



Newtown Joint Historic Commission
Newtown Borough Hall
23 N. State Street, Newtown and by Zoom
June 24, 2024



Present in Person: Bill Mahler, John Donato, Marcia Lincoln-Heinz, Craig Deutsch

Present by Zoom: Secretary Leslie Dunleavy

Absent: Charissa Stone, Sean Irwin, Kris Bauman (Borough Liaison), Kyle Davis (Township Liaison)

Call to Order

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

DOS Application

1 E. Washington Avenue, Brick Hotel

Application for demolition related to roof and wall replacements.

No one was present for the application. Mr. Mahler said that he had not been able to locate any historic survey cards for the property.

Mr. Mahler said that the applicant had originally applied for and received a permit to replace the roof, and that when they removed the original roofing they discovered a lot of damage that need to be repaired. Mr. Mahler said that the permit for in-kind roof replacement had been approved, but Mike Italia issued a cease-and-desist order as there was some demolition happening that had not been approved. Mr. Mahler noted that the work has been done and the roof replaced.

Mr. Donato made a motion to recommend approval of the application as submitted. Mr. Deutsch seconded the motion, which was approved 3-1 by the Commission, with Ms. Lincoln-Heinz voting nay.

Ms. Lincoln-Heinz said that it was not appropriate to approve a demolition after it had been completed, as it was unclear what demolition had actually been done. She said that she had voted against approval on principal. Mr. Deutsch asked how the Commission should consider an application after the demolition had been done. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz said that this situation should be discussed. Mr. Mahler said that a recommendation would probably have been that nothing of historical significance had been removed, but Ms. Lincoln-Heinz said that was not clear. Mr. Mahler said that he thought that a newer addition had been removed. Mr. Deutsch suggested that if details of the demolition were not clear the Commission should make no recommendation.

Mr. Mahler said that he would add commentary to the recommendation to Council, noting that it was not clear what had removed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2024

Mr. Donato made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of May 20, 2024, as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion, which was approved 2-0 by the Commission, with abstentions by Mr. Deutsch and Ms. Lincoln-Heinz.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for May was:

Savings Account:

Previous Balance:	4/30/24	\$4,416.91
Interest:	5/31/24	.38
Balance:	5/31/24	\$4,417.29

Commercial Account: (checking account)

Previous Balance:	4/30/24	\$2,092.97
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Leslie Dunleavy Ck #521	5/17/24	(\$66.00)
Balance:	5/31/24	\$2,026.97

The report was accepted subject to audit.

Ms. Marcia Lincoln-Heinz noted that a donation of \$300 has been received from the Borough and will appear in the June Treasurer's Report.

Township Subdivision and Land Development Project List

Mr. Deutsch said that Toll Brothers has reduced their request for a development of 140 apartments behind 7-11 to 100 apartments. Since there is no definition for the proposed "garden style" apartments (with a parking garage in the center surrounded by residences), they are intending to write a new ordinance for the Township in order to add this style.

Old Business

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

New Business

Ms. Lincoln-Heinz said that she hoped that the new Borough Manager will be able to assist with the issue of teardowns.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Donato and second by Ms. Lincoln-Heinz, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie P. Dunleavy, Recording Secretary