

Minutes

Mt Lebanon Historic Preservation Board

Monday, February 19, 2018, Mt Lebanon Municipal Building

ATTENDANCE Present: Yvette Yescas, chair; John Evans, Jonathan Hill, Jim Martin **Absent:** Michelle Winowich Zmijanac, Joe Bevins, Anna Siefken, John Bendel, commission liaison, Susan Morgans, staff liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Yvette Yescas called meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The December minutes were approved unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Brendan Kelly, a new resident, introduced himself to the board. He has met with Susan Morgans and is interested in applying. He works in commercial real estate conducting appraisals. Yvette Yescas thanked him for his interest and noted that real estate professionals and architects are always good additions to the board.

STAFF LIAISON REPORT

Yvette Yescas gave Susan Morgans' report. Susan reported that the magazine is doing an article on the historic renovation of a duplex that Saverio Strati and his partner are making on a duplex on McCully Street, the first owner of income producing property we know of who has applied for the historic preservation tax credit—the board may want to include duplex owners in future outreach.

The Commission should make board appointments at the March 26 commission meeting.

Lebanon Hills residents have expressed their thanks for help with their entry sign project. They currently are fund-raising.

Susan would like someone to help her come up with information about historic preservation for our new residents packets.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Joe Bevins has reported to Yvette that he is working on suggestions for improving the historic preservation section of the website and the informational notebook.

Yvette noted Michelle Winowich Zmijanac's many contributions to historic preservation over two terms on the board and thanked her for her participation. Michelle's last official meeting will be in March. She will be missed.

Laura Lilley will be assuming Susan Morgan's duties of staff liaison to the board in April. Susan has been a big asset and the board will miss her. Susan and Laura will be at the March meeting to address the transition. Laura will report to Susan.

TOPIC OF THE MONTH – HISTORIC DISTRICT SIGNS

Jim Martin introduced Steve Harroum of APCO Architectural Signs, one of the largest wayfinding sign companies in the country. Mr. Harroum has done work for the Library of Congress and Fallingwater, among other historic structures. He shared his ideas for appropriate entry points, which coincided with some places the board has identified. He talked about signs his firm could customize and fabricate for Mt. Lebanon. He said it is possible existing signs could be refinished instead of replaced. He recommended keeping continuity among the various sorts of signs ranging from the entry signs to the historic district signs to signs designating historic properties. A double-sided bronze sign on an aluminum post would be \$3,000-\$4,000. The board needs to identify the size and quantity of signs wanted; then Mr. Harroum could present a cost estimate. The board is considering seven to 10 signs, which could be phased over several years. Jim Martin will connect former board member Ben Wetmore, who is working on sign designs, with Mr. Harroum and report back at next meeting.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Design Guide for Historic District: John Evans reported that he, Yvette Yescas, consultant Nicole Kubas and Susan Morgans are working on the online guide and should have something to share with the board at next meeting. The project is going smoothly, and we should have a useful web-based guide to share with the public. The nice thing about the web design is that it can be expanded or changed as the board sees fit.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is Monday, March 19, at 5 p.m. in the municipal building.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.