

## Minutes

### Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board

Monday, August 21, 2023, Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building, 5 p.m.

#### Attendance

**Present:** Philip Neusius, chair; Mary Ellen Donato, Alan Hohlfelder, Marilyn Oberst-Horner; Staff liaison Laura Pace Lilley; Commission liaison for Mindy Ranney. **Absent:** Doug Devlin, Grace Gartman, Matthew Moses

**Call to order:** Board chair Phil Neusius called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m.

**Citizens Comments:** None

**Consideration of July minutes:** The June minutes were unanimously approved.

#### Administrative Reports

**Chair report—** Board chair Phil Neusius reported that he sent the board a list of their duties and he asked the members to look it over. The list will be given to the Commission to figure into the new board structure's duties when the new boards take office in April. He asked them to get their input to him at least a week before the next HPB meeting.

**Commission report—** Commission liaison Mindy Ranney reported that the Commissioners approved a new five-year solid waste/recycling contract with Westmoreland Landfill to take effect starting in January. The South Hills Area Council of Governments bidding process only received two quotes and both were substantially more expensive than the current contract. The Commission will next talk about how to pay for the contract (whether through taxes, fees or a combination of both.)

Ranney also said the board would be approving a new sidewalk policy as the current one isn't effective in getting neighbors to petition for new sidewalks. The new process would make it easier for that process to start. The new mobility board in April will start to prioritize those requests.

The Commission has still not approved a brick streets policy but they would be discussing it at the next Commission discussion session.

**Staff Liaison—** No report

#### Continuing Business

**Historic Signage:** No report

**Brick Streets:** No report.

**Public Education/board Education Events:** Chair Alan Hohlfelder went through the list of proposed projects. He said Teresa Duff would be able to do a restoration demonstration or other learning opportunity. The HPB consensus is that people would want to have ideas to think about when they restore their homes. He will touch base with Grace Gartman to get on the calendar, in cooperation with the Historical Society, in November or early December.

The education event subcommittee met to discuss “This Old Sustainable House” with Sustainability Coordinator Greg Wharton. The board decided on doing three lectures, potentially one in January and two in February, as part of a continuing series. The library is interested in hosting. The consensus was that three main topics (with potential subtopics) would be of most interest to residents.

Hohlfelder said he had not yet heard back from anyone on their thoughts on the bibliography for the website and requested that they all take a look at his list of resources and give feedback.

**Advisory Board Transition:** No report

**Liaison Reports:**

**Comprehensive Plan:** No report.

**Mt. Lebanon Economic Development Council:** No report

**Historical Society of Mount Lebanon:** Lilley read into record for Grace Gartman: The annual gala is Thursday, October 5 from 7 to 9 p.m., including an auction. The group had great success with the Virginia Manor walking tour as it was sold out. They also had tables at both uptown unveiled and first Fridays. During uptown unveiled they had over 80 visitors to the history center and several participants in a scavenger hunt.

- As far as building updates, the stained glass in the building has been successfully conserved and cleaned. The roof deck they are seeking to build is under a bid process for contractors and they are working with the municipality on code issues as far as bearing weight etc.

-They are holding an event with Preservation Pittsburgh at the library in September on modern architecture in Mt Lebanon

-They are seeking a new member to fill the role of Social Media Manager for the board.

**Planning Board:** Marilyn Oberst-Horner reported that the items on the planning board agenda did not have much impact for the HPB. They included one lot consolidation and another lot subdivision.

**Partnership Design Committee:** No report

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, September 18, at 5 p.m. in person and on Zoom.