

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-_____

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 446 Main Street proposes to install a new 16' wide by 2' high aluminum sign to the existing plywood backer for Main Street Real Estate Group and vinyl film window decals for Main Street Real Estate Group and the Gallery and Fine Arts store.

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 _____, 2026.

/s/ _____
President of Council

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
City Clerk

HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

APPLICATION #2: The applicant/owner of the property located at 446 Main Street proposes to install a new 16' wide by 2' high aluminum sign to the existing plywood backer for Main Street Real Estate Group and vinyl film window decals for Main Street Real Estate Group and the Gallery and Fine Arts store.

OWNER: Renaissance Realty of Bethlehem LLC
1921 Willings Lane
Hellertown, PA 18055

The Board upon motion by Rodman Young and seconded by Joseph McGavin adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a new 16' wide by 2' high aluminum sign to the existing plywood backer for Main Street Real Estate Group and vinyl film window decals for Main Street Real Estate Group and the Gallery and Fine Arts store, with the following conditions.

1. Applicable building permits shall be secured by the Applicant prior to any work taking place.

The vote was unanimous to approve the installation of a new 16' wide by 2' high aluminum sign to the existing plywood backer for Main Street Real Estate Group and vinyl film window decals for Main Street Real Estate Group and the Gallery and Fine Arts store, 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.

#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 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 designs that are sympathetic to the style of the 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

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, flowing style.

Date of Meeting: July 8, 2026

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