

The Commission interacts with the Town Manager in all matters relating to the receipt of gifts, bequests or devises of property or interests in real property in the name of the Town. Administrative support to the Commission is primarily through the Conservation Agent, who coordinates the activities of other administrative departments to ensure effectiveness of the Commission's deliberations. As required, the Commission interacts with the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Board of Health, and the Historical Commission, in order to accomplish the Commission's work.

10.5 Historical Commission

(Table: 26)

The Historical Commission consists of seven members appointed by the Town Manager with the approval of the Selectmen for staggered three-year terms.

The purpose of the Historical Commission is to preserve, protect, and develop the historical and archaeological assets of the Town in accordance with Section 8D of Chapter 40 of the General Laws. The Commission may conduct research for places of historic and archaeological value, in cooperation with the state archaeologist. It coordinates the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes and may, subject to appropriation and approval by the Town Manager, advertise, prepare, print, and distribute books, maps, charts, plans, and pamphlets which it deems necessary for its work.

The Commission may hold hearings, and may propose contracts for execution with individuals, organizations, and institutions for services furthering the objectives of their programs, such as historical preservation covenants. The Commission may recommend that the Town acquire property by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise, lease or otherwise a fee (or lesser interest in real or personal property) of significant historical value.

The Historical Commission surveys and compiles a listing of all historical sites and buildings within the Town, public and private, determines the functions and structures of all historical organizations within the Town, and holds seminars with other historical organizations. It further determines the requirements for repair, reconstruction, and protection of historical landmarks, and assists and cooperates with public commissions in the conduct of public historical events. It also administers and enforces the provisions of "The Demolition Delay By-Law."

The Historical Commission meets monthly. The Commission advises the Selectmen on policies and legislation concerning the preservation, protection and development of historical or archaeological assets in the Town. The Commission interacts with and receives administrative support through the Planning and Development Department and the Building Inspector, and interacts with the Town Manager to effectuate publication of its activities and acquisition of interests in historical properties.

The Historical Commission also interacts with the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Public Works department, the Conservation Commission, and the Board of Health, as necessary when those boards are considering properties of historical or archaeological value.

10.6 Historic District Study Committee (Table: ??)

A Historic District Study Committee has been appointed from time to time by the Town Moderator as directed by the Town Meeting. Its purpose is to protect, preserve, identify, and promote the historical assets of the Town and to develop, in conjunction with the State, programs to ensure that the goals of historic preservation are considered in planning for future land use/growth management of the Town.

The Historic District Study Committee primarily supports the Historical Commission in evaluating the feasibility of establishing an Historic District. It also interacts with the Planning Board. It meets as needed for the accomplishment of its task.

A proposed historic district by-law was rejected by a Special Town Meeting on October 17, 1994.

10.7 Industrial Development Finance Authority (Table: 26)

The Industrial Development Finance Authority consists of five members, appointed by the Board of Selectmen for staggered five-year terms. At least one member is to be experienced in financial matters, one in real estate matters, and one in town government.

The Industrial Development Finance Authority is responsible for coordinating and approving industrial development projects for financing by means of tax-exempt industrial development finance bonds in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40D of the General Laws.