

LaMott Historic District, Township of Cheltenham
Board of Historical and Architectural Review
Meeting Minutes of
Monday, June 1, 2009

Issue Date: June 3, 2009

Time: 8:15 p.m.

Location: 8230 Old York Road, Elkins Park, 1st Floor, Board Room

Present: Mr. Reynold Greenberg, Chairperson
Ms. Darlene Melton, Vice-Chairperson
Ms. Patricia Gerrity, Member
Mr. Timothy Hinchcliff, Member
Ms. Emma Trusty, Member
Mr. David Lynch, Member, Director of Engineering, Zoning & Inspections
Mr. Carmen Reitano, Assistant to the Director of Engineering, Zoning & Inspections
Ms. Christine Miller Cruie, BHAR Consultant

Absent: Ms. Genevieve Christopher, Member
Ms. Zilan Munas-Bass, Member

1. Meeting Commencement

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by Mr. Greenberg. The meeting began during the Wyncote BHAR meeting and joined the discussion of the Sustainability Brochure.

2. Sustainability Brochure

Members from both the LaMott and Wyncote BHARs made suggestions to improve the brochure. Ms. Milley suggested removing the heading "Solar Panels" and replacing it with "Alternative Energy Sources" so as to include solar and geothermal energy.

Ms. Milley raised the concern that has been previously voiced over the fact that it is not healthy for people if buildings are too tight. Messers Lynch and Reitano echoed this concern. Ms. Miller Cruie stated that she would add language to the brochure to reflect this concern.

Ms. Melton inquired as to whether the foam inserts, to be applied on the back side of outlet covers, are safe. Ms. Miller Cruie stated that she would investigate this.

Mr. Reitano stated that it would be worthwhile to add language to the "Windows" section that says "when considering replacing windows, one should perform an energy audit on the windows to gauge their level of performance before replacing them with modern windows." Ms. Miller Cruieess agreed.

Ms. Melton asked if it would be worthwhile to tell people how to go about getting an energy audit in this brochure. Ms. Miller Cruieess said she would investigate this and incorporate it into the brochure.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the Sustainability Brochure, as modified, during this meeting. Ms. Vallerio seconded this motion for the Wyncote BHAR, and Ms. Melton seconded it for the LaMott BHAR. All present members of both boards voted in favor of approving the brochure.

3. Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion made by Mr. Greenberg, seconded by Mr. Lynch, it was recommended that the February 2, 2009; March 5, 2009; and May 4, 2009 minutes of the LaMott BHAR meetings be approved.

4. New Business

Ms. Melton stated that no one has contacted an architect to become a member of the BHAR. Ms. Gerrity stated that she had previously made a recommendation for Gina Ellis, but was not sure if Ms. Ellis is interested in the position. Ms. Melton emailed Commissioner Portner to obtain a list of potential candidates, but was informed that no list exists.

Mr. Reitano produced a letter from the architects who are undertaking work at 1800 Chelsea Road. The architects were looking for feedback on the color selection for the replacement basement window grates. The color selected was a Benjamin Moore color from the standard color palette, not from the Historic color palette. The BHAR Consultant stated that the color was not appropriate.

Ms. Gerrity inquired as to the status of work on the Melrose Park Apartments. Mr. Reitano stated that they were still conducting work.

1811 Willow Avenue was recently sold and work has commenced on the site, but the owners have not obtained building permits or a Certificate of Appropriateness from the BHAR. Ms. Trusty noted that the Township had put a Stop Work Order on the property. Mr. Reitano noted that he has had discussions with the Building Inspector, Mr. Spector, but he will get a status report and pass that information along to the BHAR.

5. Old Business

None.

6. Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. Lynch, seconded by Ms. Trusty, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.



David G. Kraynik
Township Manager

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