

**UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
September 19, 2023**

MEMBERS

Matthew Taylor, Chairperson
Natasha Adler, Vice-Chairperson
Virginia LaFond
Susan Sears
John Esser
Frank Grottola, UAT Building Inspector

TOWNSHIP STAFF

Jennifer Boyer, Comm. Develop. Director
Scott Finkenbiner, Planning Technician

Board of Commissioners Liaison

Commissioner Ginnie Anderson

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Upper Allen Township Historical Architectural Review Board was called to order on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 7:03 PM at the Upper Allen Township Municipal Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all, and Roll Call was taken by the Chairperson. All the members were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. LaFond to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023 meeting. The **MOTION** was seconded by Mr. Esser. The **MOTION** carried unanimously. (6-0)

NEW BUSINESS

1. 443 McCormick Road. The applicant would like to do an in-kind replacement of cedar shake roof.

Phil Walsh of 443 McCormick Road represented the request for a certificate of appropriateness. Mr. Walsh explained that his plan was to replace the current over 50-year-old cedar shake roof with the same cedar shake roof material, and he brought in an example of what they look like. He also noted that it is likely that cedar shakes were used on the original roof of the home.

Ms. LaFond asked to clarify which of the buildings in the aerial photograph was having the roof replaced, and Mr. Walsh pointed out the building in the photograph.

Chair Taylor asked who was doing the work, to which Mr. Walsh provided the name of his contractor. Chair Taylor also asked if Mr. Walsh saw a benefit in using original material instead of requesting permission to use asphalt shingles. Mr. Walsh said yes. While it may cost more upfront to use the cedar shake material, it has lasted him more than 45 years. Mr. Walsh expects his new roof will last, too.

No public comment.

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. LaFond to recommend approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness. The **MOTION** was seconded by Vice-Chair Adler. The **MOTION** carried unanimously (6-0).

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Taylor began discussion of his acquisition of the Lambert farmhouse (currently located on the township's Generations Park property at 1340 E. Lisburn Road) and Lot 5 (now 1172 McCormick Road) from the township. He gave some general updates about the home, and said the home is scheduled to be moved to Lot 5 mid-October. Chair Taylor also discussed a proposal he had, where the HARB could provide some funding to residents who own historic properties within the township's historic districts. Chair Taylor suggested donating access to the Lambert farmhouse as a showcase home to raise funds. The funding could then be used to offset their costs of maintaining original features, which can be more expensive than updating to more current designs or materials. He intends to discuss his ideas with the Board of Commissioners at a future meeting.

Phil Walsh of 443 McCormick Road asked if the funds could also be used for properties in the new overlay district. Ms. Boyer said it depends. Mr. Taylor's proposal will need to be discussed in more detail and then reviewed by the township's Solicitor to ensure legal compliance before any determination can be made.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Mr. Grottola made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. The **MOTION** was seconded by Ms. Sears. The **MOTION** carried unanimously (6-0). Chair Taylor the meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.