



TOWN OF WINCHESTER HISTORIC COMMISSION

Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 7, 2025 - 4:00PM

Town Hall – 338 Main Street – 2nd Floor – P. Francis Hicks Conference Room

Deborah Kessler – Chairman
Lynn Kessler – Vice-Chairman
Lauren Dombrowski
Stewart Pollens

Steve Dew
Virginia Shultz-Charette
Carl Benedict

Hamish Lutris
Sheila Sedlack – Historic Advisor
Steve Vaill – Historic Advisor
Esther Dew – Volunteer Secretary

- 1) Call to Order/Roll Call
- 2) Agenda Review
- 3) Public Comment
- 4) Approval of Previous Minutes: July 3, 2025, regular meeting
- 5) Correspondence
- 6) Old Business
 - a) Freedom Trail Updates (Ben Cruson)
 - i) National Freedom Trail
 - b) Development of social media presence
 - c) Wayside Sign Review -- **Incomplete Signs**
 - i) AMPS/Whiting Mill – Hamish
 - ii) Sue Grossman Trail/Railroad – Steve
 - iii) Beardsley Library – Ben
 - iv) Schoolhouses – Martin Wallen
 - v) Meadow Street Edgeworks – TBD
 - vi) Highland Lake – TBD
 - vii) Winchester Center Green – TBD
 - viii) Dudley Park? – Discuss
 - ix) Soldiers' Monument – Two Signs In Development
 - d) Wayside Signs **Being Reviewed** -- Lynn
 - i) Gilbert Clock Shop – Stewart
 - ii) East End Park – Virginia (Fountain & Park Cottage)
 - iii) YMCA – Virginia
 - iv) Litchfield County Hospital – Virginia
 - v) Gilbert High School/Park Hotel – Virginia
 - vi) First Congregational Church - Virginia
 - e) Vacancies/New Member Discussion
 - i) Welcome Carl Benedict
 - ii) 1 vacancy remains
 - f) Historic Preservation and Fire Safety Conversation – Deb
- 7) Subcommittee Reports
 - a) **Historic District Creation (Steve and Lynn)**
 - i) Dairy Queen Renovations Discussion
 - ii) Map overlay from Goulet Printing
 - iii) 10 Bridge Street
 - iv) Areas of interest to expand existing districts and/or buildings
 - v) Other

b) America's 250th participation (Hamish)

- i) What events or topics to focus on
 - (1) Collaborate with SOMO October 25 Winchester Center -- Discussion
 - (2) DAR collaboration/discussion (Revolutionary War Fashion Show "Dirty Blue Shirts")

c) Underground Railroad Research (Virginia)

8) New Business

- a) Election of Officers
- b) Discussion of Local Historic Designation Process (Deb)
- c) Holiday Celebration - ???

9) Upcoming Events

- a) Town Hall Presentation – August 20, 7 PM, Hicks Room (Stewart Pollens)
- b) Constitution Day September 20, 3 PM, Tort Law Museum – Program Pending

10) Adjournment

Next regular meeting – September 4, 2025, 4:00 p.m.