

Minutes
Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board
Monday, April 15, 2019, Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building

Attendance: Present: John Evans, chair; Anna Siefken, vice chair; Joe Bevins, Alex Ferraro, Brendan Kelly, Staff liaison Laura Pace Lilley. **Absent:** John Bendel, commission liaison; Jonathan Hill, Phillip Neusius

Call to order: Chairman John Evans called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Introduction of new members: Alex Ferraro introduced himself and shared his background and family information. Board members then introduced themselves.

Citizen comments: None

Consideration of minutes:
The March minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair report: None

Commission report: None

Staff report: Laura Pace Lilley reported that the commission approved the 2019 road reconstruction program that does include two portions of brick streets: Duquesne (from Cedar to 437 Duquesne) and Hilf (from Castle Shannon to Birch.) The portions are steep and will be completed in asphalt. The municipal engineer acknowledged the streets were ranked a 3 on the PennDOT rating system report. Commissioner John Bendel (who wanted to be at the HPB meeting but is out of town) said at the commission meeting he hoped the municipality could save the brick for those streets. Public Works Director Rudy Sukal said we don't have anywhere in the muni to put the bricks but they are offered to several contractors who do that kind of brick street restoration. She also mentioned that several streets, including Crystal and Parkway, were on the list as options but did not make it into the contract...however they likely would come up for conversation again next year.

Anna Siefken said she was concerned that the bricks would not be used for their intended use and wondered if there was a place in public works that the bricks could be stored. Lilley said the public works project wouldn't even be completed until the fall.

Siefken said saving the bricks is not easy work and it takes up space but if the board is serious about having the policy, it should have an action plan and add language to the brick streets policy.

Evans said he wanted to emphasize that work should be done in accordance with the plan. Seifken said the bricks should be used for repair and wanted to make sure the transfer from one contractor to another should be prescribed.

Siefken said there are ways of storing bricks that look nice or perhaps they could be used for temporary space as patios.

Joe Bevins said it's hard to ask someone to store materials for an indefinite amount of time. But thought if they looked at other public works projects, like a walkway or pathway, the bricks could be used for that.

John Evans said contracts can be written that call for the contractor to remove bricks and put them in our lot.

Siefken asked if the residents on the affected streets had been notified. Lilley said she did not know, other than the conversation and vote happening at a public meeting, but that she would check.

John Evans said he would draft the letter to the commission in the next week.

Liaison reports:

Mt. Lebanon Economic Development Council, Joe Bevins: Joe Bevins reported he met with staff liaison Eric Milliron to get an introduction to the EDC and said that he would be attending the monthly meetings.

Historical Society of Mount Lebanon, Jonathan Hill: No report, but John Evans recalled that Jonathan Hill was going to contact John Conti to get permission to use scripts from the trolley tours to be used for future events.

Planning Board, Brendan Kelly: Brendan Kelly said he was not able to attend last month's meeting but that he would be at the following month's meeting.

Mt. Lebanon Partnership Design committee, John Evans: John Evans reported he would be at the next commission meeting to hear the discussion about the proposed second floor office ordinance.

Continuing business

Historic Signage, Anna Siefken: Laura Pace Lilley reported that the board is on the May docket to speak to the commission in a discussion session as long as the board felt it is ready. The board expressed desire to be placed on the May 28 meeting. Anna Siefken said she wanted to meet with Jim Martin to get the history of the sign process.

Brick Streets, John Evans: John Evans said he would give the board the full PennDOT report.

New business: The board requested that the May agenda include discussion of updating its three-year strategic plan and formulating ideas for an education program/outreach effort.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, May 20 at 5 p.m. at 710 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon.