

City of Lewisburg
Historic Landmarks Commission
Meeting Minutes ~ November 9, 2020
942 Washington Street, Lewisburg, WV

PRESENT: Commission Chair Paul Lindquist; Commission members David Craddock, Skip Deegans, Clifford Gillilian, Donna Johns; Architect Consultant Michael Mills, Planning & Zoning Officer Marsha Cunningham, Recording Officer Peggy Mackenzie

VISITORS: Sara Crickenberger, Donna David, Elizabeth & Patrick Hayes, Michael Kincaid, Richard Scott, John Wilson

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Commission Chair Paul Lindquist. No public comments were offered.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: The minutes of *October 19, 2020* were approved with corrections in a motion by Commission member David Craddock and seconded by Commission member Clifford Gillilian. With all in favor, the motion carried.

***Public Hearing:** Carnegie Hall, 611 Church Street ~ Installation of an internet antenna*

Executive Director Sara Crickenberger requested to install a small round antenna disk at top of the Carnegie building to access high speed internet usage not only for Carnegie Hall but potentially for residents in range on Church Street. The disk will not be visible to Church Street, she said, and the services offered should be a great improvement over what is currently available for downtown Lewisburg. A motion to approve as presented was made by Commission member Craddock and seconded by Commission member Donna Johns. With all in favor, the motion carried.

***Public Hearing:** John Wilson, 122 Courtney Drive ~ Remove top of back chimney and restore front chimney, reinforce roof and paint roof with silver seal paint*

John Wilson stated that the roof rafters of the circa 1920s house are too far apart requiring a wall to be installed beneath it to support the two chimneys. Although neither chimney is functional, he proposes to take down the rear one, which is not attractive, and restore the front one, using some bricks from the other. Commission member Skip Deegans said the HLC guidelines do not recommend removing an original chimney, but that the Commission has in the past allowed an applicant (Dehavens) to remove the chimney interior and leave the top exterior portion in place in order to keep the architectural feature intact. Architecture Consultant Michael Mills said he had not had a chance to view the building, but agreed with Deegans, if the rear chimney serves no purpose. *[Images were sent to him at that point by P&Z Officer Marsha Cunningham.]* Wilson said he would also like to resurface the whole roof in a paint color called “Silver Dollar” to match the original color.

After Mills had received the photo images of the Courtney Drive residence, he expressed concerns for the visibility of both chimneys to the public view. He said the chimneys should not be removed. Bricks for the needed repairs should still be available, he said. The paint coating was also a “concern.” Wilson said the roof had been previously coated with the same product. The Commission agreed to follow the HLC guidelines and a motion to restore both chimneys and paint the roof as presented was made by Commission member Craddock. A second came from Commission member Johns. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Public Hearing: Mina Wheatley, 158 Austin Street ~ Installation of external light

P&Z Officer Cunningham said the lamp post was changed so that the light fixture was less bright from neighboring view points. She said any other concerns or issues, including the extra lights around the house that shine on neighboring residences, will be handled when Mrs. Wheatley returns from Florida. The building inspector will check out the yellow tape applied to the lamp post. A motion to approve as presented was made by Commission member Deegans and seconded by Commission member Johns. With all in favor, the motion carried.

COMMENTS from the ZONING OFFICER: Cunningham said a historic house at 996 Court Street North should have applied for a permit to install a four-foot metal wire fence for a dog. When informed, the owners said they would work with the HLC, but had no time at present to tear it down. Deegans suggested they should apply to be put on the December HLC meeting, but after a discussion agreed that December is a busy time, so it was changed to January’s agenda.

A contractor at 1599 Washington Street East wants to install a 4-foot fence along the sides and rear of the property for a dog. There is a neighboring dog at the rear of the property and a six-foot fence might be needed there, Deegans said.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2020 with a deadline of November 25, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. in a motion by Commission member Craddock and seconded by Commission member Deegans.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Mackenzie
Recording Officer