

**HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
BELLEFONTE BOROUGH
MEETING MINUTES
April 26, 2022 - 8:30 a.m.
236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823
www.bellefonte.net**

CALL TO ORDER:

The April 26, 2022, regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Historical Architecture Review Board (HARB) was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Members met *virtually* via Zoom.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Maria Day
Megan Tooker
Philip Ruth
Mike Leakey
Walt Schneider
Gay Dunne

EXCUSED: Sam McGinley
Pat Long

STAFF MEMBERS: Gina Thompson, HARB Administrator

GUESTS: Brian Chilton
John Sengle
Denise Sticha
Christina Lewis
Blake Bratton
Joanne Tosti-Vasey
Randy Brachbill

Additions / Corrections to the Agenda

- There will not be a review of the 108 & 114 N Allegheny Street project.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest / Declaration of Ex Parte Communication

- None.

Approval of the HARB meeting minutes: *Ms. Dunne moved to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022, meeting. Mr. Schneider seconded. Motion carried.*

Project Review and Public Comments

237/239 N. Allegheny Street

- informal review/discussion only: exterior improvements: windows, porch, roof, etc.
- The property owner was present to discuss the project.

There is a lot of rot around the porch area. They did a paint consult and got a historically appropriate paint scheme worked out that they will submit later.

They have a few structural issues. A lot of the rot around the porch stems from water running off the roof and hitting the sidewalk instead of soil. They are trying to find a solution to help the runoff issues. The porch skirt is wrong and might need to be removed/replaced. There was discussion regarding appropriate skirting/gutter options, including using composite material. The garage/carriage house will be a very straight forward repair. There is a rented apartment over the garage. The tenants will move out in the beginning of June. The apartment will be renovated before it is rented again. The owner hopes to have a more official plan/report within the next month.

- No action required by HARB for this project.

203 Allegheny (CCLHM – Library and Historical Museum)

- porch replacement
- John Sengle, board member, Denise, Brian Chilton were present to discuss the project.

The columns in the porch, especially on the second floor are unstable. There is separation from the wall and roof which compromises the structural integrity of the building. The porch is not currently used for public events. The second floor is also not available to the public. The handicap access is a concern. They are looking for approval to replace the porch and columns.

The existing foundation is stone piers which have settled over time due to runoff and groundwater. The foundation will be replaced and the new porch will be a concrete slab. They will shore up the existing posts and do repairs to any existing structures/materials. The railings will be code approved. The look and shape of the existing columns and structure will be maintained. The project will aim to have better drainage. Concrete on the first floor is the most practical and safest option. The concrete will be stained to color match the existing structure. There was a question about being cautious with the foundation of the existing structure. The project does not require zoning because the footprint of the building is not changing.

- Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the project as presented. Ms. Tooker seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The project will next go to Council for approval.

136 S. Water Street

- exterior paint, railings, roof, and fixtures

- The property owner was present to discuss the project

Paint will be historical colors. The roof is a rubber roof which is not visible from the road – and it will be replaced with similar materials. The railings will be painted. The entire exterior is painted concrete. There is no lead paint. It was suggested to use potassium silicate paint, because this type of paint is better to use on concrete. It was also suggested to replace the roof before painting. There was a discussion about restoring some of the windows.

- Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the project as presented. Ms. Day seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The project will go to Council to be approved.

308-310 E. Linn Street

- shingle roof, Owen's Corning Slatestone Gray
- The home owner cannot attend the meeting because of a work conflict.

Discussion included agreement that the roof color will be a good match. There was a question about replacing the gutters – they will not be replaced.

- Ms. Day made a motion to approve the project as presented. Ms. Tooker seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The project will go to Council to be approved.

Administrative Approval

- Ms. Thompson reviewed the various administrative approvals that she did since the last meeting.

Information/Discussion Items

- There was a concern raised about the replaced cast concrete sills (brickwork) at Trinity Church. HARB discussed whether the new sills will need to be removed/replaced. There is concern about financial hardship for the church. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the church detailing the concerns.

Old Business

- Ms. Thompson asked that HARB members submit headshots and a brief bio for the website.

New Business

- Sept 21-23, 2022, PMBOK Annual Conference in Bethlehem, PA, at the Bethlehem Hotel. The theme is historic structures.

Adjournment

- With no other business to come before HARB, Meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.