

## **Minutes**

Historic Preservation Board (HPB)

Tuesday, March 19, 2012, 5 p.m.

Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building

**Attendance:** Bill Callahan, chair; Yvette Yescas, vice chair; Joel Cluskey, John Conti, Bonnie VanKirk, Pat Calvelo, Joe Dimperio, Susan Morgans, staff liaison, Matt Kluck, commission liaison

**Call to Order:** Chair Bill Callahan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Citizen Comment:** There was no citizen comment.

**Consideration of Minutes:** The January minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Chair's Report:**

- Bill Callahan commended John Conti, whose term is expiring, for more than a decade of dedicated service. John said he has enjoyed every minute of it.
- Bill would like to revisit the board's 5-year plan next month, especially in light of the fact that the commission will be updating its official comprehensive land-use plan.

### **Staff Liaison's Report:**

- Susan Morgans noted that a new HPB member has been selected and would be appointed at the next commission meeting.
- Susan did not ask Ruth Foltz from Howard Hanna to sponsor a trolley tour because she did not feel comfortable asking her to sponsor events two weeks in a row.

### **Topic of the Month:** Plein Air Festival

\* David Csont of the Mt. Lebanon Partnership described the event that will bring many artist to Mt. Lebanon October 2-7 to paint outdoors throughout the community. The HPB voted unanimously to support the project and will provide an orientation for the artists. Pat Calvelo agreed to look into the possibility of taking the artists on a historic trolley tour, providing them some context for their work. Joel Clusky would be interested in working on a trolley tour. Joel Clusky noted that the Plein Air event could help fund a community arts foundation and perhaps lead to granting scholarships to student intending to major in art.

### **Continuing Business:**

- **Historic Register Nomination:** Skelly & Loy has defined the boundary. Proposed district is much larger than we expected. Instead of 300 properties to review, we now have at least 3,000. We will need to solicit interns and volunteers to help verify contributing, non-contributing and “unknown” properties within the boundaries. Fortunately the first document that is submitted to Harrisburg does not need this information, so that buys a little time. Matt Kluck indicated that the commission would not need to hear a report about this project from the board until things are firmed up, probably next fall.
- **Lecture Series:** Architect Gerald Morasco had proposed a lecture series on design sponsored by the board at the library. The board liked the idea but asked Susan to let him know that they would prefer to consider the event for next year, perhaps beginning to plan it toward the end of 2012.
- **Tear Downs:** The board said that the house that currently is being torn down and replaced on Overlook is not a problem, as it is not really part of a neighborhood or very visible. Teardowns could become a problem, however, and the board will address this issue at a future date.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:35. The next meeting is Monday, April 16, at 5 p.m. in the municipal building.