

Minutes

Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board

Monday, June 15, 2020, Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building

Attendance: Present: Matthew Moses, chair; Alex Ferraro, Philip Neusius, Anne Swager; Commission liaison Mindy Ranney, Staff liaison Laura Pace Lilley. **Absent:** Joe Bevins, Jonathan Hill, Marilyn Oberst-Horner.

Call to order: Board member Matthew Moses called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

New business: The board unanimously voted to elect Matthew Moses as chair and Anne Swager as vice chair.

Citizen comments: none

Consideration of minutes:

The February minutes were approved unanimously.

Administrative Reports

Chair report — Matthew said he will review the committees in the next week or two to figure out what deliverables the board has from those committees.

Commission report — none, due to technical issues.

Staff report — Laura Lilley reported that the street reconstruction and resurfacing project is underway with no brick streets on the list. Matthew Moses asked if it made sense for the board to ask for an extension on the moratorium. Anne Swager agreed that an extension made sense. Alex Ferraro asked if there was a reason for the June end date to the moratorium. Moses said the board thought that date would give them enough time to come up with recommendations but that effort was thwarted by the COVID crisis. Moses said he would talk to former board chair Anna Siefken to see where the committee is.

Continuing business

Historic signage: Alex Ferraro said he and Anne Swager and Laura Lilley had discussed the RFP. Anne Swager asked if the Commission was pulling back on expenses due to the COVID pandemic. Commissioner Mindy Ranney said that the board had considered that but she suggested the HPB proceed as normal because the Commission has not cancelled anything that was part of the 2020 project. She couldn't guarantee that wouldn't change. Lilley said she would forward the most recent iteration of the RFP to the board.

Brick streets: Phil Neusius said he was involved with working on the life cycle cost study. Most of the data he found that the cost doesn't become favorable unless you concede the brick streets will last 50-70 years in order to reach a break-even point over other types of streets, but Gateway is only allowing a 40-year time frame on brick streets. Commissioner Ranney said

Gateway doesn't get the ultimate decision and that it is a collaborative effort. Ranney said she thought the Commission would be interested in a longer lifespan. She also said she talked to Siefken and that she was going to look into having a class and having her students do research on brick streets across the country with emphasis on the local area, in the fall. Matthew Moses said he also would work with Neusius and the brick streets group and asked Ranney to confirm if Siefken would agree to continue to work on the ad hoc committee.

Three year strategic plan: Matthew Moses said he reviewed the former plan, had some policy questions and would circulate them to the board.

Liaison reports:

Lebanon Economic Development Council, Joe Bevins: None. But Laura Lilley said the Vibrant Uptown project is forging ahead with consultants from LaQuatra Bonci Associates, who has been putting together ideas from charrettes with local groups, before having public meetings on the design phase. She was still awaiting the timeline.

Historical Society of Mount Lebanon, Jonathan Hill: No report.

Planning Board, Alex Ferraro and Matthew Moses: Matthew Moses reported that Primanti Bros. is looking to expand its dining area with some garage door-type extension.

Mt. Lebanon Partnership Design committee, Joe Bevins: None but Lilley reported that the Partnership has been supporting the local businesses with marketing efforts for their COVID re-opening plan. Ranney said the Partnership also is looking at outdoor dining and other options. Swager said that is just one good reason for reactivating Parse Way, to reclaim parts of it for outdoor dining and retail.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, July 20 at 5 p.m., 710 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon.