

Minutes

Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board

Monday, June 21, 2021, Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building (Teams)

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

Call to order: Board member Anne Swager called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Citizen comments: none

Consideration of May 2021 minutes:

The May minutes were approved with one abstention due to an absence.

Administrative Reports

Chair report — Anne Swager suggested that the board should review options for creating a strategic plan. The group agreed that the July meeting would include an agenda item to spend 30 minutes discussing the creation of a plan.

Commission report — Mindy Ranney reported that the DEI groups are moving along and are making some interim recommendations to the commission. The schedule for Vibrant Uptown will be coming out soon.

Staff report — Laura Pace Lilley suggested the board should prepare its budget request for the historic district sign project for inclusion in the 2022 budget requests. Swager said she will get the numbers from Kolano, the designers, and the board can make an estimate from there. She also informed that board that gas company work in the Lebanon Hills neighborhood would require ripping up some of the bricks but that the company would be replacing the bricks removed with bricks upon completion of the project.

Continuing business

Historic signage: Anne Swager said she was waiting for the final drawings and that the board needed to go before the Commission to get approval for the drawings. Ranney said she will connect with Municipal Manager Keith McGill to get on a future agenda.

Brick streets: Anne Swager said the board has three policies from which to pull elements for its policy: the PennDOT recommendations, a draft from the previous HPB members and the suggested policy from the Carnegie Mellon University study. The board needs to parse what they want to put in the policy that it will put forth to the Commission. Three main conclusions to draw: What is the lifetime of a brick street? Can we do modular repairs? Do we think steep slopes are a hazard. Finally is the issue of cost.

The board has been asked to come up with a policy and select streets which are a priority to remain brick. Swager said the board has not been asked to come up with how to pay for the projects and she said it is not their charge. Ranney said if the board had information about potential grants, the Municipality would like that information.

Swager said she will put out a sample policy and solicit the board's input. The board agreed that it has received enough public input to formulate a policy.

Liaison reports:

Lebanon Economic Development Council, Joe Bevins: The primary focus has been on Vibrant Uptown.

Historical Society of Mount Lebanon, Krista Ford said the board's next meeting is in person in July. The first walking tour of 2021 will also be in July.

Planning Board, Matthew Moses said the planning board was considering an application from the tennis association to add a second floor, bathrooms and outdoor seating deck to the platform tennis warming hut.

Partnership Design Committee, Joe Bevins said the committee is still working on Vibrant Uptown and discussing open seating areas for outdoor dining.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, July 19, 2021, at 5 p.m. on Teams.