

Lunenburg Historical Commission joint meeting with APDC October 2025

The Lunenburg Historical Commission met with the APDC at the Ritter Building on October 20th. Members McGrath, Lakso, and Boussom were in attendance. The meeting began at 8:32 PM

The proposed merger of the APDC and Historical commission was intended to streamline efficiency for both commissions. However, there has been much pushback from multiple members of the community, claiming that it is deceitful since the idea has not been made public, and that it would complicate things for historical home owners in town.

Bill Lakso questioned why anyone would feel this has been kept a secret, since every meeting agenda is made available to the public, and meetings are open to all.

The Historical Commission was asked if they were familiar with the bylaw of the APDC, which was formed to protect just the national historical district.

There was concern that giving control to the Historical Commission would be giving them too much control over the entire town, including the historic district.

Anthony Sculinbrini of the APDC explained he understands how this merger could be viewed as a horrible idea, but that he wants people to know he understands property rights, and that the merger is not at all intended to be overbearing.

Richard McGrath explained that over his 25 years on the Historical Commission he has seen a decrease in volunteers wanting to join, and the commission is in danger of disappearing for a lack of members unable to create a quorum.

Public question was asked as to why the amended bylaw changed "architectural" to "historical".

McGrath explained this was so that the commission would be able to enforce the APDC bylaw.

Nathan Lockwood of the APDC pointed out that we should probably consider delaying the motion to proceed to town meeting judging by the extensive negative feedback from the public. There was extreme concern for their properties, and what potential limitations may be imposed on them by the commission. There is also concern for the supposed lack of public outreach regarding the merger.

A motion was made by the APDC and the Historical Commission to include the merger in the warrant for the Town meeting. The motion passed for both Commissions.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM.