

## Select Board

2019 was a year of many changes in Town government, none more important than with the personnel who make things work. Patty Massey, Randy Tarr, Sr., Phyllis Tarr, Angela Hendrickson, and Rennie Timm left Town service to begin new pursuits. We welcomed Cathy Lovas taking over as Town Clerk, Brian Tarr to Highway, Mary Ann Noyer as our Administrative Assistant, Jeannine Dunne, our new Tax Collector, and Amy Roberts, our Finance Coordinator. Our sincere appreciation goes out to those who served our Town with distinction and dedication. We started and completed many projects during the course of 2019, including the rebuilding of Hancock Road.

Three years ago, the Town voted to study the feasibility of bringing improved broadband and cell service to Town. This year, the Broadband Committee brings an Article before the Town to bring high speed internet to all Town residents. The Committee deserves our thanks for their determined and thorough work on this complicated project.

We were offered the opportunity to purchase a 5-acre parcel of land adjacent to the Town's Gravel Pit. With your approval, this purchase will support our continued self-sufficiency in procuring sand and gravel for many years to come. The Board also recommends a Capital Reserve Fund set aside for pit operations and reclamation planning to make the most of the opportunities for multiple new uses of the land that will come available as operations wind down.

Thanks to the Planning Board's Transportation Committee's efforts, a decision on putting a crosswalk near the store should be forthcoming in 2020.

With the cooperation of the Highway Department, the Town's Rail Trail will get some much needed work to correct drainage and roadbed issues. At the Recycling Center, we continue to improve and adjust to changes in how we recycle and manage our refuse stream. A Conservation Commission initiative to build a Rain Garden for water retention, sediment control, and education for the Town at the Harrisville boat launch is on the schedule for completion in 2020.

As Town employees and elected officials carry out the daily business of the Town, we especially appreciate the volunteers who serve on Boards and Committees and contribute to carrying out the planning, oversight, and regulations necessary to meet the Town's needs and interests.

Thank you, and we look forward in 2020 to celebrating with one and all the 150th anniversary of the Town's incorporation, July 2, 1870.

Jay Jacobs, Chair  
Kathleen Scott  
Andrea Hodson



**TOWN INCORPORATION DOCUMENT**

## **Assessor**

The yearly responsibilities of the Assessor consist of inspection of new construction and building permits, data verification, equalization ratio reports, intent to cut, timber and gravel warrants, land use change tax, subdivisions, annexations and mergers, tax map updates, deed changes, address updates, abatements, tax deferrals, Veterans credits and Elderly exemptions.

I am available to help educate the property owners in Harrisville of the assessing process and any concerns they may have concerning their property values.

You may contact me at Town Hall to make an appointment (603-827-3431 ext 22).

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn Cook, CNHA

## **Building Inspector / Code Enforcement**

This year has been another busy year, with 73 building permits issued. Five new homes were built in 2019 along with sheds, new additions, and lots of solar panels.

A reminder: you need a permit for any work being done, whether it's plumbing, electrical, interior or exterior renovations, or new sheds.

Feel free to call me if you don't know whether or not you need a permit. We will be issuing fines to anyone who doesn't comply with this requirement.

And last, but not least, please post your house numbers so that they are clearly visible for Emergency Services responders.

Thank you.

Mike Wilder, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement

## **Cemetery Trustees**

The Town of Harrisville has three cemeteries: Island Cemetery near the center of town located behind and to the left of the Brick Church; Riverside Cemetery on Chesham Road; and, Willard Hill Cemetery on Roxbury Road. These three cemeteries are ours to maintain in a careful manner.

The winter of 2019 proved to be difficult for the Island Cemetery. The first major problem was the tire ruts left throughout the cemetery. This required regrading and reseeding the sites. The cemeteries are closed to motorized vehicles from December 15 thru April 1 to protect the roads which are not maintained during the winter. It is our hope to be able to post signs to this effect this year. The second problem was a major upheaval of over 25 stones. Some were completely knocked off the bases, while others were pushed to a leaning position. There are several theories why this might have happened. Whatever the reason, we had to fix the damage and our town insurance did

## **Cemetery Trustees, continued**

not cover this expense as the stones were deemed to be owned by the plot holder. We were able to fix all the damage with the help of Peterborough Granite and to stay within our budget.

This year we had fewer interments than in the past. There was one in Island Cemetery and two were in Willard Hill Cemetery. All three were cremations which Randy Tarr, Jr. assisted to make the plots ready and to cover and reseed. This is just one of the many ways that Randy keeps the grounds of all three cemeteries looking as good as the weather allows. We are very pleased with his work and his careful cooperation.

A few years ago the Trustees received a request for a “green burial”. We had nothing in place at the time and could only partially fulfill this request. Since that time we have done a lot of research and have come up with a plan to have five plots laid out with space for more as the requests warrant. This went into effect in November of 2019 at Willard Hill Cemetery. We have a write-up of the particulars of a “green burial”, which we will be glad to give anyone requesting a copy.

After several years and many different plans, we have come up with a scattering garden area for ashes in both Island and Willard Hill Cemeteries. These will be available mid-summer and we are very pleased to offer alternatives for remains. We do have some cremation plots available in all three cemeteries and full plots still available in Willard Hill.

It is also our hope to make the sacred burial places of our families and friends as nice as possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Downing  
Julie Lord  
David Robins

## **Conservation Commission**

A Conservation Commission is an advisory body that watches for threats to our town environment, suggests solutions to other town boards, including the Select Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Adjustment, and collaborates with other conservation minded town organizations.

We continue to seek new members, preferably with backgrounds that broaden our perspectives on environmental management and the ways conservation can support future growth and development. If you are interested, contact Harry Wolhandler, HCC Chair. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month, 7pm, at Town Hall. This past year reviewed a number of key issues, which resulted in:

- Amendment of Conservation Fund guidelines at the 2019 town meeting to allow expenditures for all purposes permitted by NH RSA Chapter 36-A, including: community education, mapping and cataloguing wetlands and other conservation projects in addition to the previously allowed acquisition of land and/or conservation easements.

## Conservation Commission, continued

- Establishment of a Conservation Fund policy guideline that funds expended should not exceed the past-10-year average of contributions to the fund, approximately \$4,600 per year, maintaining funds at their current level of \$50,000 to \$60,000. This policy is a guideline, not an absolute rule, as more or fewer funds may be allocated in a given year.
- Participating in NH State review of Wetlands rules through attending meetings, working with NH Association of Conservation Commissions to ensure local review of Wetland Permit By Notification (PBN) applications to ensure that local concerns or potential intervening may be considered before PBN applications are submitted. As of 12/15/2019, new rules stipulate that PBN's must have sign-off by the Conservation Commission to receive expedited 5-day approvals. If not signed-off locally, applicants will go through the complete Wetland application process which includes detailed state review of plans.
- Establishment of a spring Amphibian Crossing Program (Salamander Brigade) to help amphibians return to their wetlands and vernal pools of origin. Amphibians are active on the first warm night (40 degrees or higher) of spring rain. They sit at the base of the forest and lake food chain, eating insects and plants to create protein for fish, reptiles and mammals of the woods. Volunteers are welcome to join the Salamander Brigade. Contact Andrea Polizos for details.
- Raising awareness of the importance of planning for stormwater runoff management and approved funds to build a public demonstration Rain Garden and Permeable Parking Area next to the Harrisville Pond boat ramp. The Rain Garden arose from a Keene State student project, with further development by Don Scott, Landscape Architect. A budget of \$5,600, to be paid from the Conservation Fund, was approved. The project will be built by the town Highway Department, with local volunteers contributing appropriate plants and helping to make the gardens an attractive contribution to the town. NH State Shoreland permits have been approved. The project is to be scheduled by the Highway Department when time allows, hopefully in spring 2020. Local signage and community events will demonstrate how the town and homeowners can take steps to slow down stormwater runoff from increasingly long-duration storms to prevent pollution of our many lakes and ponds and reduce future costs of flood damage.
- Conducting sign-ups for an Earth Day roadside cleanup on April 22nd. Town residents assumed responsibility for picking up winter trash along nearly 90% of town roads. We know town residents value our pristine water and land environment, and this effort expands the pool of those who pay attention to keeping our roads and woods beautiful
- Contributing \$5,000 to The Harris Center purchase of a 17-acre parcel located on the south side of the Eastview Rail Trail running from just past the bridge at the parking area on Hancock Road to just past the beaver ponds. This final missing piece ensures that the entire trail between Hancock Road and Jaquith Road will be preserved for future generations to use and enjoy.

## **Conservation Commission, continued**

- Participating in Old Home Days with an educational display and promotional materials to Keep Harrisville Pristine; Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive ID and reporting; and Rain Garden Project and Stormwater Runoff Education.
- Contributing \$2,500 toward stabilization of the Skatutakee Lake dam gate and pedestal. This will protect landowners around Skatutakee Lake and North Pond from dramatic and sudden lowering of water levels, and protect downstream land owners from sudden release of flood waters in the event of a dam failure.

Due to levels of expenditure, two other conservation property acquisitions did not receive HCC funding but do have HCC support: Historic Harrisville's purchase of the Peterson Property (59 acres behind the mill running to Hancock Road, preserving the wooded backdrop of the downtown and the mill), and The Harris Center's proposed purchase of the Richardson property (44 acres on the north-west corner of Hancock Road and Route 137).

Our focus for 2020 includes public education about the importance of wetlands preservation, and ways the town and its residents can manage and retain stormwater to prevent pollution runoff in our lakes and ponds and reduce erosion from severe rainfalls.

We appreciate Harrisville's strong support of our work and applaud the efforts of so many of our citizens to ensure that our local environment remains pristine and unspoiled.

Harry Wolhandler, Chair

Andrea Polizos, Vice-Chair

Leslie E. LaMois, Liaison to Historic Harrisville

Winston Sims

Kathy Scott, Select Board Representative

## **Emergency Management & Safety**

2018 led to a number of changes and tasks for the Town surrounding Emergency Management and Safety. Andrew Maneval resigned as Emergency Manager Director; Jay Jacobs took over in the interim until someone could be found to assume the position. In addition, the NH Department of Labor and Primex, the Town Risk Management Carrier, performed Safety audits of the Town departments and facilities. Both had findings with most being addressed and corrected by the appropriate area managers.

Actions resulting from Safety audits included the following:

- The Town Safety committee was reactivated with new members, Andrea Hodson (Select Board Representative), Roberta Gline, Wayne Derosia, Angela Hendrickson, and Jeff Cady.
- The Committee met each quarter in 2019. The minutes are posted in the Town Office.
- Safety audits of the Town facilities have also been resumed and shall continue. Chemical inventories and Safety Data Sheet records have been updated and made available to employees in

## **Emergency Management & Safety, continued**

each department. Approximately fifty substances were identified as no longer used or outdated and were removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

For 2020, the Safety Committee will be similarly staffed. Please contact me with any Safety concerns relating to the town facilities or employee work environments.

Other activities included a Safety insurance requirement in the Request for Proposal for the Fire Station roof project, which was subsequently submitted by the contractor selected. At the Town Offices, the slop sink was relocated out of the electrical utility closet, which houses the building's IT support items, alarm systems and telephone equipment. (Water and electricity do not mix.) Restroom toilets were upgraded and anchored to the floor. At the Highway Department Barn, much needed lighting was installed in the storage space over the offices and mechanical spaces. At the Recycling Center, the steps to the cardboard and plastic containers were modified to make for easier and safer access. These are just a few of the many improvements.

Current revisions of the Town Emergency Operations Plan and the Town Hazard Mitigation Plan have been provided to Town Departments. Current revisions of the Emergency Action Plans for Dams in the Town have been gathered and also made available to the Departments. A number of State and Federal training programs we participated in included a Security Assessment of the Wells Memorial School; a Homeland Security program on school incidents with a focus on the reunification of students with their parents; and, a presentation on the MacDowell Dam Emergency Action Plan. (Keep in mind that Harrisville is a significant reservoir for the Dam. If they are experiencing a situation, it is likely (water flows downhill) that we will have problems.) And, the annual NH Emergency Preparedness Conference with emphasis on Dam Action Plans and Hazard Mitigation.

2020 will include a five-year update to the Town Emergency Operations Plan, and a revisiting of the Emergency Shelter opportunities and staffing if needed. We will continue the Safety Committee meetings and facility audits, and complete an update to the Town Safety Plan in 2020.

Reminder for residents: Check under sinks, in closets, and in garages and cellars and, if you find household chemicals or other substance no longer used or usable, the best thing to do is collect them and dispose of them in a safe and appropriate manner.

Also, please remember that, at any time, the Fire Trucks may be dispatched to respond to an emergency, so pay attention to the No Parking signs in the Fire Department parking lot; they are there for a reason.

With thanks to Andrew Maneval and Jay Jacobs for maintaining the Emergency Management role over the last few years,

Jeff Cady, Emergency Management Director, and Chair, Safety Committee

## **Fire Department**

The Harrisville Fire and Rescue Department responded to 97 calls with 38 being medical calls.

I would like to THANK the Harrisville Fire and Rescue members for their continued time and dedication to the department and to the residents of Harrisville and surrounding towns.

Our membership continues to decline. This has become a nationwide problem for volunteer / call departments. Certain factors seem to be a common theme, such as people finding the time to complete and maintain certification while balancing their work and home life.

We need people to step up and join. We can use your help to meet the needs of our town by filling empty openings in the Department.

If you have an interest, we can use your help in any area...FIRE, MEDICAL, OR FIRE GROUND SUPPORT. We provide equipment and training plus stipends.

