

MINUTES

Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board
Monday, Nov. 19, 2012, 5 p.m.
Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building

Attendance: Yvette Yescas, chair; Joel Clusky, vice chair; Bill Callahan, Michelle Winowich-Zmijanac, Bonnie VanKirk, Pat Calvelo, Matt Kluck, commission liaison; Susan Morgans, staff liaison, Laura Ricketts, consultant, Skelly & Loy. Absent: Joe Dimperio

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Yvette Yescas called the meeting together at 5:05 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMENT: There was no citizen comment.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the September 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

4. TOPIC OF MONTH: Laura Ricketts of consultant Skelly & Loy presented the first draft of the National Register Nomination. There is still some work to do. She has revised the timetable. She needs comments from board members (lricketts@skellyloy.com) by November 26, after which she will submit the eligibility form to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museums Commission (PHMC). They will have 30 days to review the submission. The draft of the nomination will be submitted February 18, and the PHMC has until April to review it and make suggestions. If there are suggestions, Laura will incorporate them and submit the final nomination by May 31 to be considered at the PHMC historic review board's October 1, 2013 meeting.

Bill Callahan suggested substituting more residential photos but not adding more photos. He and Yvette volunteered to drive around the community to help finish the verification process. He commended Laura for an "amazing job, considering the challenges of the larger-than-expected district, its uneven boundaries and the community's unique story."

Susan Morgans noted that the payment arrangement with Skelly & Loy has been worked out satisfactorily and the unspent funds will be carried over into 2013.

The next Topic of the Month will be the board's three-year plan.

5. COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT: Commissioner Matt Kluck gave a brief overview of a possible new plan for a mixed-use residential complex at the corner of Bower Hill and Washington Road. The developer's plans are very preliminary. If the project progresses, the board would like the opportunity to see and comment on the plans as part of the planning board's formal process.

6. STAFF LIAISON REPORT: Susan Morgans said that the Historical Society of Mt. Lebanon might be interested in working with the HPB once National Register designation is obtained to designate historic properties other than the original farmhouses that received plaques many years ago. She will ask the community through the magazine and Facebook to suggest the places they consider historic. Joel Clusky suggested that it would be a good idea to have historic designation signs at entrances to neighborhoods. He recommends that either all or no neighborhoods in the historic district have entry signs and that the signs be consistent. Bill Callahan suggested that it might be possible to have neighborhoods contribute to the cost of the signs/plaques. Pat Calvelo said Chagrin Falls, Ohio, has a nice historic designation program. The board will look around at other cities before making any recommendation.

7. ONGOING BUSINESS:

--**Magazine Series:** Bill Callahan has a February 10 deadline for his article; Michelle Winowich- Zmijanac has an April 10 deadline for hers.

--**Trolley Tour:** Pat Calvelo reported that the Plein Art trolley tour was well received.

--**Design Center:** Joel Clusky said he and Susan Morgans met with Design Center of Pittsburgh CEO

Steven Glassman and Cate Rassmun, who is in charge of the design consults. The center is now focusing on under-served neighborhoods where people would not otherwise have access to professional design, but its consultant will continue to serve Mt. Lebanon on a sliding scale with residents paying between \$1 and \$250 depending on income. Most Mt. Lebanon residents will pay \$200-\$250 for consults--still a bargain. The Design Center also needs volunteer architects. We will continue the dialogue.

--**Uptown Lighting:** Joel Clusky commented that Uptown is dark and more up-lighting on the buildings such as was done on the municipal building would be nice.

8. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT: There will be no December meeting. The next meeting will be Monday, January 21, at 5 p.m. in the Municipal Building. The meeting adjourned at 6:20.