

**City of Lewisburg**  
**Historic Landmark Commission Regular Session**  
**Meeting Minutes — September 9, 2024, 5:00 p.m.**  
**942 Washington Street West, Lewisburg, WV**  
**Paul L. Cooley Council Chambers**

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Adrienne French, Secretary William Deegans; Commissioners Paula Janiga, and Clifford Gillilan; Zoning Officer Brandon DePriest; Planning and Zoning Assistant Marsha Cunningham; HLC consultant Michael Mills (via telephone); Recording Officer Tina Alvey.

**ABSENT:** None.

**VISITORS:** Mayor Beverly White, City Manager Misty Hill, Jerry Janiga, Katie Kilcollin, Jennifer Orr, Eric Dowdy, Cliff Baker, Alex Smith (via telephone), Jim Morgan, Stephanie Bachman, Mitchell Thompson, Libby Tomar, Brandon Johnson.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Chairperson Adrienne French. French requested that all people addressing the Commission introduce themselves at the outset of their remarks.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Commissioner Paula Janiga asked that the minutes of the meeting held August 12, 2024, be amended to reflect that Katie Wooton — not Jennifer Orr — spoke along with architect Jerry Janiga on behalf of the application presented by West Washington Properties. Commissioner Clifford Gillilan made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Secretary William Deegans seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

*Jim Morgan, 140 Oak Street. Six-foot deck extension.*

The applicant explained that he wants to extend the existing deck attached to the rear of his home by 6' toward the driveway. The project also involves installing a metal railing around the deck.

Deegans noted that the Commission has previously allowed such a railing on a rear deck. French cited page 25 of the HLC Guidelines, which specifies that additions must be in keeping with the period of the home.

Deegans moved approval of the application, seconded by Gillilan, and approved 4-0.

*Alex Smith, 180 Courtney Drive. Replace roof.*

Addressing the Commission via telephone, the applicant said he wants to replace the original cedar shake roof with composite cedar shingles in a natural cedar color. The Commission noted that the proposed composite shingles had been approved in the Historic District on previous occasions.

Gillilan moved approval of the application, seconded by Deegans, and approved 4-0. French

cited page 44, section D, of the HLC Guidelines in support of the decision.

***Stephanie Bachman, 163 Randolph Street West. Replace roof.***

The applicant explained that she needs to replace the house's old roof. She plans to replace the old shingles with new shingles (Owens-Corning in Brownwood) and possibly replace gutters with new K-style, same as the existing gutters.

Gillilan moved approval of the application, seconded by Janiga, and approved 4-0. French cited page 44, section E, of the HLC Guidelines in support of the decision

***Brandon Johnson, 914 Jefferson Street North. Paint exterior of law firm building.***

The applicant noted that plans call for painting the exterior walls of the existing building housing his law firm a new, darker color — Pale Navy. Johnson said the darker color was chosen to better conceal the road dust that accumulates on the outside of the office. He said he had considered several blue tones, but found the Pale Navy leans more toward “true navy.”

Noting that the Lewisburg HLC's palette does not reference a navy color at all, French consulted with page 190 of the U.S. Department of Interior's color guidelines. HLC consultant Michael Mills said the paint color proposed by the applicant is not an appropriate historical color and offered to work with the applicant to find an appropriate replacement. Johnson agreed to work with Mills.

Janiga made a motion to deny the application as presented, which motion died for lack of a second. French moved to approve the application, with the stipulation that Mills must OK the color choice, once it is made. Gillilan seconded that motion, which was approved 4-0. French cited page 33, section B, of the HLC Guidelines in support of the decision.

***West Washington Properties, 886 Washington Street West. Submit drawings of proposed fire exit door..***

Noting a conflict, Commissioner Paula Janiga recused herself from the discussion, leaving the building and waiting outdoors.

Representing the applicant, architect Jerry Janiga presented drawings indicating the proposed fire exit will be located one bay over from the original plan presented to the Commission in August. He explained that the existing window will be replaced with stucco-like material matching the adjacent windows in color and texture. In addition, the outline of the original window will be recessed.

Gillilan moved approval of the amended application, seconded by Deegans, and approved 3-0. French cited page 38, sections B and C, of the HLC Guidelines in support of the decision.

Paula Janiga returned to the meeting following the vote.

***Greenbrier Valley Restoration Project (GVRP), 970 Jefferson Street North. Add a 10'x30' addition to back of the log structure..***

Speaking on behalf of the applicant, architect Jerry Janga explained that the structure is needed on the building currently occupied by Hill & Holler to house a walk-in cooler and other storage for an anticipated new tenant. The addition will be added to the main level of the existing structure, using materials previously approved for the site by the HLC. Materials include a standing-seam metal roof along with board and batten siding. There will also be a vent for a hot-water boiler. Janiga said GVRP is also re-submitting pre-Covid plans for the property.

Gillilan moved approval of the application, seconded by Deegans, and approved 4-0. French cited page 87 of the HLC Guidelines in support of the decision.

***Libby Tomar, 1505 Washington Street East. Remove existing driveway to create a new driveway with access/egress off of Dwyer Lane..***

Speaking on behalf of the applicant, contractor Mitchell Thompson said his client wants to relocate the driveway entrance/exit to Dwyer. He said the existing Washington Street driveway intersection is dangerous. The state Division of Highways has already approved the Dwyer access.

Libby Tomar said, based on an old photo, she does not believe there was a driveway linked to Washington in 1900. Thompson said the existing asphalt driveway cannot be repaved due to the presence of a waterline that may have to be excavated at some point in the future.

French suggested a compromise, to wit: demolish the existing crumbling asphalt driveway and replacing it with pea gravel, and also building out the new driveway from the interior of the property — and connected to the existing driveway's footprint — to Dwyer.

The applicant acceded to the proposed compromise, whereupon Gillilan made a motion to approve the plan to keep the old driveway, albeit in pea gravel, while also building the new pea gravel driveway leading to Dwyer Lane. Commissioner Janiga seconded the motion, which passed on a 4-0 vote. French cited page 28, section A, of the HLC Guidelines in support of the decision.

***Katie Kilcollin, 161 Dwyer Lane. Construct new structure.***

Noting a conflict, Commissioner Paula Janiga again recused herself from the discussion, leaving the building and waiting outdoors.

Speaking on behalf of the applicant, architect Jerry Janiga advised the Commission that he had discussed the revised plans for the site in question with HLC consultant Michael Mills. As a result of that consultation, the proposed structure has been moved forward by a few feet, which provides a larger area at the rear of the property for drainage to be contained on site with the

addition of a retaining wall. The upper roof will now be a consistent height, and the originally-proposed pergola structure has been deleted in favor of a connecting walkway of pavers. The new apartment wing is also larger than first proposed and will be built with board and batten siding above wainscoting.

Gillilan made a motion to approve the application. French seconded the motion, which passed on a 3-0 vote. French cited pages 52 and 54 of the HLC Guidelines in support of the decision.

Paula Janiga returned to the meeting following the vote.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** Mayor Beverly White asked that announcement be made at future HLC meetings that the audience is not to engage in extraneous conversations while the meeting is in session.

**COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS:** Deegans asked if the city can do anything about the unsightly rock pile at the entrance to Lewisburg Elementary School. Hill said the state Division of Highways created the rock pile, which is contained within the DOH right-of-way. Deegans asked that Hill contact DOH to request that something be done.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Upon motion by Gillilan, seconded by Deegans, and approved 4-0, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Alvey  
Recording Officer