We would like to thank the Friends of the Harrisville Fire Service again this year for their continued support. They helped replace the 20-year-old Squad this year.

PLEASE

NOW IS THE TIME.

HELP US ... HELP YOU!

If you have the interest and time to help others, contact any Fire Dept. member or call 827-3412 (Fire Dept.) or 827-3076 Chief DeRosia to get more information.

WE NEED YOU NOW.

Fire Chief Wayne DeRosia  
Harrisville Fire Department

## **Health Officer**

In 2019, the NH DES Subsurface Bureau approved 13 new or replacement septic systems.

During this past summer there were no advisories posted regarding high levels of E-coli at the two public beaches at Harrisville and Russell ponds. The 3 state water tests done indicated very low levels of bacteria. They were under 10 counts per 100 ml, below the State standard of 88 counts per 100 ml that would require a beach advisory and closing. For the previous 2 or 3 years, there had been advisories posted. Maybe the Canadian Geese, the suspected culprits, have decided to hang out on some other beaches. We thank them for staying away.

The town "Spring" water continued to test with small amounts of coliform bacteria in the pipe from the aquifer. Any number of bacteria, even a count of 1 coliform bacteria, disqualifies the water as a safe public drinking water source according to the State standards. The Spring is still posted as a "use at your own risk" drinking water source and the "Town of Harrisville does not

## **Health Officer, continued**

guarantee water quality.” Also, briefly, water stopped flowing. This was caused by a blockage of the intake filter in the pipe. This was cleaned and replaced.

During the 2019 New Hampshire Arbovirus Surveillance Program, the following data was collected: two humans tested positive for Jamestown Canyon Virus and one for Powassan Virus; two animals tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and one West Nile Virus (WNV). In mosquitoes, one tested positive for WNV (31 less than 2018) and 16 positive for EEE (10 more than 2018). There were no positives for any virus in Cheshire County.

During 2019 there were 284 confirmed drug deaths in New Hampshire: 229 were Fentanyl-related deaths. There were no deaths from Heroin use only, but 5 with a combination of Fentanyl and Heroin. The other causes were Opiates/Opioids and other drugs. These results indicate a decline in opioid-involved deaths and no change in Fentanyl-related deaths. Fentanyl use remains a serious problem in New Hampshire.

Starting in 2019, free water test kits have been available to residents at the Town Office. There are instructions included for various types of water tests. After collection, the water bottles can be submitted to a local lab for analysis. There is a charge for the analysis. We encourage all residents with drilled wells to do a standard test every 3 years and a bacteria test every year.

Since last year when the health officer warned against the use of the herbicide Roundup to control local, invasive plants such as Japanese Knotweed, a jury in California awarded a plaintiff in a lawsuit against Monsanto, the manufacturer of Roundup, 78 million in damages. To date, all three juries in the cases that have gone to trial have confirmed a link between the glyphosate-based herbicide and non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. The health officer continues to encourage residents to not use this herbicide on their property.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Belknap, Health Officer

## **Highway Department**

It has been a year of change at the Highway Department, with a changing of the guard coming soon as well.

The year started off cold. Then came 18+ inches of snow on January 19, with another 12+- inch storm three days later. Mud season came at the end of March. There were only a few late-season storms in April.

In the middle of May we started replacing culverts on our Golden Road (Hancock Road). June started the reclaiming. Paving started on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June; 2400 tons of asphalt were used the first day. Paving was complete on July 1<sup>st</sup>. It took longer than expected to finish the shoulders of the road because we had to continually crush stone. Due to the lengthy Hancock Road project, spring grading wasn’t complete until the end of August.

## Highway Department, continued

August brought the start of the changes. Randy retired after more than a decade of dedicated service. Brian has been hired. Brian comes to us from the Town of Marlborough Highway Department; he is now back home in Harrisville.

In September we removed 23 big, dead, and dangerous trees from the Brown Road. It's amazing that they didn't fall on their own and hurt someone. In October we replaced the rusted-out culvert on Prospect Street. The rest of October was spent mowing and screening sand. Many repairs to the 1978 grader and to the 2000 MACK were needed this fall; these vital pieces of equipment are in need of being replaced.

In December we lost Mr. Donnie Keough. His 30+ years of service to the Highway Department were instrumental in getting us to where we are today. He made our work days better with his jokes and laughter. He will be missed.

That's all, folks, till next year!  
Wes Tarr, Road Agent



HORSE-DRAWN GRADER, 1904 (PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HISTORIC HARRISVILLE ARCHIVES)

## Historic District Commission

This past year turned out to be an especially busy year for the Historic District Commission (HDC) with a record 9 applications coming forward. This was almost twice the number that this commission has had to typically review in any given year. The following applications were processed and approved:

1. 26 Kadakit Rd: New insulated replacement windows
2. 20 Kadakit Rd: New back yard wood deck
3. 19 Church St.: New insulated replacement windows & siding
4. Historic Harrisville Inc.: Mill Alley entrance ramp
5. Historic Harrisville Inc.: Handrails for Kadakit Rd. extension over Goose Brook
6. 24 Main St.: New replacement windows & siding
7. 93 Main St.: Three dormer additions
8. 9B Island St.: Driveway expansion
9. 11 Church St.: Dormer addition with new insulated windows

## Historic District Commission, continued

The commission now holds membership in the NH Preservation Alliance, “the state’s only nonprofit organization devoted to leadership, education and advocacy for historic preservation”. Two of the commission members attended a workshop last May in Littleton, NH. The program dealt with the issues of climate change and the implications for historic property rehabilitation and preservation.

In the summer a joint project with Historic Harrisville, Inc. was begun to update descriptive information about the defining features of 66 sites located in the Historic District. HDC appreciates assistance received from Erin Hammerstedt, HHI Executive Director, and Greg Socinski, summer intern from the University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program.

A special subcommittee was also formed by the HDC in 2019. The small group of Anne Howe, Sherry Sims, Kathy Scott and Doug Walker logged many hours towards updating all of the commission’s 1969 rules and regulations along with re-designing all application forms. This has been, and continues to be, an arduous task. Anne, Sherry and Kathy’s dedicated assistance in this project will benefit the HDC greatly.

The HDC looks forward to being a more effective agency in its oversight of Harrisville’s unique historic mill village. It will also strive to accommodate the ever-evolving demands of modern lifestyles in this era of increasing environmental challenges.

Respectfully,  
Doug Walker, Chair

## Library Trustees

The Harrisville Public Library has 548 cards issued to town residents (including summer people), many of whom are parents who check items out for several young children.

Our Wi-Fi Internet access and computers are frequently used by children and adults. Patrons may also bring their own laptops in to the library to access the Internet via our wireless network. The network may also be accessed from outside the building. We have a web-based OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) and an automated circulation system using Library World. Patrons can access our OPAC from home with Internet access.

