

Minutes  
**Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board**  
Monday, May 20, 2019, Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building

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

**Call to order:** Chairman John Evans called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

**Citizen comments:** None

**Consideration of minutes:**

The April minutes were unanimously approved with one modification

**Chair report:** None

**Commission report:** None

**Staff report: Laura Pace Lilley** asked new member Philip Neusius to introduce himself and share a bit of his background.

Lilley reported that the ordinance proposing limiting offices from going into first floor, front facing spots on Washington Road has been changed from the planning board's suggestion of making it a conditional use in the business district, to making it a nonconforming use after three commissioners said they agreed with the Economic Development Council and the Mt. Lebanon Partnership who agreed that it should not be a use by right in the district. The revised proposed ordinance has gone to the planning department of Allegheny County Economic Development for their comments before being introduced, a hearing set and voted on.

Lilley also mentioned Zamagias, the developer of the condo proposal across from St. Bernard, would be in front of the commission at the end of the month.

Finally, she read a letter to the planning board that requested the board increase the size of the Historic District to include her home, which was beyond the border of the district.

John Evans asked Lilley to scan the letter and distribute to board members in case someone would like to respond.

Philip Neusius said the Historic District must be contiguous but can be reviewed and expanded at any time. The board reiterated that it could not add a house to the district but could review adding sections if it chose at a later date.

**Liaison reports:**

**Mt. Lebanon Economic Development Council, Joe Bevins:** None

**Historical Society of Mount Lebanon, Jonathan Hill:** No report, but Laura Pace Lilley reported the latest exhibit is about the History Center house itself.

**Planning Board, Brendan Kelly:** Brendan Kelly said the meeting was canceled for April and May but he would attend the June meeting. He said the developer for the Enclave at Bird Park had to answer some engineering and sewer issues and the planning board is waiting to hear back.

**Mt. Lebanon Partnership Design committee, John Evans:** John Evans said the committee is getting close to sign someone to do a master art plan. The committee is also looking at applying for a state grant of possibly as much as \$25,000 a month for four years to help with some of the planning or art for the plan.

### **Continuing business**

**Historic Signage, Anna Siefken:** Laura Lilley said the HPB's presentation to the commission has been pushed back to June 25, but that gives the HPB more time to prepare its presentation. Evans said he met with Lilley and Siefken to discuss that he and Siefken would put together a brief presentation defining the four types of signage we've talked about as well as a general cost scale for each. No one is saying we should put medallions on every street. But they would present potential looks for the sign and then measure the commission's appetite for the project.

Lilley said Commissioner John Bendel has said he is behind the signage concept, especially the neighborhood sign idea.

**Brick Streets, John Evans:** John Evans said he would craft the recommendation letter to the commission, in draft form, for the HPB's review. One point to make is that they do recommend finding a place to store bricks.

**Strategic Plan Update, Anna Siefken:** None

**Community Education Plan:** Lilley reminded the board that it has been considering what types of outreach the board could do. She listed things like magazine articles, office hours to help residents think of projects, bringing in a guest speaker or having a workshop or daylong seminar with other departments, such as inspections.

Brendan Kelly wanted to make sure the board gets the word out about the Design Guide, perhaps putting an ad in the magazine to draw attention to it.

Evans mentioned that Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation has preservation-related events of interests. Lilley said the HPB used to do guided walking tours at block parties. Evans said he would make a list of educational ideas for the board to consider.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, June 17 at 5 p.m. at 710 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon.