



**TOWN OF DURHAM**  
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Charlotte Hitchcock  
Carolyn Singer  
Jennifer Becker

**HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
**Committee on Durham Public History**  
**Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm**  
**Durham Town Hall – Upstairs Conference Room**  
**8 Newmarket Road, Durham, NH**  
**MEETING NOTES**

- I. Call to order at 7:05 pm
- II. Roll call: Carolyn Singer, Jennifer Becker, Charlotte Hitchcock
- III. Review of notes from previous meeting (May)
- IV. Discussion of various issues related to Durham Public History.
  - A. Oyster River historic marker under review by NH Division of Historic Resources (DHR). We appreciate the DHR preference to defer final decisions about the historic marker until the Section 106 mitigation activities are developed. Damming the Oyster River at the historical Durham Falls location was inherently connected with settlements and activities of all groups in the seventeenth century and subsequent periods. It will be appropriate to consider all interpretive materials in a broad context.
  - B. Review of a report by VHB, the engineers for the dam removal process, presented to the Town Council on June 26, 2023. Charlotte reported on elements of the presentation relating to the design of the treatment of the river bank including Riffle Crest / Cross Vane installations. See attached memo dated 6/17/23, which this committee will share with Chair Larry Brickner-Wood for discussion at the next HC meeting.
  - C. Online map with historic photos: this has been on hold for some time with the Town's adoption of a GIS based mapping system (ArcGIS) which may be used as a framework for the map, but has some disadvantages compared with the Google Street View system. No decision or proposal at this time.
  - D. Carolyn reported on a trip to England and a system of house histories provided to residents of the Exmoor National Park. This could be a useful model for information to provide to owners in the Historic District, some of whom do not know the full background of their homes.
  - E. LCHP grant application: site inspection visit is scheduled for September 26; brief discussion of ideas for long-term and short-term exhibits.
  - F. General Sullivan re-enactment plans review of concept. Suggestion that the working group may apply to the HC for some funding, as we have not spent our funds yet this year.
- V. Adjournment at 8:15. Next meeting date to be announced.

Meetings of the Heritage Commission Committee on Durham Public History are open to the public. Please call or email Michael Behrendt, Durham Town Planner at (603) 868-8064 or [mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us](mailto:mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us) with any questions or if you need any assistance in attending the meeting.