- **Coffee Hour** continues to be popular. It is held the first Saturday of every month from 10-11 a.m. Often there are 16-20 people attending each month.
- **Movie Night** is usually held the last Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. during the “dark” time of the year. We usually show recently released feature films. Attendance varies from 5-20 people.
- **Cookbook Group** meets once a month for a dinner and discussion. It continues to be very popular and 10-16 people attend each month.
- **Knitting Group** meets every Tuesday from 5-6:45. 3-5 people attend regularly.
- **Mysterious Book Group**, started this year, meets on the third Thursday of each month. Twelve to fourteen people usually participate.

## Library Trustees, continued

- **Museum Passes.** This year the library had museum passes available to patrons from the following museums: VINS (Vermont Institute of Natural Science), The Currier Museum of Art, The Ecotarium, and the Brattleboro Museum and Art Center.

## Other Programs

In April, we had a program about Alzheimer's with Pam Goodell, a local author and a woman who was a caregiver for her husband who had the disease, 5 people attended.

In May, local poet, Hilary Kingsbury did a reading and book signing, 11 people attended.

In July Susie Spikol from the Harris Center did a presentation about owls and their courtship and mating behaviors, 22 people attended. Also, in July, Kim Wallach did a singing program, (which was planned for children) and 4 adults came. Sheila Williams (Harrisville resident) did a program on making "Star Books", 7 adults and 1 child attended. In September we had an interpretive range from Monadnock State Park do a presentation about local wildlife, 12 adults and 2 children came.

In October Mary DesRosiers and Gordon Peery did a program about Woody Guthrie and his songs, 3 adults and 1 child attended. In November Rebecca Kaiser Gibson did a poetry program with 9 attendees.

And to end the year, Mary DesRosiers taught 5 adults and 4 children to make paper stars

**Downloadable books and EBSCO databases.** As members of the NH Downloadable books program our patrons can download audio, e-books and periodicals to their personal devices. One hundred four patrons are now set up to use this service; thirty-four people are regular users. During 2019 they checked out 531 e-books and 739 audio books and 6 periodicals. We also subscribe to Ancestry.com (Library edition). Two hundred forty two searches were made through this database.

**Trustees.** Currently the Library Trustees are: Michael Price, Karen Coteleso, and Sharon Wilder with Seth Farmer and Leslie LaMois as alternates. The Library Trustees meet the third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 in the library. The Trustees are responsible for the annual Book Sale on Old Home Day. This year the income from the sale was \$1,438.63. We also sell some books on Amazon and have made \$200.17 this year.

**Other.** Our cleaner is Heidi Tompkins and Les LaMois shovels our walkway. Matthew Hale is our computer support person.

## 2019 Children's Librarian Report

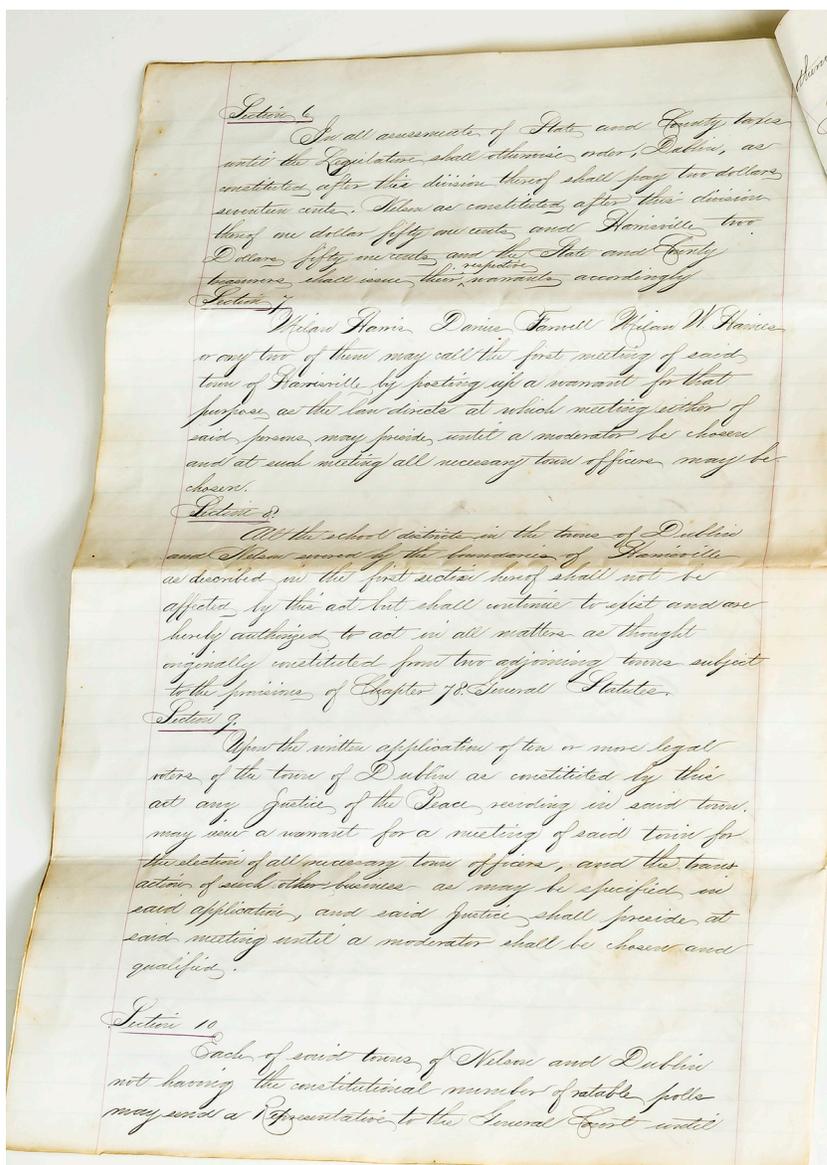
The Harrisville library stands with other libraries in the effort to build literacy skills that will carry children and young adults through life. We give equal and free access to information through current books, media, live programs and the world wide web. The librarians are here to support children, parents and caregivers and get the resources they need. The library is also a safe place to socialize and meet others.

In 2019 the Harrisville Public Library provided books, media and programs to the children of the Harrisville community. The children (203) had 26 story times (some including music, and puppets), 6 special programs and the opportunity to borrow books, DVDs and CDs. The total number of teen and children's items circulated from the library were 1,802. During the summer reading program 28 kids participated in reading books. The special programs included: Haiku with Sarah Kendall, where the kids wrote their Haiku and made them into books, an interactive dance program lead by Karin Torp; 2 story times with crafts with Susan Behl; music with singer songwriter Kim Wallach; and, author, Rebecca UpJohn, reading her book and facilitating an interactive play.

“It is really the children who will claim the future, but we must ensure that they are given the supports and opportunities that will enable them to do so with hope and joy and a sense of their rightful entitlement” Virginia A. Walter (2013).

A detailed rundown of how we have allocated the budget is available at the library or by contacting the librarian or one of the trustees.

Susan N. Weaver (Director)  
 Kristine O. Finnegan  
 (Children's Librarian)



TOWN INCORPORATION DOCUMENT

## Library Trustees Report of Acquisitions, Withdrawals, and Usage

### Acquisitions and Withdrawals

New Adult books (fiction)	119
New Adult books (nonfiction)	87
New Adult DVDs	47
New Adult audio books	11
Total of new Adult materials	264
Withdrawn (Adult) Fiction-153, Nonfiction-119, DVDs-57, Audio books-22 (total 351)	
New Juvenile fiction	33
New Juvenile nonfiction	17
New Easy books	26
New Juvenile DVDs	11
New Juvenile audio books	2
Total of new materials	89
Withdrawn (Children) Juv. Fiction-88, Juv. Nonfiction-34, Easy-96, 3 CDs, DVD-22 (total 243)	

### Usage Statistics

Days Open	252
Adult patrons	4,449
Adult Reference Questions	1,548
Adult Fiction checked out	1,317
Adult Nonfiction	627
Adult videos checked out	1,197
Adult audio books checked out	133
Juvenile patrons	822
Juvenile Reference Questions	158
Juvenile fiction checked out	306
Juvenile nonfiction checked out	257
Easy books (picture books)	934
Juv. videos checked out	290
Juv. audio books checked out	15
Downloadable e-books checked out	531
Downloadable audios checked out	739
Downloadable periodicals checked out	6
And Ancestry/HQ searches	242
EBSCO database searches	0
Computer users	692
In-house usage (inc. Comp.)	2,055
Periodicals checked out	448
Interlibrary Loans (lent)	351
Interlibrary Loans (borrowed)	812

## Planning Board

During 2019, the Planning Board acted on several applications under its regulatory role: It granted two voluntary mergers, one boundary line adjustment and one subdivision permit. The Board also consulted with some property owners about potential land actions.

Board members attended several law lectures, conferences, planning meetings and workshops throughout the year, all in the ongoing process of continuing knowledge and education.

The Planning Board has continued to facilitate conversations on Master Plan priorities of Town importance, and has found the use of Common Threads and Community Conversations to be effective ways to connect with the community. The meeting minutes of all Boards are posted on the Town website, and, of course, the Planning Board meetings are open to the public.

The Planning Board appreciates the hours of work that residents of Harrisville have donated on various Committees and through attending and providing feedback at Community Conversations. There are three committees that have been very active this year related to Planning Board topics and Master Plan priorities: Transportation (Safe Streets), Broadband/ Cell Tower, and Ordinance Review. The Broadband/ Cell Tower Committee is now an ad hoc committee and under the purview of the Select Board. The Ordinance Review Committee collaborated with the Planning Board on the 9 ordinance amendments submitted to the Town for the two Public Hearings and for vote by the Town in March 2020.

The Ordinance Review Committee continued its work this year as a result of feedback from various boards and residents feeling that committee had been of benefit last year and all agreed that there are ongoing improvements for clarity to make the ordinances more user-friendly for residents as well as the Boards that need to make decisions based on the ordinances. Several of the topics worked on this year involved achieving better alignment with State language and recent court decisions. Since working on ordinances is not a “lay-person” specialty, we have benefited greatly from the guidance and professional knowledge of a local consultant. The work will continue in 2020.

Priorities for this year’s Ordinance review work included: Article XXVI and language related to what constitutes “cooking” as it relates to Accessory Dwelling Units; Article XXVI, language related to types of structures for clarity of what requires a building permit; Article XXVI language to be consistent with the proposed changes in Article XVII (signs); Article XXVI language to be consistent with the proposed changes in Section 4.1.14 allowable impervious cover on a lot; proposed amendment to increase allowable amount of impervious cover on a lot, consistent with State regulations; delete Section 20.1.3 since this section is no longer necessary or applicable since Article XIX was completely rewritten and adopted at 2019 Town Meeting; improvements to the ADU ordinance (Article XXIX) for improved clarity of usage and implementation and comply with State law; bring Article XVII (sign ordinance) in compliance with case law, better distinguish between lit signs, and reorganize some sections without changing the content; develop a Solar Ordinance of which the Town does not currently have an ordinance.

## **Planning Board, continued**

The committee worked with the Planning Board to host a Community Conversation for feedback on the initial draft of the proposed amendments. After many months of thoughtful discussion and re-working of the language, the committee feels that the proposed ordinance amendments will improve clarity for residents and the boards. As the committee delved into the complexities of the process, it became clear that there is more work to be done on other sections of the ordinances. Refer to the complete text of proposed ordinance amendments in this Town Report for specifics.

The Transportation Committee continued to look at transportation issues that affect quality of life and economic development in Town. The goal of projects is to improve conditions on roads which, right now, may not be designed for pedestrian and cycling traffic. Significant work has been done by the committee related to safe crossing for pedestrians from the Harrisville General Store across Main Street. This work results from public concern and feedback and has included working with the State in trying to identify a solution that will maintain our historic setting. The use of trails and connecting trails to roads, as well as having trail maps is a priority. The Committee recommends signage in the village as a traffic calming measure. The Committee is also participating in a multi-departmental (and school) project, Safe Routes to School, which has received a grant to implement strategies which will improve the safety of our children walking and biking to/from school.

For 2019, the Planning Board co-chairs are Ryan Stone and Lisa Anderson, and Planning Board members (and alternates) include Ned Hulbert, Noel Greiner, Peter Thayer, Courtney Cox, Don Scott, and Andrea Hodson (Select Board Representative).

Respectfully submitted,  
Ryan Stone and Lisa Anderson, Co-Chairs

## **Police Department**

The year 2019 was another busy year for the police department with a total of 912 calls. Calls break down as follows:

- 231 miscellaneous calls (a call that requires a log entry only) – Example: power-line down, assist fire department with traffic, loose dog, assist another department, etc. - no arrest.
- 647 calls for service (a call that needs a state incident report) – Example: assault, criminal mischief, domestic violence or a call where there is an arrest or could result in one.
- 10 motor vehicle accidents - includes all accidents, with or without personal injury.
- 24 burglar / fire / medical alarms - cause found or no cause found.

Calls for service were up in 2019 by twenty-one. Calls for animal complaints took the biggest jump; most of those had to do with domestic dogs. Numerous hours were spent on investigations

## **Police Department, continued**

involving scams. I know I have said this before, but be aware of your elderly neighbors and any changes that seem out of place. By the time we get notified of a possible scam these people have lost thousands of dollars. Some of the key things to look out for are any transaction that someone wants you to pay in gift cards, or pressure tactics like threatening to shut off your utilities. There are numerous scams out there and many just keep coming around every few years.

We have been working with Wells Memorial School on school zone signs pertaining to speed limits at posted times; hopefully those will be up soon. We are also involved with the school on some mandatory training that the state has implemented.

