

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-_____

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 518 Main Street proposes to remove the existing “Tiger Hall” lettering and install new signage for “Healing Hands”, as well as replace water damaged trim, repaint the first-floor façade, replace two existing goose neck lighting fixtures, install an access panel in the porch ceiling, and replace two existing lighting fixtures in the porch ceiling.

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 _____, 2025.

/s/ _____
President of Council

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
City Clerk

HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

APPLICATION #4: The applicant/owner of the property located at 518 Main Street proposes to remove the existing “Tiger Hall” lettering and install new signage for “Healing Hands”, as well as replace water damaged trim, repaint the first-floor façade, replace two existing goose neck lighting fixtures, install an access panel in the porch ceiling, and replace two existing lighting fixtures in the porch ceiling.

OWNER: Jennifer Burns
5 West Pine Street
Emmaus, PA 18049

The Board upon motion by Connie Postupack and seconded by Dianna Hodgson adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the removal of the existing “Tiger Hall” lettering and installation of new signage for “Healing Hands”, replacement of water damaged trim, repainting the first-floor façade, replacing existing goose neck lighting fixtures, installing an access panel in the porch ceiling, and replacing two existing lighting fixtures in the porch ceiling, with the following conditions;

1. Applicable permits shall be secured by the Applicant prior to any work taking place.
2. The Tiger Hall text may be removed from the proposed sign.
3. In lieu of the proposed halo lighting, 4 new goose neck fixtures will be installed and spaced equally in the width of the sign. (Option B as submitted with the Application.)
4. The background of the sign will be an aluminum sheet material painted white.
5. The logo color will be bronze as shown on the Application.

The vote was unanimous to approve the removal of the existing “Tiger Hall” lettering and installation of new signage for “Healing Hands”, replacement of water damaged trim, repainting the first-floor façade, replacing existing goose neck lighting fixtures, installing an access panel in the porch ceiling, and replacing two existing lighting fixtures in the porch ceiling, 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 Historic District Design Guidelines

Page 8: Exterior Woodwork & Siding:

The HARB encourages,

- Regularly maintaining and repainting exterior woodwork including repainting, and addressing potential areas of moisture including clogged gutters and downspouts, groundwater, leaky pipes, and interior condensation
- Retaining decorative woodwork since it is a character defining element that can be difficult to replace
- Repairing smaller areas of deterioration by reinforcing or patching – small cracks and checks can be repaired with an exterior wood filler, glue, or epoxy – Loose elements can be refastened with nailing or drilling and screwing
- Selectively replacing deteriorated wood elements that are beyond repair with wood pieces that match the size, profile, exposure and pattern, and character of the historic wood element – Wood filler in the joints between the new and old wood will help provide a smooth finish
- Large scale or significant replacement of exterior wood siding with paintable material that match the size, profile, exposure, pattern, and character of the historic wood

The HARB discourages,

- Removing or encapsulating with vinyl or aluminum siding, trim, decorative features, and trim elements such as brackets, spindles, cornices, columns, posts, etc.
- Vinyl or aluminum siding over wood, brick, stone or stucco
- Wood grained, wavy edged, vertical and textured plywood simulated siding
- Installing non-wood trim

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

Pages 14 & 15: Signs & Awnings:

- Signs should be compatible to scale of the building, adjacent buildings, the streetscape and adjacent signage
- Ambient street or storefront lighting is preferred to the installation of additional lighting

The HARB encourages,

- Signage that does not obscure or damage the architectural features, identifies the business, complements the style of the building, and is appropriately scaled for its location
- Sign design and color that reflects the architectural characteristics with materials that are consistent with the historic character of the building
- Serif-style lettering, subtle logos, and borders at the perimeter of signs located at Victorian storefronts
- Incised lettering in lieu of raised lettering at signage
- Existing ambient street light or storefront lighting in lieu of additional lighting whenever possible
- Signage lighting styles that are consistent with the character of the historic building including location, orientation, and brightness
- Installing signage or awning designs that are sympathetic to the style of the a building and in a manner that minimizes damage to historic features including installing fasteners at mortar joints and not stone faces

The HARB discourages,

- Signage that obstructs views into the store through storefront windows and glazing or architectural features

- Exposed conduit, boxes or raceways for signage or lighting
- New billboards, internally illuminated box signs, LED reader boards, flashing or changeable message signs, neon signs
- Contemporary or glossy awning materials such as, vinyl, plastics or leatherette: internally illuminated awnings; and waterfall awnings

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Joseph Phillips". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "P" and a distinct "H".

Date of Meeting: August 13, 2025

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