

Minutes
Mt Lebanon Historic Preservation Board
Monday May 20, 2013. 5 p.m.
Mt Lebanon Municipal Building

Attendance: Yvette Yescas, chair; Joel Cluskey, vice-chair, Bill Callahan, Bonnie VanKirk, Pat Calvelo, Michelle Zmijanac, Jim Martin, Susan Morgans, staff liaison

Call to Order: Yvette Yescas called meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Citizen Comment: There was no citizen comment.

Consideration of March 2013 minutes: Minutes were approved unanimously

Welcome to New Board Member: Jim Martin introduced himself and said one reason he applied for the board is because he wants to provide resources for people who want to remodel their historic houses. He has a background in real estate and lending.

Election of Officers: Michelle Zmijanac moved and Jim Martin seconded the nomination of Yvette Yescas for chair and Joel Cluskey for vice chair of the board. They were elected unanimously.

Chair's Report:

Yvette Yescas reported that an additional payment to Skelly & Loy for work beyond the original scope of the project was approved as recommended by the board, bringing the total cost of the project to \$29,000. This is the final payment.

Ongoing Business: National Register Nomination

The Historic Resource Survey Form (HRSF) was submitted to Harrisburg and is now being revised as per suggestions from the state. Yvette will get the HRSF to all board members. Thanks to Laura Ricketts from Skelly & Loy for a great job and to all HPB board members for their help in verifying properties. Bill Callahan, Susan Morgans and Keith McGill accompanied the historic preservation reps from Harrisburg who came here to review the proposed district. As a result of their visit, the boundaries of the proposed district have been revised slightly (Forest Glen Drive and several other small areas were added) and instead of using a fixed cut-off date, we will use "circa 1945," meaning that if the architecture of a house looks as if it were built prior to 1945, then it is "contributing." With that change, most noncontributing properties in the district will be commercial. All work on our end must be completed by October in order to meet the deadline for the February meeting of the state board that makes the recommendation to the U. S. Dept. of the Interior regarding National Register Applications. This should not be a problem.

The board would like to schedule two public meetings and is considering making the first public meeting on the National Register nomination part of the mtl magazine's House and Garden Fair in October 19.

Susan Morgans will schedule an article for the January magazine on the National Register Nomination.

Bill Callahan will call or e-mail Keith McGill/Carolyn Yagle to suggest that the municipal comprehensive plan draft mentions Mt. Lebanon's history as an early automobile suburb. This will strengthen both the National Register application and the comprehensive plan.

Staff Liaison Report: Susan Morgans will ask Keith McGill to give a planning update at one of our upcoming meetings. She will forward a letter from Jim Wojick to the board via email thanking them for their help in moving forward with the plans to acquire the McMillan House and providing an update on that topic.

Topic of the Month: Bill Callahan presented a Power Point on the various types of historic districts. Susan will see that the presentation is posted on the municipal website.

Other Business:

The topic of the month for June will be possible changes to be recommended for the zoning ordinance. Joel Cluskey also would like to discuss handicapped accessible entries in particular.

The HPB will make a 20 minute presentation at the June 24 Commission meeting. Speakers should give a brief update on the National Register Nomination and provide an overview of the 3-year plan including possible transition to a HARB and creation of a district/districts. We will discuss this at June meeting and decide who will be able to present.

Adjournment and next meeting: The meeting adjourned at 6:50. The next meeting is Monday, June 17, at 5 p.m. in the municipal building.

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