The department was involved in numerous hours of training in 2019 some at a local level and some at state and county level. The department must meet mandatory training every year and every other year there is additional training. This year, the department spent most of the time cross training with departments that we work closely with daily: police, fire and medical.

I continue to ask that when you see something that you may think is nothing but is out of the ordinary, to call the station (827-2903) or the dispatch center (355-2000). Things that we never thought would be a problem a few years ago seem to have made it to this area.

I would like to thank Vira Elder, Zack Byam, and Dana Hennessy for assisting me in the police department. I would also like to thank the other town departments and Selectmen for their continued support. I look forward to serving the town in 2020 and my continued work with the other town departments.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Russell J. Driscoll

## **Recycling Center**

This past year, 395 households used our facility. We are in the third year of our co-mingle contract with Monadnock Disposal Services. We can only recycle plastic numbers 1 and 2. There is no market for plastic numbers 3-7. Please do not put plastic bags or any plastics used for petroleum or poisonous products in the plastic recycling bin. They may contaminate the entire load, hindering sale to vendors.

The Town of Harrisville follows guidelines and training from Department of Environmental Services (DES), and Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA). Currently, our RC functions primarily as a transfer station. We do have a brush pile and compost section north of the exit lane from the RC, along Willard Hill Road. In September 2019, I became Coordinator for Recycling, occasionally assisted by Tim Dane. My Mom Phyllis is enjoying her retirement.

## Recycling Center, continued

Thanks to our Highway Department for repairing the catch basin and keeping the driveway accessible in the winter. Thank you to all other Town Departments for working in cooperation with us at the Recycling Center.

<u>Recyclables collections (tons)</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Co-Mingle	17.27	17.84
Mixed Fiber (paper)	69.38	70.87
Metal	16.32	8.40
Household Waste		
Compactor	162.51	159.61
Demolition	36.14	42.47
Total Tonage	301.62	299.19
Revenue		
Tipping Fees	\$7,865	\$6,822
Recycling Permits	1,545	1,975
Returnables	600	
Miscellaneous		189
Total Revenue	\$9,410	\$9,586

Thank you to all residents for your continued support!  
Randy Tarr, Jr., Recycling Coordinator

## Tax Collector

Hello, my name is Jeannine Dunne and I am your new Tax Collector as of January 10, 2020. I have been enjoying working in your charming town and look forward to meeting all of you. I have been the Tax Collector and Town Clerk for Dublin since March of 2008, and have been working with your Deputy Tax Collector, Neil Sandford in Dublin since the beginning of 2012.

Please continue to feel free to call or email us any time with questions or concerns relative to property taxes, including timber yield, current use land change and excavation taxes.

Our open office hours have changed slightly. We are still open on Tuesdays from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm, but instead of Thursdays, we are open on Fridays from 9:00 am to 12 noon.

We hope you have enjoyed the convenience of using the New Hampshire Tax Kiosk for making payments on property taxes. If you need to make a payment of less than \$10.00, please send or deliver a check or cash to us at Town Hall instead of using the kiosk.

The property tax rate for 2019 was \$17.40 per thousand dollars of assessed value. This was an increase from 2018's tax rate of 16.78.

Both Neil and I continue to go to training and networking events when they are available. Neil attended the NH Tax Collector's workshop in Marlborough in March this year. I went to the workshop in Concord in April. In August I participated in a Tax Collector's Roundtable with other Tax Collectors in Cheshire County and in October I attended the three-day Annual NH Tax Collector's Conference in North Conway.

I want to thank Mary Anne, Anne, Lynn, and the Select Board for all of their help and support and for making me feel welcomed in the Town of Harrisville.

Jeannine Dunne, Tax Collector

## **Town Clerk**

2019 was a year of big changes for our office! Our previous Town Clerk, Patty Massey, moved out of Harrisville and I was appointed in her place effective June 1st. Our Assistant Town Clerk, Neil Sandford, helped with the transition while also filling in for Rennie Timm as Deputy Tax Collector. In November, we hired Michael Price as Deputy Town Clerk and he was quickly sent off to training to help process Motor Vehicle transactions.

The Town Clerk's Office serves as a Municipal Agent for the State, processing vehicle registrations and titles as well as boat registrations - more than 1,600 in 2019; however that is not all we do. We are the keeper of all Town records including, but not limited to, Town Board & Committee minutes, Appointments, and Oaths of Office. We record Wetland and Shoreland Permits, Residency Applications and keep public records accessible to our residents.

We are responsible for keeping a chronological record of births, marriages and deaths reported and the issuance of certified copies of such records as well as the issuance of marriage licenses. In 2019 the Clerk's Office issued 4 marriage licenses and a number of certified copies of birth, marriage and death certificates. The office also recorded 1 Marriage, 1 Birth and 5 Deaths of town residents.

## Town Clerk, continued

The State tasks the Town Clerk's office with the licensing of dogs; in 2019 the town registered 277 dogs. Last March the Clerk's Office offered a Rabies clinic as a convenience to our residents.

Through all of these activities and UCC revenue, the Town Clerk's Office generated revenue for the Town of Harrisville of **\$211,671.78**.

We, along with our Town's Moderator, are responsible for all elections. Last year was relatively quiet, with only the Town Election, held on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>; as compared to the four elections we are bracing ourselves for in 2020. I must thank our ever present, reliable Ballot Clerks for their time and energy helping to insure that the voting during elections runs as smoothly as possible. I know I will be relying heavily on them in 2020. Of the 832 registered voters on the checklist at the time of the 2019 Town Meeting, 321 exercised their right to vote.

Thank you to all of the town boards and committees that promptly provide us with minutes of their meetings. We appreciate your commitment and punctuality.

I would like to remind you that we offer Notary services at no charge as a courtesy to the residents of Harrisville. It is a small way that the Town Clerk's Office can say thank you to the residents of Harrisville for the courtesy and support you have shown our office throughout the years and during this transition. We look forward to serving you in 2020.

Cathy Lovas, Town Clerk

## Town Clerk's Report of Vital Statistics

01/01/2019 - 12/31/2019

### Births

Child's Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Father's Name	Mother's Name
Kingsbury, Josephine George	05/19/2019	Peterborough, NH	Kingsbury, Robert	Kingsbury, Bryanne

### Deaths

Deceased's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's Name	Mother's Name
Duffy, Dawn	03/06/2019	Harrisville, NH	St. Peter, John	Tarr, Marilyn
Hastings Jr, James	03/11/2019	Lebanon, NH	Hastings, James	Bemis, Ruth
Quimby, David	04/25/2019	Harrisville, NH	Quimby, Jr, Earle	Tobias, Diana
Miles, Nancy	10/24/2019	Harrisville, NH	Dufour, Ernest	Bowman, Ruth
Luoma, Lauri	11/06/2019	Harrisville, NH	Luoma, Eino	Crowley, Ann

### Resident Marriages

Person A's Name/Residence	Person B's Name/Address	Place of Marriage	Date of Marriage
Gauthier, Britini P Harrisville, NH	Lester, Thomas A Harrisville, NH	Harrisville, NH	08/16/2019

## Treasurer

### Conservation Fund

Balance 1/1/19	\$61,193.98
Interest	\$28.93
Deposits (LUCT collected 2019)	\$0.00
Withdrawals*	<u>-\$7,500.00</u>
Balance 12/31/19	\$53,722.91

\*Eastview Rail Trail purchase & Lake Skatutakee dam repair.

### Mascoma Bank Checking, Debit, and SWEEP Accounts

Balance 1/1/19	\$1,381,529.90
Tax Collector Deposits	\$3,577,908.56
Town Clerk Deposits	\$211,671.78
Selectmen Deposits	\$52,407.39
SWEEP acct Interest	\$2,282.90
Transfers from the Trust Funds	\$112,806.58
State & Federal Deposits	\$64,977.74
Transfers from Conservation Fund	\$7,500.00
Net transfers between sweep & debit accts	\$100,688.31
Bank Service Fees	-\$360.50
Checks paid & debit card expenses	-\$3,778,819.60
Electronic Payroll Related Transfers	-\$433,643.75
Transfers to the Trust Funds	-\$60,000.00
Loan repayments + interest	-\$33,614.79
To Conservation Fund (LUCT collection 2019)	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance 12/31/19	\$1,205,334.52

### Police Department Account (opened 5/27/14, drug bust revenues)

Balance 1/1/19	\$35.54
Withdrawals	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance 12/31/19	\$35.54

## Trustees of the Trust Fund

A summary of the status of town trust funds is below. The date of creation, name and purpose of the fund, balances at the start of the year, additions, income earned and withdrawals, with current balances as of December 31, 2019 are reported.

### 2019 Harrisville Trust Funds

<b>Trust Fund</b> CR = Capital Reserve	<b>Year of Inception</b>	<b>Acc. #</b>	<b>01/01/2019 Opening Balance</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>With- drawals</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>12/31/2019 Closing Balance</b>
FIRE EQUIPMENT (CR)	1961	#0002	\$261,263.72	\$10,000.00	\$20,981.58	\$5,628.66	\$255,910.80
ROAD EQUIPMENT (CR)	1963	#0003	\$385,643.45	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,412.04	\$404,055.49
SCHOOL DISTRICT (CR)	1986	#0006	\$166,404.55	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,612.71	\$170,017.26
BEACH EQUIPMENT (CR)	1957	#0007	\$2,796.29	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60.71	\$2,857.00
POLICE EQUIPMENT (CR)	1980	#0009	\$25,651.99	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$576.72	\$31,228.71
SILVER LAKE GRANGE	1968	#0010	\$377.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.20	\$385.72
SCHOOL & CHURCH	1918	#0011	\$3,076.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$66.79	\$3,143.62
CEMETERY TRUST	Various	#0012	\$55,019.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,194.49	\$56,214.07
BRIDGE (CR)	1996	#0015	\$87,732.51	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,944.29	\$99,676.80
LAND ACQUISITION (CR)	1996	#0016	\$96,004.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,084.28	\$98,088.33
DAM (CR)	1997	#0017	\$23,015.82	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$528.91	\$28,544.73
RECYCLING EQUIPMENT (CR)	1999	#0018	\$31.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.69	\$32.62
SCHOOL OUT OF DISTRICT TUITION	2002	#0019	\$232,301.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,043.37	\$237,345.30
TOWN BUILDINGS (CR)	2003	#0020	\$167,293.71	\$10,000.00	\$21,825.00	\$3,586.35	\$159,055.06
CEMETERY MAINTENANCE	2008	#0023	\$4,111.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$89.29	\$4,201.00
LAND CONSERVATION (CR)	2008	#0024	\$19,773.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$429.29	\$20,202.49
ROADS (CR)	2009	#0025	\$134,996.98	\$0.00	\$65,000.00	\$2,676.95	\$72,673.93
Evaluation (CR)	2012	#0026	\$5,014.27	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$128.65	\$10,142.92
Employee Benefits Capital Reserve	2017	#0028	\$867.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18.83	\$886.06
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$1,671,377.27</b>	<b>\$60,000.00</b>	<b>\$112,806.58</b>	<b>\$36,091.22</b>	<b>\$1,654,661.91</b>

## Zoning Board of Adjustment

Over the course of 2019, the ZBA considered the following zoning matters:

**February:** The board reviewed modified plans for 3 Main Street, which had been approved in August of 2018. A public hearing included review and comments related to the proposed changes, most of which were for the rear of the property. The change in plan was approved.

**April:** Another application from 3 Main Street involved window replacement due to failing seals and decay on windows which were not original to the property. Much discussion was heard and negotiated as to what a finished product would look like. The ZBA allowed the replacement.

**June:** The board granted a variance for replacement of a wood shed at 155 Seaver Road with a larger structure.

**August:** Property owners of 129 East Side Road requested a special exception from the ZBA to convert an existing accessory structure with garage into sleeping quarters for their expanding family. This prompted a lengthy discussion and subsequent consultation with the Planning Board over the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance, or Article XXIX, and the definitions and provisions therein. A decision on the matter was tabled until September. Also at this meeting, the owners of 24 Breck Lane received approval to renew their Special Exception, granted by a previous zoning board but not yet acted upon.

**September:** In a rare occurrence, the Zoning Board and Planning Board held a Joint Hearing concerning the 129 East Side Road application and whether or not the proposed plan for the barn constituted an Accessory Dwelling Unit. Following a lengthy discussion, the Planning Board voted that it did not. The ZBA then continued the matter of the application to its October meeting. The property owners have postponed action to a later date. Also at the September meeting, the ZBA denied a request for a second story cantilevered deck for a structure being replaced at 264 Hancock Road.

**November:** The owners of 264 Hancock Road returned to the ZBA with revised plans to replace an existing cottage with a two-story cottage on the existing footprint. There was a lengthy discussion as to visual impact but the applicants proved to the board's satisfaction that all conditions for approval of a special exception were adequately addressed.

Also in November, two East Side Road property owners received approval: First, 71 East Side Road received approval to renovate an existing summer cottage on a partially expanded footprint; and, second, 33 East Side Road was granted a special exception to expand the height of an existing, nonconforming structure for a screened porch, as well as approval to add stairs.

I wish to thank voting members Pat Gagne, Jeff Trudelle, Rex Baker, Charles Sorenson, and Jay Jacobs, as well as alternates Pegg Monahan and Andrew Maneval and recording secretary Mary Ann Noyer, for their thoughtful input and for some levity with the challenges both applicants and board members face.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hal Grant, Chair

# 2019 Community Reports

## Historic Harrisville, Inc.

As we approach 50 years of operation, Historic Harrisville (HHI) spent much of 2019 planning for the next 50 years. We reached out to the community and met with over 100 people in focus groups that provided input related to HHI's role and priorities. Our Trustees then participated in a series of workshops to compile and understand that input, and use it to help us revise the Strategic Plan that guides our decisions and activities.

