



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Historic District Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman Ty Lamb

Regular Meeting

Monday, May 19, 2025

7:00 PM

Town Hall Annex -Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairman Lamb at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Douglas Kelley
Chairperson Ty Lamb
Commissioner Kelly Lamb
Commissioner Ammie Chittim
Commissioner Karen Parkinson
Excused Alternate Member Kenneth Geer
Alternate Alternate Member Vincent Godino
Commissioner Rebecca Watford

III. APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Not needed.

IV. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

Introduction of Victoria Ericson (Museum Director of Nathan Lester House). The Commission has worked with Ms. Ericson on prior projects

V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes from April 21, 2025, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Ty Lamb

SECONDER: Karen Parkinson

AYE 5 Kelley Lamb Lamb Chittim Parkinson

EXCUSED 1 Geer

VI. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

1. Town Council Liaison - Councilor Bill Barnes.

No report. Bill Barnes, Town Councilor, wasn't present due to a Town Council meeting.

VII. CHAIRMAN REPORT**1. General Report.**

Chairman Lamb announced that the meeting may be longer than usual since there is a lot to discuss.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Financial Report.

Sawmill Donation Account: expenditure of Drone and Site work. Approved expenses.

The ARPA funds are fully encumbered.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**1. Correspondence.**

Three email correspondences will be added to the minutes.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**1. Sawmill Committee.**

The Sawmill opened for the season in April. There was rainy weather and light activity. The alarm system is being worked on, testing to see what triggers the alarms. Mr. Ganong and Chairman Lamb are working on Capital list for the next budget year. Exploring a site plan for a shed, to keep extra wood in.

Mr. Godino worked with the crew regarding the dam. The evaluation report outlines damage with erosion, overflow, and dam failure. There are two next step options to help remedy the situation, Mr. Godino feels both are reasonable. Once the option is picked, the full process will begin. It's important to keep the water from reaching the Sawmill. Chairman Lamb mentioned that once the report is received, the Committee will discuss options and costs. Mr. Godino would like to receive estimates of cost for both options.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Nathan Lester House - Mr. Kelley.

Mr. Kelley's report:

"This past month has been making ready for our open season, beginning Memorial Day weekend, and especially taking steps to reach possibilities. To that end, we are bringing on Victoria Ericson as our Museum Director.

Victoria is a recent addition to Ledyard who has quickly becomes involved in the community. She brings not only her professional background in design and architecture, but her experience in

project management and thoughtful interpretation of history. Victoria managed the restoration of the Apollo Theatre in New York City, and was a leading partner in creation of the Lachat Town Farm in Weston, CT. Currently funded by our recent film donations, her goal is to reach self-funding through programs, events, professional partnerships, and grants.

At the Lester House, volunteer effort is transforming our physical appearance for opening and beyond. Three rooms in the Museum and two in the Ell will be repaired and repainted; the fence restored, and the North Field cleared. Many thanks to the volunteers who are making this possible, especially John Kelley, Aaron Smith, and Missy Dyson.

We hope that these physical changes will help attract the renewed interest we need to remain a viable and valued historical resource for Ledyard and Southeast Connecticut.

Victoria has been appointed Nathan Lester House Museum Director. We are officially putting in a PO to be submitted to be approved, at that time she will officially start her duties. General duties- programing, events, a lot to reach self-funding, outreach to other towns and other town groups/High School. Will work on long term projects, work with Grant outreach ect. Victoria mentioned working closely with the Historical Society and community engagement. Ideas of engaging community: Weekly story time, classes, tours etc.

Events: June Wedding, Structural support & Fence repair John Kelley, Ken Geer assessment of drain situation (moved to the fall), Artifacts found on the grounds possible future event."

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Center School - Mr. Geer.

Nothing to report.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Social Media - Ms. Lamb.

180 followers.

Views per month:

February - 2,110

March - 3,554

April - 2,264

Ms. Lamb asked the Commissioners to continue to post pictures of the Commission's Historical sites as well as Historical sites around town. If anyone has anything to contribute, to please send it to Ms. Lamb anytime.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

5. Research/Preservation - Ms. Chittim.

How to make the Commission more marketable? Getting information out to the Town

population using polls, Survey Monkey, Farmer's Market, Archeology days outreach days and/or a bi-annual Newsletter containing historical information. Chairman Lamb mentioned he has an example from North Stonington's newsletter.

Spicer Ruins- Mr. Kelley attended the last Land Use Committee meeting with Ms. Parkinson. She mentioned that they keep two roles-owner of property and legislative entity. Ms. Parkinson was directed to go to the Town Council to continue the process/directive. It was said that the A2 survey is not needed at this point, it will be needed at the last step. The process could make multiple changes before it is finalized.

Chairman Lamb said it was asked in the beginning to have administration authority, not a historical site district designation. He added that the Town has made it very complicated. The Historical study was completed, all the pieces have been done, ready to go forward.

Mr. Kelley asked if the two-acre discrepancy has been corrected? Chairman Lamb said he and Mr. Gardner understand the issue, and they know what to do to correct it.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

X. OLD BUSINESS

1. Any Other Old Business to come before the Commission.
None.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Vice-Chairperson.

The Vice Chairman position would be a back-up for when Chairperson Lamb is not present. Election will be conducted at this meeting. Ms. Parkinson nominated Mr. Kelley.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Ty Lamb

SECONDER: Douglas Kelley

AYE 5 Kelley Lamb Lamb Chittim Parkinson

EXCUSED 1 Geer

2. Any Other New Business to come before the Commission.

The Ledyard Rotary acknowledged Ms. Parkinson as "Citizen of the Year" which will be honored on June 18th at their annual meeting.

Ms. Ericson asked Ms. Parkinson about trails being resigned with different color trails.

Mr. Kelley attended another America 250 meeting. There will be events planned at the Nathan Lester House on July 4, 2026.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

XII. ADJOURNMENT

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.