



Newtown Joint Historic Commission
Newtown Borough Hall
23 N. State Street, Newtown and by Zoom
October 28, 2024



Present in Person: Bill Mahler, John Donato, Sean Irwin, Marcia Lincoln-Heinz, Charissa Stone

Present by Zoom: Secretary Leslie Dunleavy

Absent: Craig Deutsch, Kris Bauman (Borough Liaison), Kyle Davis (Township Liaison)

Call to Order

Mr. Mahler called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

DOS Application

315 E. Centre Avenue

Application for demolition of concrete stairs on the side of the house.

Christopher and Charissa Stone were present for the application. Ms. Stone said that the steps were not original to the house.

There were no concerns or questions.

Mr. Donato made a motion to recommend approval of the application as submitted. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0 by the Commission, with abstention by Ms. Stone.

138 N. State Street

Application for demolition of the exterior rear chimney.

No one was present for the application.

Mr. Mahler said that this application has been submitted after the fact, as the chimney has been demolished. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz said that the applicant had come before HARB, which had not made any recommendation since the demolition of the historic chimney (in poor repair) had been completed. Mr. Mahler said that the Borough Zoning Officer had directed the applicant to come to the Commission.

Mr. Mahler made a motion that, since the demolition had already occurred, the Commission was unable to make a formal recommendation on the application. Ms. Stone seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Commission.

413 Durham Road

Application for demolition of the house and detached garage.

No one was present for the application.

Mr. Mahler said that the property has been vacant for approximately 5 years and is in poor condition. He said that the house had been built in 1925, was quite overgrown, and the roof had fallen through.

Mr. Donato make a motion to recommend approval of the application, as submitted. Mr. Irwin seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Commission.

211 Upper Silver Lake Road

Application for full demolition of all structures on the property.

No one was present for the application.

Mr. Mahler said that he thought that the only thing of value on the property was the root cellar/spring house. Commission members felt that it would be appropriate to use the original stone when possible.

Ms. Stone made a motion to recommend approval of the application as submitted, subject to keeping the spring house and well, while re-purposing much of the stone material where possible. Mr. Donato seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 25, 2024

Mr. Mahler made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 25, 2024, as submitted.

Ms. Lincoln-Heinz seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by the Commission.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for **September** was:

Savings Account:

Previous Balance:	8/31/24	\$4,418.39
Interest:	9/30/24	.38
Balance:	9/30/24	\$4,418.77

Commercial Account: (checking account)

Previous Balance:	8/31/24	\$2,233.47
Balance:	9/30/24	\$2,233.47

The report was accepted subject to audit.

Township Subdivision and Land Development Project List

Nothing new to report.

Old Business

Mr. Mahler noted that there are still two vacancies in the Township.

New Business

Mr. Mahler cited the letter from HARB Chair Jim McAuliffe updating information about the Historic District, including recommendations from the committee that investigated expansion of the District in 2008. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz said that the "ball is in" Mr. Bauman's court. Mr. McAuliffe is working with Mr. Bauman on the issue.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Donato and second by Mr. Irwin, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie P. Dunleavy, Recording Secretary