

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-_____

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

The applicant/owner of the property located at 346 West Street proposes to demolish a 1960's concrete block garage structure and an existing enclosed rear porch and construct a new addition at the rear of the home.

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 THE COUNCIL THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024.

/s/ _____
President of Council

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
City Clerk

HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

APPLICATION #1: The applicant/owner of the property located at 346 West Street proposes to demolish a 1960's concrete block garage structure and an existing enclosed rear porch and construct a new addition at the rear of the home.

OWNER: Jeremy Sestito & Erin Vavra
346 West Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

The Board upon motion by Joe McGavin and seconded by Connie Postupack adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the demolishing of a 1960's concrete block garage structure and an existing enclosed rear porch and constructing a new addition at the rear of the home, with the following conditions;

1. The Applicant must submit for and secure a Building Permit from the City of Bethlehem.
2. New gutters shall be half round and new downspouts shall be round.
3. The approval for use of the materials for this Application are for the proposed addition only and do not apply to or set precedence for future work on this property.

The vote was unanimous to approve the demolishing of a 1960's concrete block garage structure and an existing enclosed rear porch and constructing a new addition at the rear of the home, as per the motion.

Guideline Citation:

Secretary of Interior Standards No.(s)

#2 The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

#5 Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.

#6 Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.

#9 New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the historic property and its environment.

#10 New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Bethlehem Ordinance 1714.03 Purposes of Historic Conservation District – It is the purpose and intent of the City of Bethlehem to promote, protect, enhance, and preserve historical resources and traditional community character for the educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the public through the preservation, protection, and regulation of buildings and areas of historical interest or importance within the City.

Bethlehem Historic District Design Guidelines

Page 16: Compatible Design Principles for Additions & New Building Construction, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Scale: Height & Width - Proportions and size of the addition/new building compared with existing building/neighboring buildings.
- (2) Building Form & Massing - Three-dimensional relationship and configuration of the addition/new building footprint, its walls and roof compared with existing building/neighboring buildings.
- (3) Setback: Yards (Front, Side, and Rear) - Distance of the addition/new building to the street and property lines when compared with the existing building or other buildings on the block.
- (4) Site Coverage - Percentage of the site that is covered by addition/new building compared to comparable nearby sites.
- (5) Orientation - The location of the addition/new building and its principal entrance relative to other buildings on the block.
- (6) Architectural Elements and Projections - The size, shape, proportions, and location of doors, porches, balconies, chimneys, dormers, parapets, and elements that contribute to an overall building's shape and silhouette relative to neighboring buildings.
- (7) Alignment, Rhythm, and Spacing - The effect the addition/new building will have on the existing street patterns.
- (8) Façade Proportions: Window and Door Patterns - The relationship of the size, shape, and location of the addition/new building façade and building elements to each other, as well as to other buildings on the existing building/block.

(9) Trim and Detail - The moldings, decorative elements, and features of a building that are secondary to major surfaces such as walls and roofs and how they related to the existing and neighboring buildings.

(10) Materials - The products with which something is composed or constructed and how they related to the existing and neighboring buildings.

Together with the Secretary of Interior's Standards, these Design Guidelines establish a framework of encouraging additions to existing buildings and new construction that are sensitive to neighboring spatial relationships, forms, and materials while differentiating new construction from historical building fabric.

Page 8: Paint:

The HARB encourages,

- Hand washing with mild detergent and bristle brush, hand scraping, and hand sanding

The HARB discourages,

- Rotary tools – disks can leave circular marks and wires can tear into the surface
- Heat guns and heat plate – can ignite paint or underlying surface if left in one location too long
- Chemical paint removers – can raise grains, be expensive, and potentially volatile; runoff can be hazardous
- Flame tools, blow torches to soften paint – smoldering sparks can potentially start a fire; lead components in paint can vaporize and create highly toxic fumes
- Sandblasting – can be abrasive to surface, wear away protective exterior coating, and raise the wood grain
- High-pressure water wash – forces water into open joints affecting interior finishes and structural framing; can be abrasive to exterior surface and raise the grain

Evaluation, Effect on Historic District, Recommendations: The proposed work conforms with the intent of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and the Bethlehem Historic District Design Guidelines and will have no negative impact to the historic district.



Date of Meeting: November 6, 2024

By: **H. Joseph Phillips**
Title: **Historic Officer**