HHI confirmed the appropriateness and relevance of its mission, which is: To preserve the historic significance and natural environment and to enhance the community spirit, quality of life, beauty, and economic vitality of Harrisville as a place to live and work.

We defined 8 goals, and are now working on an action plan related to each of the following:

1. To lead by example, rehabilitating, preserving, maintaining and managing the properties belonging to HHI in a way that is consonant with their historical importance, appropriate use, and value to the people of the town.
2. To act as a resource and advocate for historic preservation and the responsible use of Harrisville's historic buildings and structures.
3. To sustain the vitality of the local economy in order to provide employment and a tax base for the town.
4. To protect open spaces, water quality, vistas and agricultural land in Harrisville with emphasis on lands surrounding the village.
5. To minimize and mitigate our contribution to climate change by improving efficiency, using renewable forms of energy, and promoting energy consciousness.
6. To foster and contribute to a positive sense of community in the town of Harrisville.
7. To use communication and education to further the understanding, interpretation, and appreciation of life in Harrisville, past and present.
8. To operate in a manner that maintains organizational stability, ensuring our ability to carry out our mission into the future.

In alignment with these goals, we purchased what we are currently calling The Petersen Property, +/- 59 acres of land behind the Cheshire Mill Complex extending to Hancock Road across from Lake Skatutakee in November, 2019. Support from the community for this conservation project was tremendous! Thank you!

We also celebrated 1 year of hydro power operation, during which time our turbine-generator produced 162,000 kwh of electricity. As a result, we did not purchase any electricity for the Cheshire Mill Complex in 2019, and we had a surplus at end-year.

Anyone who is interested in being involved with Historic Harrisville is invited to join us for our annual meeting, which will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2020. The meeting begins at 10 am in the Cheshire Mill, and ends with a free community lunch. Please attend to learn more about what we do.

#### Historic Harrisville Board of Trustees (April 2019-April 2020)

Michelle Aldredge	John Evans	Drew Landry
Peter Allen	Katrina Farmer	Dan Langille
Laurie Appel	Doug Gline	Shane Long
Kathleen Bollerud	Nancy Hayden	David Lord
Cathy Buffum	Jay C. Jacobs	Andrew Maneval
Ann Colony	Colin Kennard	Deirdre Oliver
John J. Colony, III	Bryanne Kingsbury	Doug Walker
Nick Colony	Leslie E. LaMois	Alison Weber

### Streetlights Committee

The Streetlight Committee worked with Eversource this year to keep our streetlights in operation. In 2018, 2 refurbished heads were used and 17 bulbs replaced. In 2019, 7 refurbished heads were used and 14 bulbs replaced. These heads, which had been in storage in the town barn, were refurbished in 2018 and have been installed at no additional cost to the town under our existing rate plan.

Having used 11, we currently have an inventory of 5 refurbished heads (from the initial purchase of 16). We would like to restock our inventory by refurbishing 5 additional heads so that we are ready as the need arises. These refurbished heads should last another 50-70 years. As of January 10, we have a work order in for 3 lights that are out around town.

At this point, lights are fitted with 100-watt, 1000-lumen incandescent bulbs that are rated for outdoor use with a service span of roughly 5 years. Total annual energy used by the entire system is roughly equivalent to the consumption of 3.3 average New Hampshire households. LED technology is advancing rapidly. As we anticipated, an outdoor-rated Edison style filament LED bulb became available in 2019. We believe these bulbs are a good match in color, brightness and quality with our current lighting.

We have requested that Eversource use these LED bulbs in our lights. Unfortunately, it appears that Eversource does not have permission from the Public Utility Commission to use these bulbs under our existing rate plan. In a collaboration between the Select Board, the Streetlight Committee and Historic Harrisville, we have approached the PUC and requested a meeting to discuss this issue. Our goal is to get permission for the LEDs or to participate in the next rate setting to encourage permission to use LED bulbs in historically accurate refurbished heads. We are currently awaiting a response from the PUC.

# 2019 Community Reports, continued

## Streetlights Committee, continued

In 2020, we will continue to partner with the Select Board to

1. Replenish our inventory of refurbished heads incrementally;
2. Continue to monitor the streetlights to assure they are working;
3. Continue to work with Eversource and engage with the Public Utilities commission to obtain permission to install LED bulbs in our refurbished heads.

## Recommendations

Looking forward, the Streetlight Committee recommends that the Town:

- Refurbish our inventory of streetlights incrementally, and budget \$1,250 to refurbish 5 lights in 2020; Continue to work with Eversource to replace non-functioning streetlights with refurbished heads and radial wave shades as they fail;
- Replace non-conforming lights with vintage radial wave lights over time
- Work with the Public Utilities Commission and Eversource to gain permission to use LED-bulb conversion with bulbs that have the quality of light similar to the current, incandescent bulbs in order to save energy.
- Consider input from the community regarding other locations that could be considered for additional street lighting in the future.

With thanks to the Select Board and Town representatives for their support, the Street Light Committee.

## Trails Committee

The mission of the Harrisville Trails Committee is to act as a good neighbor and as a liaison between the citizens of Harrisville and private landowners to create and maintain trails, as well as to facilitate the respectful use of trails on both privately- and publicly-owned land to ensure the access to nature for both exercise and the viewing of wildlife.

During 2019, the Committee was engaged in the following important events:

- Meeting with Harris Center to address clarification of responsibilities for maintenance of Eastview Trail
- Successful Harrisville Community Fund application for \$1000 grant for donation towards the purchase of the Bemis property abutting the Eastview Trail

- Meeting with the Harrisville Select Board with regard to the repair / reconstruction of Town Rail Trail and attempt to apply for MAST Grant
- Grading and ditch work on Eastview Trail completed by Harris Center and Harrisville Trails volunteers
- Reconstruction of the Eastview Trail damaged by beavers and construction of culvert and earthen bridge all completed by Scott Neary
- Presentation of “Harrisville Trails Bridges” at NH Rail Trail annual Conference
- Discovery of Mosquito Bush “mystery bridge” and final decision to build cedar / steel bridge
- Prep work on cedar decking and steel frame for Mosquito Bush Bridge
- Construction of Mosquito Bush Bridge completed by volunteers before winter

The volunteers of Harrisville Trails thank the landowners and the citizens of Harrisville for their generous stewardship and support of the private and public trails.

New volunteers are always welcome!

Barbara Watkins, Alison Weber, Don Scott, Colin Kennard, Scott Oliver, Tom Weller, David Webb, Rich Taylor, Winston Sims, Don and Dona Page, Earl Horn, Lida Stinchfield, Erin Langille, Susan Brouillette, Ted Braun, Becca DeFusco, Nick Colony, Shane Long, Bryan Kingsbury and Diana Shonk



**TOWN INCORPORATION DOCUMENT**