

Town of



Amherst Massachusetts

SELECT BOARD

Office of the Select Board
Town Hall
4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002-2351

Phone: (413) 259-3001
Fax: (413) 259-2405
selectboard@amherstma.gov
www.amherstma.gov

May 15, 2017

Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
Attn: Lorin Starr, Executive Director
71 South Main Street
Sunderland, MA 01375

RE: Solicitation of Nominees for Amherst's Historic District Commission

Dear Ms. Starr:

In order to fill vacancies on the Town's Historic District Commission, Massachusetts General Law and Town of Amherst bylaws require that the Town solicit two nominees from the **Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects**, two nominees from the Realtor Association of the Pioneer Valley, and two nominees from the Amherst Historical Society. **Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects** nominees must be **licensed architects** and current Amherst residents. Please distribute this solicitation to members and inform that an individual should respond within 30 days if they are interested in serving on the Commission. If there are no nominees, the Select Board may proceed to make appointments as it desires.

The Historic District Commission is a 7-member board appointed by the Select Board and has the responsibility of helping to protect and preserve distinctive characteristics and architecture of buildings within the local historic districts. The Historic District Commission has statutory authority from Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L. Chapter 40 Sec. C) and from the Town's Local Historic District Bylaw (pg.77, <https://www.amherstma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/35739>).

Currently the Town has one local historic district, the Dickinson Local Historic District that was adopted in 2012. A second district, the North Prospect-Lincoln-Sunset Local Historic District, was recently adopted at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting, and will be effective later this year. The Historic District Commission has oversight of both local historic districts.

More information about the Town's local historic districts can be found online:

- Historic District Commission: (<https://www.amherstma.gov/1813/Dickinson-Local-Historic-District-Commit>);
- Dickinson Study Committee: (<https://www.amherstma.gov/1106/Dickinson-Local-Historic-District-Study>); and

- North Prospect-Lincoln-Sunset Study Committee:
<https://www.amherstma.gov/1906/Lincoln-Sunset-LHD-Study-Committee>.

The Town kindly asks that this correspondence be immediately distributed to your members in order to seek two nominees for the Historic District Commission. Up to two nominees should complete an online Citizen Activity Form (CAF) **by noon on Thursday June 15, 2017**. The CAF will be used by the Select Board as part of the appointment process. The CAF is accessed online (<https://www.amherstma.gov/FormCenter/Citizen-Activity-Form-14-14/Citizen-Activity-Form-62-62>) or a paper copy can be requested from the Town Manager's office (413-259-3002).

Questions about this process and serving on the Historic District Commission can be directed to Nathaniel Malloy by phone (413-259-3322) or email (malloyn@amherstma.gov).

Thank you,



Alisa V. Brewer,
Select Board Chair