

Historic Architectural Review Board

June 23, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The June 23, 2025 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Historic Architectural Review Board was called to order by Vice Chair Tom Merchant at 3:15 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Historic Architectural Review Board: Vice Chair Tom Merchant, Secretary Peter Gilles, Member Andrew Sommers, and Member Denise Burmester. Also in attendance was Township Supervisor Braun Taylor.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Vice Chair Tom Merchant confirmed a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Merchant and seconded by Mr. Gilles to approve the November 7, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

APPLICATIONS:

Temple – 1467 River Road – Roof Replacement (wood cedar)

Zack Szumigala, representing Tiptop Roofs, was representing the resident.

The applicant is proposing to remove the existing asphalt shingles and replace with natural Western Red Cedar shakes. Roof decking repair and underlayment requirements will be addressed after removal of the asphalt shingles. Accessories include stainless steel screws; aluminum drip edge flashing; and Ice & Water Shield at the eaves and roof penetrations.

Ms. Burmester read the statement sent from the HARB Chair, James Galvin, as he was unable to attend the meeting, but sent his opinion regarding the acceptance/approval of this project. Mr. Galvin noted the cedar roof would have been a historical choice for this dwelling.

Ms. Burmester stated that the proposed plans/details were reviewed and approved by the building inspector.

Discussion commenced regarding the natural cedar wood shakes (not synthetic) to be used in the project.

A motion was made by Mr. Merchant and seconded by Mr. Sommers to recommend approval of the application for Certificate of Appropriateness to the Board of Supervisors. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

CHAIR REPORT -

HARB Vice Chair – Tom Merchant

No report.

Denise Burmester – Zoning Officer - discussed the Historic Washington Crossing Bridge and the analysis by Jeff Marshall for entry into the National historic registry and the expansion of the UMT

Washington Crossing overlay district. She will forward a copy of the present description of the district to the members and asked them to review the comment with suggestions for this district.

LIASION REPORT

Board of Supervisors – Braun Taylor

- The Board of Supervisors are dealing with several matters, including the Sunoco Fuel Spill, Washington Crossing Bridge, and they are currently interviewing for new Township Manager.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Merchant and seconded by Mr. Somers to adjourn the meeting at 3:28 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approved: August 27, 2025