

**TOWN OF BEDFORD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
SITE WALK MINUTES
February 23, 2019**

A meeting of the Bedford Historic District Commission was held on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 28 Liberty Hill Road, Bedford, NH to view the property regarding a pending Historic District Application to remove several trees on site. Present were: Catherine Rombeau (Town Councilor), William Granfield (regular member), Theresa Walker (alternate), and Mark Connors (Assistant Planning Director, Staff liaison).

The applicants, Gustave Hebert and Shelley Bialek, were also present.

Assistant Planning Director Connors called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and noted that the site walk was purely for informational purposes to see the site in person and that no decisions would be made until the March HDC meeting. He asked the applicants to lead a tour of the areas where the owners would like to remove trees.

Mr. Hebert & Ms. Bialek pointed out the general boundaries of the property and began the tour at the site of the existing ground mounted solar panels. The applicants pointed out trees on the front of the property that can conceal the sun during the winter months.

The group walked toward the general area of trees that were proposed for removal and examined the individual trees. There was some discussion about the location of the trees in relation to abutting properties and Liberty Hill Road. Mr. Granfield asked how the applicants decided on what specific trees to remove. The applicants noted it was based on a report from an expert from a solar company.

The applicants pointed out trees that were dead or were threatened by bittersweet vines. Mr. Connors noted that the applicants did not need HDC approval to remove dead trees. Typically, residents will contact the Planning Dept. to visit the site to document removal of dead or dying trees.

Ms. Rombeau asked if the applicants had a chance to meet with a landscape company to review the site and propose areas for additional tree planting. The applicants indicated that they would next week and would provide that information at the HDC meeting in March. The applicants indicated they were open to working with the Commission to reduce the number of trees removed if necessary.

The HDC thanked the applicants for hosting the site walk and agreed that it had been helpful to review the site.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.