

La Mott Historic District, Township of Cheltenham  
**Board of Historical Architectural Review**  
Meeting Minutes of  
Monday, December 5, 2011

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Issue Date: December 6, 2011

Time: 8:15 p.m.

Location: 8230 Old York Road, Elkins Park, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Board Room

Present: Ms. Emma Trusty, Member  
Mr. Timothy Hinchcliff, Member  
Ms. Zilan Munas-Bass, Member  
Ms. Asteria Vives, Member  
Mr. Carmen Reitano, Assistant to the Director of Engineering, Zoning and Inspections  
Ms. Christine Miller Cruiss, BHAR Consultant

Absent: Mr. Reynold Greenberg, Chairperson  
Ms. Darlene Melton, Vice-Chairperson  
Ms. Genevieve Christopher, Member  
Mr. David Lynch, Member, Director of Engineering, Zoning and Inspections

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**1. Meeting Commencement**

Mr. Lynch called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

**2. Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Lynch made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 3, 2011 La Mott BHAR meeting. Ms. Trusty seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The approval of the minutes from the November 7, 2011 meeting was tabled since no one in attendance at the November meeting was present at the December meeting.

**3. Applications**

*Application L-912*  
*Albert Delice*  
*7330 Sycamore Avenue*  
*La Mott, PA*

The applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for the following:

- To replace the porch entrance with a new double (French Door Style) entrance and demolish the existing sidelights.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to deny this application as presented, since it is destroying the historic fabric of the building (the Colonial Revival sidelights and paneling). Ms. Munas-Bass seconded the motion. Ms. Trusty voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Hinchcliff voted in favor. Ms. Vives voted against the motion.

Mr. Reitano will contact the applicant and let him know that his application was not approved.

*Application L-913*

*Matthew Boucher for Patricia Williams  
1805 Chelsea Road  
La Mott, PA*

The applicants are seeking a COA for the following:

- Fire damage restoration to replace existing windows with new vinyl windows.
- Replace existing rear flat roof from fire damage.
- Install a new front door and storm door to replace the existing metal door.

Mr. Lynch introduced the application and noted that vinyl windows are problematic because they warp over time, not because they are inappropriate in the district.

Mr. Boucher noted that the casement windows on the front elevation will be replaced in-kind. Mr. Lynch asked if the original fanlight over the windows could be installed. Mr. Boucher noted that it would have to be custom-made, and since it does not currently exist, that they did not plan to have it fabricated.

Mr. Lynch asked for photographs of the proposed replacement door. Mr. Boucher noted that Ms. Williams chose the “Kingston” door from the Jen Weld catalogue, but that she was amenable to other choices if the BHAR decided another was more appropriate. Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve this application with the Kingston style door, with a full-view storm door. Ms. Munas-Bass seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

The BHAR recommended to the Public Works Committee that it recommend to the Board of Commissioners that a COA be issued for application L-913.

*Application L-914*

*Quida Murray  
1811 Willow Ave.  
La Mott, PA*

The applicant seeks a COA for the following:

- Demolition of an existing outbuilding located at the northeast corner of the rear yard.
- Approval to proceed with the demolition of an unsafe structure through a demolition permit.

Mr. Lynch introduced the application. Mr. Reitano clarified that the application is for the demolition of only the outbuilding at the rear of the property. The Historical Commission is currently reviewing the application to determine its historic value.

A discussion ensued regarding the history of the property and the integrity.

Mr. Lynch asked if it would be a hardship to the applicant if the application were tabled until next month. Ms. Murray noted that it would not be a hardship. Mr. Lynch suggested that the BHAR wait for the research from the Historical Commission be completed to consider the findings.

The applicants do not necessarily want to demolish the property if it does have historic value.

Mr. Lynch made a motion to table the application until next month. Ms. Trusty seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

*Application L-915  
Kathy and Walter Singer  
7305 Sycamore Avenue  
Elkins Park, PA*

The applicant seeks a COA for the following:

- Replace the existing roof with new Certainteed Landmark shingles in silver birch, gutters and downspouts.
- Remove the existing siding on the dormers and replace with new, white siding.

Mr. Lynch introduced the application. Mr. Lynch asked Ms. Singer if she proposed half-round gutters and round downspouts. Mr. Lynch reviewed the application and noted that it is necessary to use half-round gutters and round downspouts.

Mr. Hinchcliff made a motion to approve the application as amended in these minutes. Mr. Lynch seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Mr. Lynch noted that because the roof was actively leaking, the applicant could receive an emergency roofing permit.

The BHAR recommended to the Public Works Committee that it recommend to the Board of Commissioners that a COA be issued for application L-915.

#### **4. Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

## 5. New Business

### *New Applications*

There is an application for **L-917 for 7326 Sycamore Avenue**. Ms. Vives is the property owner, so she recused herself from a discussion. The applicant seeks a COA for the following:

- Replace the existing roof with new asphalt shingles in a similar color to the existing asphalt shingles.
- Reinstall half-round gutters and round downspouts with gutter guards.

A consensus existed among the BHAR members that not enough information was presented to make a decision. The BHAR members needed to see the type, color and style of the shingles and gutters, downspouts and guards. Ms. Munas-Bass noted that some gutter guards have not been approved in the past because they are too visible from the street. Until the information is presented, the application cannot be approved.

Mr. Lynch made a motion that the application be tabled until the next meeting. Ms. Munas-Bass seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

### *January La Mott BHAR Meeting*

Mr. Reitano noted that there will be four applications for next month. Two new applications will be heard (L-916 and L-917) as well as the two applications that were tabled at this meeting (L-912 and L-914).

## 6. Adjournment

Ms. Trusty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.



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