



**NH OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (OPD)
SPRING 2023 PLANNING & ZONING CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023**

ONLINE CONFERENCE DETAILED AGENDA

(ALL SESSIONS WILL BE RECORDED AND AVAILABLE ON [OPD'S YOUTUBE PAGE](#) FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRACK

8:45 – 9:00 AM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Katie Paight, Principal Planner, NH Office of Planning & Development

9:00 – 10:15 AM

PRESERVATION 101: THE BASICS OF PRESERVATION COMMISSIONS

Brandee Loughlin, Preservation Planning & Development Coordinator, NH Division of Historical Resources

Andrew Cushing, Community Preservation Services Manager, NH Preservation Alliance

This session will provide an overview and introduction to the roles and responsibilities of historic preservation commissions in NH. Attendees will learn about the enabling legislation that establishes preservation commissions and the differences between an historic district commission vs. a heritage commission and their roles in land use management at the municipal level. The session will cover the basics of what a preservation ordinance should contain, as well as rules of procedure, and other mechanics of a historic district commission. Take aways from the session will be general preservation best practices, an introduction to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and other useful tools for historic district commissions to be effective at their role in preserving their community's heritage while keeping their community vital and viable.

10:15 – 10:30 AM

BREAK



10:30 – 11:45 AM

THE DOS & DON'TS OF PRESERVATION COMMISSION DECISION MAKING

Chris Skelly, Principal, Skelly Preservation Services

Scott Hogan, Attorney, The Law Office of Scott E. Hogan

Defensible decision making is based on an understanding of your commission's ordinance, interpreting and applying the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and using and adhering to established and published design guidelines, if available. Take aways from this session will include a better understanding of the commission's role, its scope of review, the key principles of an effective and enforceable ordinance, how to use design guidelines, the role of the public during hearings, and how to make and record defensible decisions.

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

LUNCH BREAK

12:45 – 2:00 PM

ALTERNATIVE OVERLAY DISTRICTS

Mark Connors, Planner, Town of Stratham, NH

Roger Larochelle, Executive Director, Squam Lakes Conservation Society

This session will highlight several NH communities which have implemented innovative zoning overlays to manage development in a way that is compatible with keeping their historic character without the use of more traditional historic districts. Specific communities and topics covered will include Neighborhood Heritage Districts, Village Overlay Districts, and historic lakeside properties (Squam Lake). Take aways from the session will be the basics of how to draft the ordinance for and establish these types of innovative zoning overlays and which might be the most effective for different types of communities and areas.

2:00 – 2:15 PM

BREAK

2:15 - 3:30 PM

HISTORIC DISTRICT HOT TOPICS

Julie Gilman, Exeter Historic District Commission Member

Chris Wolcott, Canaan Historic District Member

Rebecca Owens, Associate Planner, City of Lebanon, NH Planning & Development Department

Andrew Cushing, Community Preservation Services Manager, NH Preservation Alliance

David Messier, Chair, Claremont Historic District Commission

This session will introduce attendees to some of the current and trending topics in historic preservation as they apply to historic district commissions and land use boards. Topics highlighted will include building commission membership and support for the work they do, addressing conflict, legal challenges,



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housing/development pressure, ADUs, solar, window replacement vs. rehabilitation, the use of substitute materials, sensitive additions, and sustainability and "green" issues.

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