

**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 proposes to relaunch the Plaque Program with a newly designed brass plaque.

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 #2: The applicant proposes to relaunch the Plaque Program with a newly designed brass plaque.

OWNER: Various throughout the Historic District

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The Board upon motion by Joseph McGavin and seconded by Diana Hodgson adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the relaunch of the Plaque Program with newly designed brass plaques as shown in Option #1A and #2A included in the Application, in accordance with the Guideline Citations outlined below.

The vote was unanimous to approve the relaunch of the Plaque Program with newly designed brass plaques as shown in Option #1A and #2A included in the Application, as per the motion.

### **Guideline Citation:**

#### Secretary of Interior Standards No.(s)

#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

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 streetlight 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.



Date of Meeting: October 1, 2025

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