Borough of Newtown

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD



Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Hybrid - Newtown Borough Hall / Zoom

Present: Mr. James McAuliffe, Chair

Mr. Michael Hutchinson, Vice Chair Ms. Marcia Lincoln-Heinz, Member

Ms. Judith Ritter, Member

Ms. Margaret Newman, Preservation Consultant Ms. Leslie P. Dunleavy, HARB Secretary (via Zoom)

Absent: Mr. Robert King, Member

Ms. Karen White, Member

Ms. Ana Gindhart, COA Administrator Mr. Kris Bauman, Borough Council Liaison

1. Meeting Commencement

Mr. McAuliffe called the meeting to order. He explained that this Board's recommendations will go to Borough Council for review at their work session at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 in Borough Hall at 23 N. State Street. Applicants were advised not to begin their projects until they had received final approval by Council and obtained the necessary permits. The review process for larger projects may take two (2) to three (3) meetings. It was noted that the HARB reviews applications using *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties,* and these will be cited in the recommendations.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2025 meeting, as submitted. Ms. Ritter seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by the Board.

3. Application Considered

The following applications were considered at the meeting:

25-025 235 Court Street – Mike & Jenny Current
25-026 241 S. Chancellor Street – Charles Catalfalno
25-027 111 Mercer Street – Maritza Barrantes

4. Application 25-025

Applicants: Mike & Jenny Current

235 Court Street, residence

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the repair/restoration of original windows.

No one was present for the application.

The Board considered the application in relation to Ordinance No. 594 of the Borough of Newtown Code and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic* Properties.

The Board had no questions or concerns.

Citing Standard 6, Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to recommend approval of the application as submitted. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by the Board.

5. Application 25-026

Applicant: Charles Catalfalno

241 S. Chancellor Street, Abrahamson residence

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The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of the 2nd floor flat roof in the rear of the house.

No one was present via Zoom for the application.

The Board considered the application in relation to Ordinance No. 594 of the Borough of Newtown Code and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic* Properties.

Mr. Hutchinson noted that the rear roof is not very visible. It was noted that a coating was proposed for the front porch roof. Mr. McAuliffe said that a coating on the roof would not fall under HARB purview. Ms. Newman noted that there would be no change to the look of that roof.

Citing Standard 6, Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to recommend approval of the application as submitted. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by the Board.

6. Application 25-027

Applicant: Maritza Barrantes

111 Mercer Street, Pugh residence

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for a full roof replacement and removal of an existing chimney.

No one was present for the application.

The Board considered the application in relation to Ordinance No. 594 of the Borough of Newtown Code and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic* Properties.

Ms. Newman noted that the roof was not very visible, but the applicant proposed to remove the chimney. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz said that the applicant should have applied to the Joint Historic Commission for demolition of the chimney. Mr. Hutchinson said that he had spoken to the applicant and told her that the chimney could not be removed, but that repairs could be made.

Citing Standard 6, Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to recommend approval of the application for the replacement of the roof, as submitted, and to recommend denial of the application for removal of the chimney as submitted, with the recommendation that the chimney be repaired and repointed if necessary and flashed with flashing that matches the material and size of the flashing on the existing chimney. Ms. Lincoln-Heinz seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by the Board.

7. Upcoming Meeting

The next HARB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 27, 2025 in person and via Zoom.

8. Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Lincoln-Heinz and seconded by Mr. Hutchinson, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Dunleavy, HARB Secretary