

Minutes
Mt Lebanon Historic Preservation Board
Monday October 20, 2014. 5 p.m.
Mt Lebanon Municipal Building

Attendance: Yvette Yescas, chair; Joel Cluskey, vice-chair, Bill Callahan, Michelle Zmijanac, Jim Martin, Anna Siefken, Ben Wetmore, Susan Morgans, staff liaison. Absent: Bill Callahan

Call to Order: Chair Yvette Yescas called meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. and started out the meeting with a big “Hooray,” as the board has received notification that Mt. Lebanon’s historic district is now listed on the National Parks Service’s National Register of Historic Places.

Citizen Comment: Dan Gigler, Washington Road, a board member of the Historical Society of Mount Lebanon, congratulated the historic preservation board on the Mt. Lebanon historic district’s listing on the National Register of Historic Places. He called it a “great source of pride” for the community and offered to help publicize the honor. Mr. Gigler also noted that the historical society is in the silent phase of its fund-raising campaign to restore the headquarters. So far they have \$110,000 in pledges. The society’s annual dinner is Wednesday, November 22, at St. Clair County Club and Bill Flannigan is the speaker.

Bill Callahan thanked Dan Gigler for his help with achieving the National Register listing, in his role as a former historic preservation board president.

Bill said that the Keystone grant applications will open up in November and the historical society might be eligible for a project grant and construction grant.

Joe Bevin, Parker Drive, introduced himself as a new resident. He and his wife are both architects and he said he was attending the board as an interested applicant.

Consideration of Minutes: September minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair’s Report: Yvette Yescas has heard nothing further from PennDOT about the public meeting about the paving of Castle Shannon Boulevard that was discussed in August. A long discussion ensued regarding the board’s desire to ensure that PennDOT follows the proper protocol for mitigating any damage that a roadway improvement project may cause to an area that is eligible for National Register Designation. Yvette and Bill Callahan will follow up.

Continuing Business

National Register:

The board decided to have a party celebrating the nomination on February 12, which is the 102nd anniversary of Mt. Lebanon's founding. Jim and Michelle will work with Susan Morgans to plan this event, but it will be fun, with perhaps some period costumes and music, refreshments, toasts and champagne. Perhaps board could give a consultation with an architect as a door prize. We will put a community invitation in the January magazine and publicize through social media.

The board would like to have a workshop for income producing property owners and real estate professionals some time between mid-February and mid-March and would like to have Scott Doyle from PHMC attend. Bill Callahan will check Scott's schedule.

Susan Morgans will check into what the existing entry signs cost and where they are located and report back in November. Perhaps it would be possible to restore and add something about "historic Mt. Lebanon" to the existing signs.

Virginia Manor Historic District:

Bill Callahan and Joel Cluskey will have the draft of the RFP for the consultant ready for review by the board prior to passing it on to the manager and the solicitor. It will be structured in three parts: public outreach, design guidelines and draft ordinance and each item bid separately. The draft should be finished before Thanksgiving and the plan would be to issue the RFP in February with 30 days to respond. Susan Morgans will request that the money allocated from the fund balance for the consultant be carried over into 2015. The commission has allocated \$25,000 for this project.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:45. Next meeting is Monday, November 17, at 5 p.m. in the municipal building.