

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RE: CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE 1961, JUNE 13, P.L. 282 (53 SECTION 8004) AND BETHLEHEM ORDINANCE NO. 3952 AS AMENDED.

WHEREAS, it is proposed to secure a COA to demolish existing steps at the main entrance and replace with a deeper landing at the doors, longer tread depths and curved wing walls for a wider base landing at 321 Wyandotte Street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bethlehem that a Certificate of Appropriateness is hereby granted for the proposal.

Sponsored by: (s) _____

(s) _____

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL THIS DAY OF

(s) _____

President of Council

ATTEST:

(s) _____

City Clerk

HISTORIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CASE #776 -- It is proposed to secure a COA to demolish existing steps at the main entrance and replace with a deeper landing at the doors, longer tread depths and curved wing walls for a wider base landing at 321 Wyandotte Street.

OWNER / APPLICANT: Cathedral Church of the Nativity / Architerra, PC

The Commission upon motion by Mr. Cornish and seconded by Mr. Loush adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed work as presented, with modifications described herein:

1. The proposal to demolish existing steps at the main entrance and replace with a deeper landing at the doors, longer tread depths and curved wing walls for a wider base landing at 321 Wyandotte Street was presented by Richard Sause and Micah Mutschler.
2. The appropriate replacement steps include the following details:
 - a. careful demolition of existing entrance steps to limit damage to adjacent church walls, with potential reuse of salvaged materials for replacement steps
 - b. top landing matches existing elevation at door sill and measures 148-inches wide x 60-inches deep; flanked on either side with 18-inch-thick wing walls at 34-inches high
 - c. steps descend to base landing below, with curved wing walls flaring out so bottom tread measures 216-inches wide; each step has 18-inch tread depth and 7-inch riser height, with 1-inch overhang
 - d. stair treads and wall caps are 2-inch-thick bluestone slabs, with potential cap alternative in cast stone
 - e. curved wing walls to be faced with 4-inch stone veneer, with reinforced concrete fill between
 - f. new 1-inch-thick wrought iron handrails and 1-inch-square posts match moulding profiles and scrollwork of existing; installed at each outer wing wall and also centered along width of treads

The motion for the proposed work was approved 5-1. Mr. Lader opposed the motion, citing the current proposal violates Secretary of Interior's Standards 2 and 5 to retain, preserve and maintain distinctive historical materials and features as well as Secretary of Interior's Standard 9 that new additions shall be differentiated from the old to protect the integrity of the property. Mr. Lader also encouraged the Applicant to explore other options for safer access into the building.

JBL: jbl

By: Jet Lab

Date of Meeting: October 18, 2021

Title: Historic Officer