

Minutes

Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board

Monday, July 19, 2021, Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building (Teams)

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

Call to order: Board member Anne Swager called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Citizen comments: none

Consideration of June 2021 minutes:

The June minutes were approved with two abstentions due to absence.

Administrative Reports

Chair report — None

Commission report — Mindy Ranney said Uptown construction has started, with the first phase to hopefully be completed before school starts. Full construction is set to be completed in March. The Historical Society of Mount Lebanon hosted the Mt. Lebanon Partnership meeting. The parks master plan/rec center feasibility study is underway. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee of the Community Relations Board has been putting a lot of work in toward making recommendations. She also asked the board if they wanted to take on a junior board member and the group agreed to do so.

Staff report — None

New Business — Conversation about strategic plan

The board discussed potential goals over the next few years:

Big goals – HPB Strategic Plan

Raise awareness/brand/educate Mt. Lebanon citizens about historic resources/assets

- Walking tours/self-guided/app – link to signs
- Attend public events w/HD maps and talk to people (create better display)
- Talks at Mt. Lebanon Public Library & Historical Society & Denis Theatre
- Symposium/seminar
- Block parties
- Magazine series, team with Historical Society
- Trolley tour
- Educational signage/pedestrian friendly/most historic sites
- Fully fund historic signage effort
- Page on new website (more prominent)

- Pursue historic design elements for Rec Center/any new community-based buildings
- Promote neighborhood sign policy

We have responsibility for adhering to federal guidelines/protecting resources

- *We must respond/Develop mechanism for timely response

Historic preservation zoning and oversight for Historic Districts/Institutionalizing ideas = ^real estate value

- *If we lose too many resources, we could lose our designation
- Focus education on what you can do instead of tear-down
- Update design guide/reuse of historic building materials/education (website/magazine/app)
- Work with Bill Callahan to ID low-hanging fruit w/regard to preservation options
- Discuss ideas/options with planning board inc. stormwater, etc.

Examine opportunities for grants/historic funding

- *For muni and individual citizens

Swager said she will convert the above info into a document so that the board could rank the ideas.

Continuing business

Historic Sign Vote: The board voted unanimously to recommend two sign designs to be presented to the Commission, along with a scalable budget request of \$20,000 for funding in 2022. One sign is for the bars across the entrance signs and the other is for the sign toppers for the intersection signs in the business district. The board will get an estimate from Kolano, the sign designer, to present to the commission.

Brick streets: Anne Swager said she and Phil Neusius met and are still preparing data before proposing the policy to the Commission. She arranged to meet with Matthew Moses and Marilyn Oberst-Horner to discuss the issue.

Liaison reports:

Lebanon Economic Development Council, Joe Bevins: No report

Historical Society of Mount Lebanon, Krista Ford said the board's next meeting would be the following day and she did not have a further update.

Planning Board, Matthew Moses said the board would be meeting the following day and Marilyn would be covering for him due to a scheduling conflict.

Partnership Design Committee: Joe Bevins: No report

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, August 16, 2021, at 5 p.m. on Teams.