



# TOWN OF STRATHAM

INCORPORATED 1716

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## STRATHAM HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES

**March 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm**  
**Stratham Municipal Center**

Present: David Canada, Forrest Barker, Lucy Cushman, and Jeff Hyland.

Absent: Nathan Merrill, Drew Bedard, and Mike Houghton.

Lucy Cushman was made a voting member and Dave Canada acted as Chair.

Secretary's Report: Jeff Hyland made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 13, 2024 meeting; Lucy Cushman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Nothing to report.

Correspondence: None.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board: Mr. Canada was not there at the February 21 meeting (only one meeting in February), but he reported that there was a proposal for single family homes behind the Convenient MD. The applicants received a variance from the ZBA but the Select Board has objected and asked for a rehearing. They feel that if the variance for this project is affirmed it will have the effect of voiding the whole zoning for the area. This issue is suspended until a rehearing discussion.

Select Board: No report.

Demolition Review Committee: Has not met.

Heritage District Advisory Committee and Open Space Plan Steering Committee: Has not met.

### OLD BUSINESS

Brown/Gifford project: Lisa Mausolf is continuing to work on the NHDHR inventory form, but is concerned the vinyl replacement windows might stymie a National Register application. After examination of the house, Mr. Bedard reports that the rear ell is older than the main house, dating from the mid-18th century.

Town Marker Project and Veterans Memorial Garden: Nothing to report.

Cemeteries: Nothing to report

Historic House Placards: Mr. Canada notified the Heritage Commission that the Historical Society agreed to cover one third of the cost of the placards. Ms. Cushman made a motion to move forward with the project with the Heritage Commission, Historical Society, and participating homeowners each contributing a third of the cost for each sign. Mr. Hyland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Historic/scenic streets and Historic resources mapping project: nothing to report.

2024 Heritage Commission Public Program: The recording of the event is up on the Heritage Commission webpage.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Old House and Barn Expo: Mr. Canada reported that the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's (NHPA) Old House and Barn Expo is on March 16-17, 2024. He said free tickets are available through Alliance Board member Lorraine Merrill. Interested people should contact Nate.

Town Meeting: The 2024 annual Town Meeting will be held on March 16 at SMS, starting at 9:00 AM.

79-D barn easements: Mr. Merrill was informed by the NHPA that Stratham has the most 79-D barn easements of any community in the State.

Membership: The Select Board has reappointed Drew Bedard to a 3-year term as an alternate member of the Commission.

Mr. Hyland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28. Ms. Cushman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Forrest Barker, Secretary