

Amherst Historical Commission  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
Wednesday, July 11, 2012  
First Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall  
7:15 p.m

**Present**

Mike Hanke, Matt Cornell, Lynda Faye, and Nathaniel Malloy (no quorum), plus public visitors.

**1. Announcements**

none

**2. Minutes**

none

**3. Appearance—7:30 p.m.**

Residents of North Amherst present their ideas for a Local Historic District in North Amherst. Louis Greenbaum reviewed the Dickinson LHD. Pat Holland of Montague Rd. described history of N. Amherst and Cushman area. Nathaniel Malloy spoke on LHD process. The Historical Commission would request the Select Board LHD study committee to determine appropriate boundaries. He reminded those present that the Dickinson LHD took 2 1/2 years to pass. Janet Keller of North Amherst shared her LHD experiences in other towns. Mike shared observations that smaller scale districts are easier to pass, rather than larger ones. He was encouraged that the group came forward to make the process happen. Linda Faye spoke about the North Amherst National Historic District process, and the possibility of multiple small districts, e.g., Montague Rd, Cushman, and village center. The Historic Committee decided to put it on the next agenda with quorum to discuss next steps and how to support it.

**4. New Business**

**d. Demolition delay applications**

**i. 328 Lincoln Ave.**

The Commission heard comment from public, discussed it, and decided a delay was unfortunately not warranted. Members of the public made unsolicited presentations re: residents having trouble with back yard parking lots. Nathaniel and the Commission suggested relevant venues for addressing the problem. Lynda described the demolition bylaw and its strict limits - architectural integrity or historical significance. Nathaniel described the use of the demolition delay as tool that would not in this case be effective.

**ii. 290 Lincoln Ave.**

After hearing strong public opinion on the property, the Commission was told that there is evidence that Robert Frost stayed in the to-be-demolished building. The Historical Commission decided to hold a public hearing, and requested the public to submit in writing relevant historical documentation to them prior to hearing.