

Winchester Cultural District Commission meeting minutes, Oct.22, 2026

Committee members in attendance:

Steve Larson, Secretary

Theresa Cannavo

Debra Jablonski

John Noone

Annie Trépanier

Mimi Madden

Not present: Stacy Whitman

BoS Liaison present:

Kevin Bishop

Advisory Board Member present:

Virginia Shultz-Charette

Call to order by Secretary.

Approval of minutes from last meeting.

John motioned to accept. Annie seconded.

approved 5-0.

Election of officers.

Theresa nominated Mimi Madden as Chair. Annie seconded. no other nominations.

approved 5-0.

Mimi indicated she would spend time reviewing documents and talk to Steph Burr to better understand the process and hopes to get the application ready to submit by the next meeting. Steve mentioned that Steph had said she has a pre-made application template available. Mimi will reach out to get that.

several members re-iterated that the main current task is to get the application completed and submitted.

John raised his interest in signs outside historical homes and town beautification.

Virginia mentioned a walking tour that the Historical Commission has.

Said that we could consider asking home owners to post historic signs where warranted.

Debra suggested this is something the CDC could promote but would be something the historical commission would spearhead.

Theresa willing to work with Mimi to get the cultural assets onto a map or probably several maps, based on lists already compiled.

Theresa and Mimi will work to find someone to help do the graphic design for the maps.

Canva could be used to create the map.

Marketing materials needed.

Facebook page. CDC webpage on the town website.

Al Petrunti - video. John will be in touch with him.

Get CD mentioned on other web pages (town and otherwise). Since the CD already officially exists (by town ordinance) it seems like it would be ok to have cultural things in town mention on their websites that they are part of the CD (maybe put a link to our webpage?). Gather marketing materials from some of our cultural assets.

Mimi will ask Steph more about what we really need.

Kevin mentioned Winsted commercials (EDC) that are currently running.

Supplementary material (will not be evaluated).

Kevin will pull together info about town committees.

We already have info from TGS (Gilbert).

Region 7

Community College

Kevin will forward email from town manager re town resources that could support CD.

Historic Commission will be putting up about a dozen historic markers in the spring.

Mimi will reach out to Willy Platt re zoning info.

Theresa not available Nov.12. It was agreed to try to reschedule the next meeting for Nov.16 or 17. Mimi will work on that.

Kevin reviewed open meeting rules. No back and forth email discussions between any quorum of board members. But emails for information purposes or for task updates are ok, as are emails between two or three members as they work on tasks decided upon at previous meetings.

Karann offered to help with the map.

Theresa says Whiting Mills is excited to have the tour start or end at the Mills.

Discussion of a few upcoming cultural things.

Public question about future of Gilson... Old Redmans club building.

No additional public comments or questions.

Theresa moved to adjourn. Annie seconded. Approved 5-0.