have spent most of our time being *reactive* because Newington continues to be pressured from outside interests intent on their own development plans (FAA, PDA, Eversource, etc.) at our expense. The town has a small land mass and only about 800 residents, so most economic studies find Newington is less costly to impact than surrounding towns. For example, Newington did not receive soundproofing when the Spaulding Highway was expanded for the Little Bay Bridges (Dover did). Newington did not receive noise abatement when the FAA/PDA cut 19 acres of trees at the north end of the runway. Every attempt by Newington to push the Eversource distribution line out of the residential and historic areas on to Arboretum Drive by the end of the Pease runway has been thwarted.
- On the practical side, Gail Pare our HDC chair of many years moved out of Town in June 2017 and the remaining HDC members are struggling a bit to pull it together and move forward. Sincere apologies for the lateness of this

year-end report. It is our intention to work closely with NH DHR in 2018 and file requested reports in a timely fashion.

C. Briefly describe any projected activities/objectives for FFY 2018.

Ongoing activities/objectives:

- Apply for another round of CLG funding to complete the work at Fox Point on the old Piscataqua River Bridge and its underwater remnants.
- Money has been escrowed into 2018 to complete the sanding and repainting of the Canons in the Veterans Monument area.
- Interact with the Planning Board about an historic survey of the deRochemont house on Woodbury Avenue.

New activities/objectives:

The following list of ideas was presented to the selectmen during the HDC budget review meeting for 2018. The list was well received. The HDC will work to prioritize the items and set a timeframe for what is practical to accomplish and when.

- Forest management - Town forests have always been managed with certain trees selected for growth and others for cutting. The historic district could be improved by managing the trees crowding the old buildings:
 - Cutting of some pine trees to thin out the copse in front of the Old Stone School so the remaining hardwoods can bush out.
 - Thinning of smaller trees in the copse in front of the town garage so the hardwood trees can bush out.
 - Trimming and cutting trees and arboretum close to the veterans' memorial that are preventing sun from drying out the canons.
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- Tree planting - Planting oak, maple, or flowering trees by the library and David Watson tree by the Old Town Hall to provide shade for people to enjoy the green areas.
- Soccer area atop Sam Rowe's Hill – Work with the PDA to have a fence installed by the scooped out bowl where they plan to clear cut trees. It is located just behind the goal area of the soccer area.

- Maps from Rockingham Registry of Deeds – Creating 3 composite maps that superimpose today’s lot lines and/or GPS information on historical maps with property boundaries of prior owners for the Old Town Forest, Shattuck shipyard/Bloody Point, and Fox Point.
- Inventory the museum artifacts to provide information on their provenance. Begin inventory of historical records in the Old Town Hall to create a database/list of what exists and digitize some for better public access. Will require a few hundred dollars for acid free labels, paper, and archival supplies and volunteer time.
- Capture today’s town history for future generations to enjoy. How are we preserving town meeting records and records of committee meeting agendas/minutes, and historical information from ongoing projects such as the Little Bay Bridge construction plans, etc. Requires making copies of relevant material on archival quality paper and having the documents bound into volumes. An area for preserving this historic information needs to be agreed upon for easy public access but also for the long-term safety of the volumes. How much space is reasonable to store ordinary "stuff" vs. significantly useful information/items we may need/want In the future?
- Trail markers for Town Forest, Fox Point underground bridge site and location of the old turnpike along the point.
- Manage the scenic aspect of Newington’s scenic roads, primarily by working to preserve the existing stonewalls and/or to have some rebuilt. There is no capital reserve fund for Historic Preservation activities, so perhaps money could come as part of the historic mitigation from the Eversource project or conservation mitigation monies. The flags mounted on the utility poles are nice but many other banners of historic scenes or activities would also be nice.
- Work with NH DOT to have a monument sculpted – perhaps in the shape of a large Gundalow bearing the name NEWINGTON – and placed atop the center of the new traffic circle by Woodbury Ave/Arboretum Drive/Spaulding Turnpike to let people know they are in Newington. Money could potentially come from the federal government – if the state decides not to restore the historic General Sullivan Bridge but to replace it with a modern structure.
- Begin the long process of creating a buffer along Arboretum Drive to protect the historic district, town forest, and residential areas. In 2017 the town reacted to FAA tree cutting plans, Eversource transmission plans, and fire training pollution plumes. We need to be proactive, not reactive. What will be involved in taking over Arboretum Drive and the land north of the drive to give Newington a green buffer for the historic and residential areas of town and so the town can control access to this road.

Current discussions on potential historic mitigation due to the Eversource Seacoast Reliability Project:

NHDHR has determined that historic resources in Newington will be adversely impacted (Nadine Miller, August 1, 2017 Final Report) and historic mitigation will be necessary.

The status of the Eversource proposal and potential historic mitigation projects were discussed at an HDC meeting on November with members of the Newington Historic District Commission with our Planning Board Chairman Denis Hebert, Selectman Ted Connors, and Lulu Pickering of the Alfred Pickering Farm in attendance.

Improving the landscape and viewscape of the Newington Center Historic District (listed on the National Register of Historic Places) can mitigate the adverse impacts caused by the Eversource proposal to the Pickering Farm, Newington Cable Terminal House, and Frink Farm (new monopole structure). The mitigation goal will make our old town center more people friendly and improve its status as the town's cultural and historical center.

Currently, we are in the concept phase for how to improve the landscape and viewscape of the Newington Center Historic District. The concept is based on a list of projects received from the Historic District Commission during the town's current budget review process. Elements of the concept include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Develop a plan to create a cohesive look and feel to the old town center that incorporates landscape features specific to each old building. These features could be shrubs, stonewalls, sitting areas, walkways, flower gardens, boulders, etc. Consider, or not, a "main street" concept appropriate to an old New England town center. This could include appropriate lighting and small banners of historic scenes or activities unique to Newington.
- Selectively cut trees crowding the old buildings and overtaking the historic district center. Consider pushing back the boundaries of the old town forest to create more open space. Town forests have always been managed with certain trees selected for growth and others for cutting. The part of the town forest by the meetinghouse, library, and old town hall was clear in the not so distant past. Preserve hardwood trees so they can bush out and flourish but remove many white pines and trash trees.
- Selectively plant trees (oak, maple, or flowering trees) to provide shade for people when enjoying open green areas but also to enrich the views in the old center by providing color from spring blossoms and fall leaves.

- Address irrigation requirements so any landscape improvements can be maintained over time.
- Manage the scenic aspect of Newington's roads bordering the historic district by improving some of the existing stone walls and/or having stone walls built according to the landscape plan.
- Begin the long process of creating a buffer along Arboretum Drive to protect the historic district, town forest, and residential areas from further encroachment. What will be involved for example, in establishing a town-owned green buffer between the historic district and the Pease Tradeport?

It will be important to engage the public during the creation of an appropriate landscape plan and to consult as needed with NHDHR, and likely with a landscape architect and architectural historian to ensure that the plan fits our historic district and meets the Secretary of the Interior's standards for properties listed on the National Register.

We anticipate that an appropriate plan can be decided and a final report created in 2018 that outlines a schedule of work to be accomplished and the associated costs.

Submitted by:
Lulu Pickering, Newington HDC member
December 29, 2017