

TOWN OF BEDFORD
November 1, 2022
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION WORKSHOP
MINUTES

A workshop meeting of the Bedford Historic District Commission was held on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 6:00PM at the Bedford Meeting Room, 10 Meeting House Road, Bedford, NH. Members present were: Lisa Muskat (Vice Chair), Lori Radke (Town Council) and Kelly Tope. Also present were: Jillian Harris (Assistant Planning Director), Susan Tufts-Moore (Bedford Historical Society), Beverly Thomas (Bedford Historical Society), Bill Gere (Bedford Historical Society) and Brandee Loughlin (NH Division of Historical Resources)

II. Other Business: Workshop – Certified Local Government Presentation and Discussion with the NH Division of Historical Resources

Brandee Loughlin, Preservation Planning & Development Coordinator for the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, introduced herself to those present and gave her background. Ms. Loughlin congratulated the town on the recent approval of their application to the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program and went on to give a presentation about the program. The grant program for CLG communities is administered by the NH Division of Historical Resources and funds are passed through from the National Parks Service. This program is only available to CLG communities in the state for three prioritized project areas. Priority I projects are funded at 100% for surveys and national register projects and at 60/40 (local match) for preservation planning and information and education projects. Priority II projects are funded at 60/40 for pre-development and Priority III projects are funded at 50/50 for development projects. Ms. Loughlin clarified that they usually do not have enough funding to get to Priority III projects and they have not been able to fund those types of projects for a long time. Ms. Loughlin discussed the grant program application process and outlined that a request for letters of interest would be sent to CLG communities in January or February of next year. Applications should be submitted late spring and notice of grant recipients would be in the May/June timeframe.

The Commission discussed project ideas, including a town-wide survey, public outreach letters and flyers and a welcome packet. The Commission discussed a strategic outreach plan as a possibility for an information and education project. Members of the Bedford Historical Society noted that they have a pamphlet that could be converted to a digital piece for outreach. Ms. Loughlin discussed projects from other communities that have included a plaque program to recognize historic buildings or events, coordination of a public walking tour and hosting workshops for historic property owners for education. Ms. Loughlin will reach out to Jillian Harris as the point of contact for Bedford's CLG program.

III. Adjournment:

The Commission adjourned the workshop at 6:58PM.